**YOU HAVE BECOME A NEW DOG OWNER**

**CONGRATULATIONS!** DANDI Puppies wants to make your transition easier for you and your puppy. So we have listed written down tips for the new dog owner and a list of items you will need to make him or her a comfortable member of the family.

Most dogs at the time you will bring them home need feeding 3 times a day. ROYAL CANIN mini puppy dry food is what they are eating. There is an 8+ pound variety when your dog reaches that weight, usually up to 10 months do they require a puppy food. The great part about this brand is that there is a Breed Specific food and that insures they receive the proper nutrition. Refer to the bag for amount needed for age and weight. PetSmart definitely has this brand or if time permits Chewy.com or Petsmart.com will ship to your home for the best price. Also TOMLYN has a gel puppy-dog vitamin NutriCal or NutriStat we give once a day. Dollop on finger they will lick off or put on roof of their mouth. This will ensure proper calories and nutrition for your pup. Sometimes they eat sparingly when you first bring them home due to a strange environment. Don’t worry, this will not last long.

Play time is a must for your puppy. Chew toys made of rubber and rope will help them from chewing on things you would rather they not chew on. Squeaky toys and balls are fun too. When their stomachs mature you can give them rawhide or bully sticks.

Create a sleeping environment for your pup. Whether you decide to crate or have a bed in a specific area of your home it should always be a nonpunishment area. Please remember that is you close crate door more than likely you will have to get up during the night to let them pee or poo. They have small bladders and cannot be expected to hold it all night. Towels or old blankets can be used at first till accidents are a thing of the past. Have a good supply of dog piddle pads specially if dog will be home alone for an extended period of time and has no access to the outside: like a pet door. Still it will take patience and a routine of potty breaks. Upon waking they will always need to piddle, usually 5-10 minutes after eating they will need to poo. While playing they will forget the need to pee so need to take a break with them. Put pads near the door of which they would go out to train them that is an outside function. Dogs will pace or circle when they are ready for a bowel movement. This can occur up to 4 or 5 times a day as a puppy. Expect up to two accidents a day at first. Only chastise if caught in the act, otherwise they don’t know what you are mad about. Chewy.com has 100 count pads with attractant that works well. You might want to minimize their living environment at first as to not confuse them. Easier to train too. Child safety gates help a lot in that area. We have quite a few in our home. Increase their access area as they mature.

It is nice to put a collar on early so your puppy will get used to having something around their neck. A tag with their name and your phone number is a must. My adult dog got out when front door didn’t close properly and we were just at the neighbors for a few minutes. Another neighbor found her, Very scary. Also introduce them to a leash even though you won’t take them for walks till their immune system is stronger. Dog parks aren’t recommended till after Rabies shots at 6 months. Even though it is not a state law it is best to restrain your dog while inside a vehicle. There are small travel crates, either soft sided or rigid. Older and larger dogs can use a car specific harness with their own seat belt attachment.

Breed specific books are good to have on hand as a quick reference. Amazon has a large supply or use the internet for questions.

Be sure to schedule your “well” puppy visit to your local vet within 3 business days of purchasing your puppy to validate your warranty. My vet does not charge for this. They will schedule your next appointment for follow up shots. Ten weeks, 13 weeks and so forth. Rabies is at 6 months and the last for the year. Most are in the $40 range. After the rabies shot you will be required to obtain a license in the city or county you live. Except to pay $50.

This is all the knowledge I can impart. Please feel free to text or call me if you have any other questions. Health questions you should be able to call your vet. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your fur family journey.

Diane Barackman

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**PUPPY ESSENTIALS LIST**

ROYAL CANIN PUPPY FOOD

TOMLYN: NUTRICAL OR NUTRISTAT PUPPY GEL VITAMINS

TRAINING PADS

FOOD & WATER BOWLS

COLLAR, HARNESS & LEASH

TRAVEL AND OR SLEEPING CRATE

TOWELS, BLANKETS OR SLEEPING BED

DOG TOOTH BRUSH AND TOOTH PASTE

DOG BRUSH

TOYS

PET WIPES

PAPER TOWELS & OR DISENFECTING WIPES (PIDDLE CLEANUP)

DOG SHAMPOO

PLENTY OF LOVE