



Thank you for joining our Labradoodle family.

We are so excited that you have selected one of our beautiful puppies to be a part of your family.

We have provided this information for you to help settle in your new furbaby and provide you with general information.

We use a website [www.99petshops.com.au](http://www.99petshops.com.au) to get most of our puppy supplies and to find the best price. Petbarn and Petstock both price must most online prices.

We are here for the lifetime of your pet to answer any question or give advice if able.

# PREPARING FOR YOUR PUPPY

You will need the following items.

- Bed
- Food & Large water bowls
- Harness and Lead, a harness is recommended over a collar as they pull on a dog's neck and back and can cause major issues later in life.
- Chewy & Soft toys
- Worming tablets (listed below with photos and instructions)
- Puppy pee pads
- You will receive a Meals For Mutts puppy pack that will contain the current food, and a few other goodies.

You will need to decide where your puppy will sleep.

Bathroom or laundry are good choices, but we recommend not in your bed as your puppy needs to learn how to settle by itself and spend time alone, so they don't get separation anxiety.

You will need to decide which rooms of the house are going to be available to your puppy- living areas to start with are normally a good choice to start with to help with toileting as they may have some accidents while getting use to the new environment.

Puppies have heaps of energy and love to explore. They are just like toddlers and anything and everything always ends up in their mouths. Be aware of potential dangers around your home such as

- Cords from curtains and blinds
- Cleaning supplies and chemicals
- Tobacco products (can be fatal)
- Plants – both indoors and outdoors (can be toxic to a dog)
- Medications
- Electrical cords/phone cords
- Fireplaces
- Shoes
- Garbage bins
- Buckets of water
- Swimming pools

## **SETTLING YOUR PUPPY**

Your puppy is use to being with its siblings and other dogs, and maybe unsettled when they're alone. Our routine has been feeding and playing in the morning and mostly non attention throughout the day, then feeding and playing in the afternoon. This helps with teaching a dog to be alone and entertain itself. At night they are inside spending time with us, 30mins to an hour before bed we will play with them to wear them out

Do not feed your puppy or allow them to drink lots of water leading up to bedtime.

Make sure they go to the toilet just before bed.

We will take them out to the bathroom just before we go to bed around 10pm they will usually sleep through the night without a noise, if they do start to cry and whining, they will normally need to go outside to the bathroom or would like some water.

Your puppy has been crate trained for sleeping at night only, we strongly suggest this is the only time the dog is place in a crate if you wish to continue using one.

## **GROOMING**

Inside of ears should be kept dry and free of excessive hair. Excessive hair in the ear can contribute to moist ears, which can turn into ear infections and moisture build-up. Keep ears clean with wiping away any dirt from inside the ear, a solution may be required.

Hair should be trimmed away from the eyes when required. Specialised grooming hair scissors will make this job easier.

Your puppies coat will require regular brushing. They can become matted behind and under their ears, on their belly and in their armpits. Make sure you brush them all over to avoid this.

They will require clipping on a regularly basis around 8 weeks. You can do this yourself or find a groomer that specialises in this breed. Please read reviews and photos or you may end up with a bad haircut and no one wants a bad hair day.

## FEEDING

We leave food out throughout the day for your puppy to eat at any stage, this is as they are little, they only have tiny bellies, so it helps them eat what they are able to. It also reduces food anxiety for dogs when they are older.

At 8 weeks old they are eating between 1 scoop of kibble each meal. This will increase as they grow, refer to the feeding guide on your food packet for recommendations. The weight of your puppy should be monitored over the next few months to make sure you are not under feeding your puppy.

