

# THE CANE CORSO



***Congratulations! You have just become the proud owner of one of the most noble and majestic breeds in the world today. We at the Cane Corso Association of America (CCAA) would like to welcome you to our family and take a few brief moments to help you on this wonderful new journey.***

## Who We Are

The CCAA is the AKC Parent Breed Club for the Cane Corso. We are the largest, most progressive Cane Corso club in North America. We promote the Corso and educate the public in a positive way. Every member is encouraged to get involved in Corso activities and CCAA functions.



## Brief Look into History

For centuries, the Cane Corso (pronounced Kha- Nay Korso) type dog has served the rural inhabitants of Sicily and Southern Italy. References to the Corso type dog can be found in art and literature throughout the renaissance supporting their use as big game hunters, cart pullers, cattle catchers, the guardians of livestock and property and as devoted companions.

In the late 1970's, with the breed on the verge of extinction, an effort to recover the breed began. In the 1980's, specimens from the regions of Foggia, Bari and Puglia were selected for the beginning of



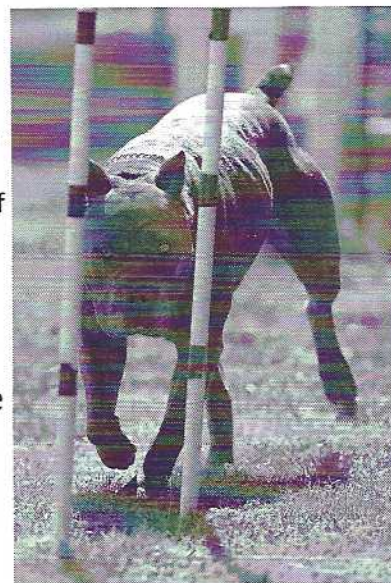
the Italian recovery. In 1988, the first Cane Corso was imported into the USA. Today the Cane Corso is growing in popularity and excelling in both working and conformation events across the USA.

## Start Early! Stay Consistent!

Early socialization and elementary obedience training is paramount to your puppy's future success. Early training will give you the proper tools to teach your cute little puppy proper manners. In a very short time, that little puppy will soon grow into a very large, powerful and strong-willed dog. Locating and enrolling in a puppy kindergarten or beginner obedience classes in your area is an excellent start to your journey.

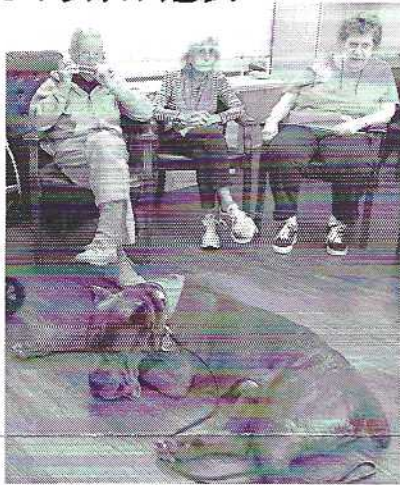


It is important to remember the Corso is a large breed dog; forced exercise should be limited until at least 18 months old. Long runs and rough play on hard surfaces should be avoided to ensure your Corso's growth plates do not have undue stress put upon them. Many Corsos continue to mature until 3 years of age. While it may be difficult, you should never compare your dog's growth rate to another's as each puppy is different. The last thing any puppy owner wants to do is injure his dog due to excessive exercise or overfeeding.



## Socialize! Socialize! Socialize!

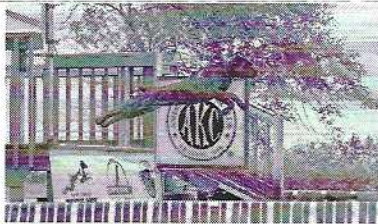
It is imperative you begin to socialize your puppy as soon as possible. The Corso is a highly intelligent, perceptive dog. He evaluates every situation he encounters. It's our job to make sure he has all the information he needs to evaluate a situation properly and the instruction from us how to react. The Corso that has a broad reference base is extremely stable.



