

Puppy Socialising



The first 16 weeks is the critical socialisation period of a dog's life. This is the window of time in your puppy's life that helps determine who they will become as adult dogs. So try to socialise them to as many of the items below as possible. Always exercise caution in socialising both for your dog and for anyone else involved.

People

- ☐ Males & Females
- ☐ Ages - babies, toddlers, kids, teenagers, adults, elderly
- ☐ All different sizes
- ☐ As many ethnicities as possible
- ☐ All different personalities
- ☐ Dressed in a variety of attire - hats, glasses, coats, costumes, sunglasses
- ☐ Crowds
- ☐ Joggers
- ☐ People sounds - talking loudly, laughing, crying, shouting, arguing, playing, shuffling, singing

Objects

- ☐ Dog toys
- ☐ Kids toys
- ☐ Umbrellas
- ☐ Balloons
- ☐ Basket Balls
- ☐ Skate Boards
- ☐ Bicycles
- ☐ Rollerblades
- ☐ Prams
- ☐ Cars
- ☐ Trucks
- ☐ Trolleys
- ☐ Furniture
- ☐ Wheelchairs
- ☐ Walking Frames
- ☐ Flowers
- ☐ Crutches, Canes, Walking Sticks
- ☐ Sprinklers
- ☐ Mirrors
- ☐ Garage doors
- ☐ Plastic bags
- ☐ Shopping trolleys
- ☐ Brooms
- ☐ Flags

Noises

- ☐ Vacuum Cleaner
- ☐ Lawn Mower
- ☐ Microwave
- ☐ Fan
- ☐ Slamming Doors
- ☐ Washing Machine
- ☐ Dishwasher
- ☐ Garbage truck
- ☐ Courier deliveries
- ☐ Hair dryer
- ☐ Door bells
- ☐ Door Knocking
- ☐ Barking dogs
- ☐ Sirens
- ☐ Fireworks
- ☐ Car horns
- ☐ Rain, Wind & Thunderstorms
- ☐ Busy Traffic
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Television
- ☐ Motorbikes
- ☐ Trucks
- ☐ Trains
- ☐ Parties
- ☐ Musical Instruments

Animals Different Ages/Breeds/Temperaments

- ☐ Dogs - smaller dogs, bigger dogs, other puppies, males, females, shaggy dogs, smooth dogs
- ☐ Cats & Kittens
- ☐ Sheep
- ☐ Birds
- ☐ Chickens & Ducks
- ☐ Horses
- ☐ Rabbits
- ☐ Cows

Environments

- ☐ Vets
- ☐ Parks
- ☐ Houses
- ☐ Shops where dogs are permitted
- ☐ Pet shop
- ☐ Schools
- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Beaches
- ☐ Car Rides
- ☐ Stairs
- ☐ Lifts
- ☐ Railway Crossings
- ☐ Beach & swimming pools
- ☐ Coffee Shop
- ☐ Your workplace
- ☐ Kids playground
- ☐ Sportsfield where people are training
- ☐ Different surfaces - tile, wood, grass, concrete, sand, carpet, gravel, puddles, mud
- ☐ Different heights - walking on raised surfaces,
- ☐ Going into tunnels
- ☐ Bridges and foot bridges

Alone

It's really important that puppies learn how to cope on their own where you aren't around. Set up scenarios where your puppy is apart from you or other family pets and gradually increase the length of time. For example leave your puppy in the back-yard for 15 minutes, whereas the next day try to leave your puppy in the back yard for 20 minutes instead. Build upon this exercise by changing the duration and the location regularly.

Toys Different Shapes

- ☐ Squeaky
- ☐ Rubber
- ☐ Plastic
- ☐ Fabric

Eating Bowls Different Sizes

- ☐ Plastic
- ☐ Metal
- ☐ Ceramic

Experiences

- ☐ Being touched - held, touching paws, muzzle, ears, tale, rear legs
- ☐ Being tied up
- ☐ Being brushed
- ☐ Bathtime
- ☐ Checking between paws
- ☐ Toenail clipping
- ☐ Clean their ears
- ☐ Cleaning their eyes
- ☐ Teeth checking & brushing
- ☐ Being towelled off
- ☐ Being bandaged
- ☐ Wearing a collar
- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Daycare
- ☐ Agility equipment
- ☐ Boats & Watercraft



Have fun and be creative!