

Welcome to our foster family! To ensure your puppy's health and well-being, we've outlined a detailed treatment plan that covers everything from deworming schedules to vet visits, from bottle feeding to weaning. We provide all necessary medications and will guide you through the administration process. Remember, you're responsible for taking your puppy to their vet appointments. For additional resources and support, join our Foster Facebook Group.

Puppy Medical Treatment Plan

Your puppy will need a series of dewormings in addition to 2 vet visits. We will provide the medication and go over the instructions with you. You are responsible for bringing your puppy to the vet for their appointment. Please visit our Foster Facebook Group for more information.

Age (Weeks)	Treatment/Procedure	Details
2	Deworming Pyrantel Pamoate	Effective against roundworms and hookworms. Dose at 0.1 cc per pound of body weight.
4	Deworming Pyrantel Pamoate & Praziquantel	Pyrantel for roundworms and hookworms at 0.1 cc per lb. Praziquantel for tapeworms, dose at ½ tablet.
6	Deworming Fenbendazole (Safeguard)	Treats roundworms, hookworms, lungworms, whipworms, certain tapeworms, and giardia. Dose at 1 cc/ml per 4.4 pounds for 3 consecutive days.
6	First Vet Visit	- Health exam. - Vaccinations: DAPP, Leptospirosis, Coronavirus, and Bordetella.
8	Deworming Fenbendazole (Safeguard)	Second round for comprehensive treatment. Dose at 1 cc/ml per 4.4 pounds for 3 consecutive days.
	Revolution Topical	Prevents Heartworms.
9	Second Vet Tech Exam	- Second set of vaccinations: DAPP, Leptospirosis, Coronavirus, Bordetella. - Microchipping. - Fecal test.
10	Adoption Ready	-Ready for Adoption

Puppy Feeding Guide: From Birth to Weaning

Caring for a newborn puppy requires careful attention to their dietary needs. This guide provides comprehensive instructions on preparing and feeding puppy formula replacer, ensuring your puppy receives the nutrition they need for a healthy start in life.

Formula Selection

Important: Do not use cow's formula, human baby formula, almond formula, oat formula, or any other type of formula. Only use commercially prepared Puppy formula Replacer. Homemade recipes from the internet are dangerous and not recommended.

Pre-Feeding Preparations

- **Temperature Check:** Always take the puppy's temperature rectally before feeding. A puppy that is not warm enough cannot digest food properly, which can lead to illness or death.
- **Weigh the Puppy:** Accurately weighing the puppy at the same time each day helps determine the correct amount of formula needed.
- **Document:** Record the temperature and weight on your record sheet.
- **Calculate:** Determine the correct amount to feed and prepare the formula according to the instructions.

Formula Preparation

(Adapted from: <https://www.ewildagain.org/formula-mixing-guide>. Please visit for full explanations behind methodology)

Follow these steps to prepare the formula replacer formula for your puppy, ensuring it receives optimal nutrition.

Step 1: Initial Preparations

- Remove formula powder from the freezer or refrigerator to thaw if necessary.
- Wash hands, clean the mixing area, and ensure all tools are clean.
- Organize mixing tools and supplies.

Step 2: Weighing Ingredients

- Weigh each dry ingredient separately using the scale's TARE feature. Store unneeded ingredients in the refrigerator.

Step 3: Pre-Mix Steps

- Allow formula powder to reach room temperature (~70°F or 21°C).
- Break up any clumps in the powders for easier mixing.
- Heat water to >130°F (>54°C) and let it cool to the appropriate temperature for mixing.

Step 4: Mixing

- Pour warm water into a mixing container and sprinkle the formula powder on top. Wait for 5 minutes
- Whisking for 5 minutes by hand until completely dispersed.
- Cover the container and label it with the formula type and mixing date/time.
- Allow the formula to rest in the refrigerator for at least 8 hours for total reconstitution.

Step 5: Storage

- Store prepared formula in the refrigerator for up to 3 days after the rest period.
- For longer storage, freeze the formula in small portions and use within 1-2 months.

Step 6: Feeding Schedule

- Warm the required amount of formula for each feeding in a warm water bath. **Never** microwave the formula.
- Follow the feeding frequency and suggested schedule based on the puppy's age.