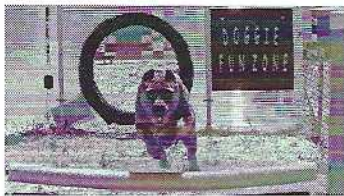
Think of it this way, if a Corso has met everyone, smelled everything normal, heard every common sound, been in hundreds of different situations, etc. he will quickly be able to discern if something is not normal and how he should react. If his experiences are limited, he will trifle with how he should react to basic events. A Corso with a massive experience base is confident with the knowledge he uses to judge the world. Those without much information will struggle to discern how to react in even simple situations; they could become fearful or aggressive, neither of which is acceptable.

## Things to Do with your Cane Corso

The CCAA and AKC offer a wide range of activities for you and your Corso. Dog shows can be a fun and exciting way to meet other Cane Corsos and their



owners. If your interests lay outside of the show ring, there is also a multitude of performance-oriented activities. The AKC offers Agility, Obedience and Rally competitions and there are many more beyond that, ranging from scent work to protection sports. These



venues are excellent relationship-building and training tools for you and your dog. The CCAA also offers annual awards for a wide range of show and performance accomplishments, as well as regional specialties with fun Corso-oriented activities and, of course, our exciting National specialty where dogs and Corso

enthusiasts from all across the country gather.

## Breeding

Before you consider breeding your dog there are many factors to consider. Successful breeders have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars testing their Corsos to ensure the



advancement of the breed to where it is today. The first steps in responsible breeding involve knowledge of the breed standard, as well as the health and temperament of your dog. Health and temperament testing as well as competing for breed-worthy conformation titles and working capabilities is a commitment. A breeder is responsible for finding loving, dependable homes for every puppy. Most importantly, breeders have to be prepared to raise each and every puppy they have produced for the rest of the puppies' lives in the event no home is found or the need to rehome a puppy or adult Corso arises. Surrendering a Corso to a shelter is not an option!

## Find a Mentor

With the rise in popularity, it is imperative that each puppy owner seek out advice from his or her breeder



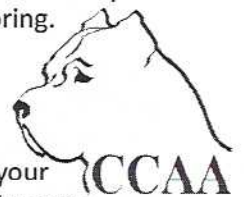
or the CCAA breed club. The Corso's future success depends upon educated owners of the breed. The CCAA website has a plethora of information available on subjects such as potty training, feeding,

exercising, crate training, vets, ear cropping and socialization, to name a few.

We would also be delighted to get to know you. We have passionate members in every state willing to help you or answer any questions you may have. Every Board member and Regional Vice President is ready and able to assist you with the future care of your Corso through education and mentoring.

## Join Today!

We are excited about this new journey you are embarking on with your Cane Corso. We would like to share in your excitement by providing a positive atmosphere of fellow enthusiasts to aid you in your raising of your puppy into a noble and majestic Cane Corso.



Visit us at:

[www.CaneCorso.org](http://www.CaneCorso.org)

# Tips on Basic Care for Your Dog

## Housebreaking

All dogs can be housebroken if you are consistent, as well as persistent, in training them. There are two basic housebreaking techniques: crate training and paper training. Crate training is preferred because it teaches direct housebreaking. Paper training should be an intermediate step, unless you deliberately want your dog to continue eliminating in a designated place indoors.

Paper training: Cover the entire floor of a confined space with paper. Wait for your dog to use the paper, then replace the soiled paper. Once your dog seems to understand the paper concept, begin to leave a bare area without paper. The goal is to have only a very small area covered with paper.

Crate training: When indoors, keep your dog in the crate or under very close supervision. Take your dog out frequently, and give your dog lots of praise for relieving itself. It won't be long before your dog gets the concept of only eliminating outdoors.

## Feeding

Three feedings a day are usually adequate for young puppies. At around four to six months old, try cutting back to two meals. Most dogs can be fed only once a day when they reach adulthood.

If you want to discourage picky habits, try to feed at regular times in regular amounts. Do not leave food down any longer than 10 to 20 minutes. Always provide fresh, clean water.

## Bathing and Grooming

In general, you only need to bathe your dog once a month or when it is dirty or smelly. Bathing too often can remove natural oils, making your dog's coat and skin too dry.

Brush your dog at least once a week. Brushing helps stimulate natural coat oils, prevents tangles, and is a great way to check for external parasites, such as ticks and fleas. You should also trim your dog's nails every 2 to 4 weeks to prevent pain when walking.

