

Need More Help?

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New Puppy, Now What?

*Start your puppy on the right
track!*





Where to Start?

So, you've just gotten a new puppy... The best thing you can do for both you and your dog is to start training right away. Remember, you need to have the attitude of: "What do I want my puppy **TO** do?" instead of the obvious, "Don't do **THAT!**" Set your puppy up for success, not failure.

Supervision/Crate Training

With new puppies, it's important to always closely supervise. Don't allow them to have full run of your house and expect that they will not chew something up, have an accident, or even hurt themselves. If you have times when you cannot supervise them, it's best to teach them to love the crate.

"The brilliance of your puppy's future is defined in the moments of today's decisions."
-Susan Garrett

Socialization, Socialization!

Not enough can be said about socializing your puppy. Puppies are molded based on their experiences; good or bad. They also can learn fears if not socialized enough, which can lead to reactivity and aggression. Hold Puppy Parties where friends, kids, men with hats or beards, people carrying bags, etc. come to your home and play with, handle, and generously treat your puppy. Have other dogs come to your home or take your puppy to a puppy social where he will learn things from the other dogs such as bite inhibition and proper play etiquette.

Hand Feeding

The best thing you can do for you and your dog is to lose the food bowl. Instead, use his daily food allowance for training. Feeding your pup this way will create a tighter bond between you and your dog and will also teach your dog to love training. You can teach such things as Place, Sit, Stay, etc. You'll be surprised how quick this works and how much more fun training can be.

Chew Toy-aholic

If, at the end of the day, you have food left over, stuff it into a Kong or hollow chew toy and let him work to get it out. If you must go out during the day, leave your dog in his crate with a chew toy puzzle to keep him entertained. You can also stuff chew toys with things like yogurt and blueberries and freeze them in your freezer. They are a great release for your dog, a great teething object, and will help them to look for those items in lieu of your hand or your shoes!

Things to Remember:

- ✿ **SOCIALIZE, SOCIALIZE, SOCIALIZE!**
- ✿ **Supervision** means closely watching your puppy, not just being physically present
- ✿ **Hand Feeding** creates a dog that LOVES both you and training
- ✿ **Chew Toys** are a wonderful way to keep your dog occupied when you're unable to supervise
- ✿ *Prevent the bad, **Reward** the good*
- ✿ *Set your puppy up for success*
- ✿ Always end with your dog wanting more!