Feeding Frequency and Schedule

- 0-2 Weeks: Every 2 hours (12 times per day)
- 2-4 Weeks: Every 3 hours (8 times per day)
- 4 Weeks: Every 4 hours (6 times per day)
- 5 Weeks: 5 times per day
- 6 Weeks+: 4 times per day

Puppy Bottle Feeding and Stomach Capacity Chart

Puppy Weight (lbs, oz)	Puppy Weight (grams)	Daily Caloric Requirement*	Amount of Formula Per Day (ml)**	Amount Per Feeding (ml)*	Approximate Number of Feedings Per Day***
2 oz	57 g	11 kcal	13 ml	2 ml	6
4 oz	113 g	23 kcal	25 ml	5 ml	6
6 oz	170 g	34 kcal	38 ml	7 ml	6
8 oz	227 g	45 kcal	50 ml	9 ml	6
10 oz	284 g	57 kcal	63 ml	11 ml	6
12 oz	340 g	68 kcal	76 ml	14 ml	6
14 oz	397 g	79 kcal	88 ml	16 ml	6
16 oz (1 lb)	454 g	91 kcal	101 ml	18 ml	6
2 lb	907 g	181 kcal	202 ml	36 ml	6
3 lb	1,361 g	272 kcal	302 ml	54 ml	6
4 lb	1,814 g	363 kcal	403 ml	73 ml	6
5 lb	2,268 g	454 kcal	504 ml	91 ml	6
6 lb	2,722 g	544 kcal	605 ml	109 ml	6
7 lb	3,175 g	635 kcal	706 ml	127 ml	6
8 lb	3,629 g	726 kcal	806 ml	145 ml	6

* The daily caloric requirement was calculated using 20 kcal/100 g body weight and the amount per feeding using 4 ml/100 g body weight. The energy requirement is ~20-26 kcal/100g body weight daily and the maximum comfortable stomach capacity is ~4 ml/100 g body weight.¹

** Concentration 0.9 kcal/ml. Most commercial puppy milk replacers in the US provide less than 1 kcal/ml, acting to increase the volume of milk required to meet caloric needs. This can be problematic in terms of the number and size of feedings given relative to stomach capacity and more likely to result in gastrointestinal disturbances. This may also account for why bottle fed puppies grow slower than puppies that nurse off a mother.

*** As the puppy is adjusting well to the milk and the feeding volume, you may be able to increase the volume fed to help reduce the number of feedings per day. Be aware that exceeding the stomach capacity (amount per feeding) may put the puppy at risk of aspiration, vomiting, diarrhea, and gas build-up in the stomach and intestines.

Puppies at that are between 3 ½ -5 weeks of age are usually eating some solid food, decreasing the amount of milk replacer required to meet daily caloric requirements. This may result in less frequent milk feedings.

¹ Lawler, D. F. "Neonatal and pediatric care of the puppy and kitten." *Theriogenology*, vol. 70, no.3, 2008, pp. 384-392.



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Bottle Feeding Guidelines

- Always feed the baby on the belly in a natural nursing position, NEVER feed a baby on their back. They can aspirate, which is when formula gets in their lungs. This leads to pneumonia and death.
- Always burp the baby after feeding.
- Stimulate to pee and poop by gentle wiping with a soft wet cloth after feeding until the puppy is able to go on their own, around 3 weeks of age.

Puppy Weaning Guide: Transitioning to Kibble

Weaning is an essential phase in a puppy's development, marking the transition from formula to solid food. This process typically begins at around 4 weeks of age and should be approached gradually to ensure a smooth transition.

Initial Steps for Weaning

- **Softening the Kibble:** Start by mixing the measured kibble with the correct amount of puppy formula. Let it soak until the kibble has softened, making it easier for the puppies to chew and digest.
- **Frequency of Feeding:** Offer this mixture to the puppies 4 times a day. Initially, ensure the consistency is very soft.
- **Adjustment Period:** Over time, gradually decrease the formula (by increasing the water) amount and increase the kibble, aiming for the puppy to be on kibble only softened by water at 8 weeks.

Kibble Feeding Guide

Here's a guide on how much kibble (softened) you should feed your puppy daily, based on their weight:

Weight	Daily Feeding (cup)
3 lbs	1/2
5 lbs	1
10 lbs	1 3/4
15 lbs	2 1/2

Tips for a Successful Weaning

- **Consistency:** Maintain a consistent feeding schedule, offering meals at the same times each day.
- **Observation:** Watch the puppies as they eat to ensure they are managing the softened kibble and to monitor their appetite.
- **Hydration:** Always provide access to fresh, clean water.
- **Slow Transition:** The key to successful weaning is patience and gradual change. Sudden dietary shifts can lead to digestive issues.

Weaning puppies from formula to kibble is a pivotal moment in their early life. By following these guidelines, you can ensure your puppies receive the nutrition they need in a form they can easily consume, setting the stage for their continued growth and development. Always be attentive to each puppy's needs and adjust their diet as necessary for their health and well-being.