Grooming should be a comfortable experience for your dog. This should not be too difficult if you accustom your dog to being handled as a puppy. This will make it easier when your dog becomes an adult.

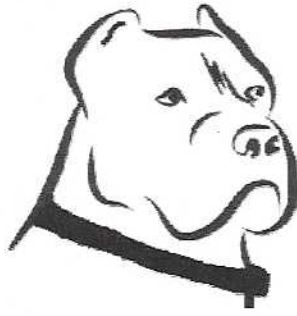
## Brushing Your Dog's Teeth

Although dog biscuits and bones may have some benefit, they do not prevent the build-up of plaque and tartar. This is why it is so important to brush your dog's teeth regularly. The teeth should be brushed at least once or twice a week. As with grooming, this will be easier if accustom your dog early in life.

## Routine Healthcare

Establishing routine healthcare from an early age can prevent disease, prolong the life of your dog and improve your dog's quality of life.

Picking a Veterinarian: It is extremely important to find someone you trust. If you are unfamiliar with the veterinarians in your area,



## Your Corso's Supplement Requirements

Your Corso is from impressive lineage no doubt, but as a new owner you also need to do your part to help your dog maintain a strong and healthy growth by means of providing proper nutrition, supplements and supervised play.

As we all know joint disorders are no stranger to heavy boned large breed dogs.. We are sure you have done your homework in regards to the breed's associated problems in regards to joints undergoing the most amount of stress during physical activities such as playtime.. like hips, knees and elbows.

Even though your pup's parents have been tested and certified for things like hips, eyes and elbows, there is always a slight possibility your puppy could become afflicted w/ one or more breed associated ailments later on in life.

Doing your part will help assure your mastino has had the best of prevention and joint lubrication that we as your breeder can suggest..

*We recommend following the following regimen:*

Limited Heavy Playtime 1<sup>st</sup> year ( *Excessive Jumping / Wrestling Etc.*)

500 mg Ester C daily up thru 15 months of age

Higher Quality Large Breed Formula Puppy & Dog Foods

Daily Supplement of Flax or Fish Oil

aNd

after 4 months

Chondroitin & Glucosamine Supplements Daily

# In Case of an Emergency

Who would take care of your dog if you were hurt and unable to do so? To make sure vital information regarding your dog is easily accessible to others, take a few minutes to fill out this emergency information sheet.

List two or three people as contacts in case of emergency. Include the contact's name, address, and telephone number. Make sure at least one of the contacts has a set of your house keys.

You may also want your attorney to draft a written statement, which gives immediate custody of your dog to a designated individual with that individual's consent. Notify that individual of his or her responsibility, and put his or her name, address, and phone number on your emergency information sheet.

Attach a recent photo of your dog to the information sheet to help others locate your dog if it should wander off.

Put the information sheet on your refrigerator or other prominent spot in your house. You may also want to keep similar information in your wallet. If you are unable to care for your dog due to an accident or emergency, someone will be able to follow the instructions on the sheet to provide necessary care.

## Emergency Pet Information

Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian's address: \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian's phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Diet: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach a recent  
photo of your dog**

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Medication instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of food, dishes, biscuits, medication: \_\_\_\_\_

The following people will care for my dog in case of an emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ number: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ number: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special instructions: \_\_\_\_\_



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# Certain foods and household products can be dangerous to dogs!

It's only natural for dogs to be curious. But their curiosity can get them into trouble when they get into areas where you store household items such as medicine and detergents. Many common household items that you use everyday can be harmful, and sometimes even lethal, to your dog.