Between 4-6 months of age, puppies cut their permanent teeth and grow rapidly. Introduction of fresh raw meaty bones ensures they are chewing actively around the time their permanent teeth are erupting. This chewing is important to alleviate teething issues and provides several important healthy benefits including keeping teeth and gums healthy. Raw bones should be large enough so that the puppy cannot fit the whole bone in its mouth or swallow the bone whole. Don't over feed on raw bones as it can cause constipation. One raw bone per fortnight is generally well tolerated. Meaty bones are better. Please remember to supervise your puppy when they're eating raw bones. The bones below are from Woolworths and is in the pet food aisle. They around \$9 for a pack of 2. I recommend giving the bone in the morning and throwing out what is left in the afternoon.



# **NEVER FEED COOKED BONES TO YOUR DOG**

If you choose to change dog food, wean your puppy from its current food onto to the new food over 2 weeks. Don't just do a straight change as this will cause diarrhoea and can cause issues with its belly.

Puppies should remain on puppy food till they are 12 -18 months old. Puppies need the nutrition that's found in puppy food to help with their development.

Clean water should always be available especially in hot weather.

## **DANGEROUS FOODS FOR DOGS**

- NO DAIRY FOR DOGS - Some dogs are lactose intolerant, dairy can cause them to suffer from acute intestinal distress.
- NO CHOCOLATE - This is toxic for dogs!
- ALCOHOL
- AVOCADO
- FATTY FOODS
- MUSHROOMS
- ONIONS & GARLIC
- CAFFEINE
- WALNUTS & MACADAMIAS
- XYLITOL (gum, candy ECT)

## DESEXING

There is abundant evidence that on average desexed dogs live longer lives and have fewer diseases than un-desexed dogs.

The benefits of desexing a female is it will not come on heat, fall pregnant, develop mammary or ovarian cancer or get infections in the uterus.

The benefits of desexing a male will make it more loyal, less prone to prostrate problems, and less likely to be in fights.

Your puppy will need to be desexed between the ages of 6-9 months of age as this is a condition of sale.

## WORMING & VACCINATIONS

Your puppy has had its first vaccination (C5) and requires one more before it is safe for them to go for a walk and explore the world. We use a C5 instead of a C3 as it helps with being able to take them out younger, it is a extra cost to us but we believe our dogs socialization is very important from a young age.

We have wormed your puppy every 2 weeks since birth with Drontal worming suspension for puppies. Once they hit 8 weeks, we then start them on a monthly wormer called NexGard Spectra.

Your puppy will require to be wormed once a month. We recommend NexGard Spectra, if you do use NexGard Spectra start with the 3 pack before jumping up to the 6 pack so you buy within the right weight range.

We will provide you the worming schedule on pick up of your puppy.



## **TOILET TRAINING**

Puppies have small bladders and will need to go frequently, and they need to be taught where is appropriate. Your puppy has been toilet trained but now we must give you some information as it's a new environment that they need to learn, some may pick up the toileting area immediately or some may need some time to adjust.

During the early stages of training, set an alarm to remind you to take your puppy out every 2 hours. If accidents are happening step up the frequency. Repetition is the key.

Puppies normally poo not long after eating, so take them outside soon after their meal for a run around. Also take them outside after a long cuddle, had a nap or come out of confinement.

Signs that a dog needs to use the toilet are – whining, circling and sniffing the ground.

They will normally go to the toilet straight away.

Never punish your puppy for having an accident and never rub their nose in it. Just clean it up and move on. If you catch them in the act, say NO sternly and take them to their designated area.

## **CAR TRAVEL WITH YOUR DOG**

There are rules and regulations for car travel with your dog. We recommend you educate yourself with the regulations that apply in your state.

A driver must not drive with an animal in the driver's lap.

A motorcycle rider must not ride with an animal between the handlebars and the rider. Animals should be seated or housed in an appropriate area of the vehicle.

Dogs on Ute's should be restrained by either a tether or cage, so that dogs cannot fall off or be injured while the vehicle is moving.

Backseats are best for your dog, they are the safest place so they do not distract you while driving. You can buy a seat belt leash at most pet shops to click your dog in or use the slip on the harness from your puppy pack.