## **Foods that are harmful to your dog:**

May cause vomiting, abdominal pain and/or diarrhea:

Wild cherry  
Almond  
Apricot  
Balsam Pear  
Japanese Plum

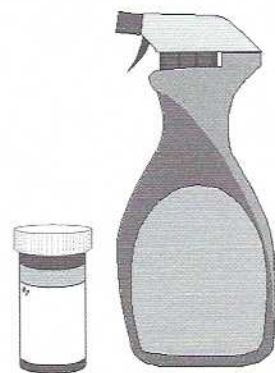
May cause varied reactions:

Yeast dough  
Coffee grounds  
Macadamia nuts  
Tomato and potato leaves and stems  
Avocados  
Onions and onion powder  
Grapes  
Raisins  
Chocolate  
Pear and peach kernels  
Mushrooms (if also toxic to humans)  
Rhubarb  
Spinach  
Alcohol



## **Common household items that are harmful to your dog:**

Acetaminophen  
Antifreeze and other car fluids  
Bleach and cleaning fluids  
Boric acid  
Deodorants  
Deodorizers  
Detergents  
De-icing salts  
Disinfectants  
Drain cleaners  
Furniture polish  
Gasoline  
Hair colorings  
Weed killers  
Insecticides  
Kerosene  
Matches  
Mothballs  
Nail polish and remover  
Paint  
Prescription and non-prescription medicine  
Rat poison  
Rubbing alcohol  
Shoe polish  
Sleeping pills  
Snail or slug bait  
Turpentine  
Windshield-wiper fluid



Symptoms of possible poisoning are: vomiting, diarrhea, difficult breathing, abnormal urine (color, aroma or odor, frequency, etc.), salivation, weakness. If your dog should ingest harmful chemicals, contact a veterinarian or poison control center immediately.



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[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

# Puppy Owner Checklist:

Ten discussion topics to help new puppies get off to great start!

## Health:

- Vaccinations
- Worming
- Heartworm Prevention
- Flea Prevention
- Weight
- Ears
- Teeth
- Exercise
- Breed-specific Health Concerns

## Food:

- Brand \_\_\_\_\_
- Type \_\_\_\_\_
- Serving Size \_\_\_\_\_  
times per day \_\_\_\_\_

## Grooming:

- Tools
- Nail Care
- Groomer Recommendation
- At-home Grooming

## Training:

- First Night
- Housebreaking/Crate Training
- Leash Breaking
- Chewing
- Jumping
- Existing Dog
- Kids
- Traveling
- Classes

## Business:

- AKC Dog Registration Application Form
- Review Bill of Sale Contract
- Contact Information
- Spay/Neuter

## Direct Benefits of AKC® Registration

- AKC Event Privileges
- Complimentary first Veterinary Office Visit – <https://www.apps.akc.org/apps/vetnet/>
- 30 days of Pet Insurance coverage with the AKC Pet Insurance Certificate.\* Activation is required; for more information please visit us at [www.akcpetinsurance.com/certificate](http://www.akcpetinsurance.com/certificate)
- AKC Reunite Enrollment (optional) – <http://www.akcreunite.org>
- Support AKC Initiatives (CHF, Public Education, Scholarships, Canine Legislation, etc.)

## Equipment & Supplies:

- Leashes
- Crate/Pen
- Beds
- Toys

## Safety:

- Electrical Cords
- Poisonous Plants
- Table Scraps
- Dangerous Foods: Chocolate, Raisins, Onions
- Fencing

## Breeder Contact Information:

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Local Club Contact Information:

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Contact: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Attention New Puppy Owner:

Register your new puppy with the American Kennel Club® today to receive these wonderful benefits:

- AKC New Puppy Handbook
- Complimentary office visit with Veterinary Network participating veterinarian
- 30 days of pet insurance coverage with the AKC Pet Insurance Certificate\* (activation required)
- Support AKC's mission of encouraging responsible dog ownership

By registering your dog with AKC, you also support critical good works programs for the welfare of purebred dogs. AKC helps fund Canine Health Foundation research; awards scholarships to veterinary students; conducts a range of public education programs; and monitors and provides input for federal, state, and local legislation governing responsible dog ownership.

\*The AKC Pet Insurance Certificate is administered by PetPartners, Inc. and is underwritten by American Pet Insurance Company, 6100 4th Ave S., Seattle WA 98108, or Independence American Insurance Company. Activation is required. Not available in all states and only available to U.S. residents. Eligibility restrictions apply. Visit [www.akcpetinsurance.com/certificate](http://www.akcpetinsurance.com/certificate) or call 1-866-725-2747 for more information or to review Terms and Conditions.



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**We're more than champion dogs. We're the dogs champion.**