A dog face on a blue background

Description automatically generated

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS????**

* **Q: What should I feed my new puppy??**
* **A: All of our dogs are on Purina Pro Plan Chicken and Rice formula for Large breed puppies. You can find it at Petsmart or several online retailers such as Chewy.com**
* **Q: How much should I feed my puppy??**
* **A: While with us puppies receive 1/3 cup at breakfast, lunch, and dinner time. There are feeding charts available at** [**https://www.purina.com/articles/dog/feeding/guides/how-much-should-i-feed-my-dog**](https://www.purina.com/articles/dog/feeding/guides/how-much-should-i-feed-my-dog) **and you will want to adjust the amount as the puppy grows.**
* **Q: What size harness/collar does my puppy need??**
* **A: When pups leave us they will need a small sized harness/collar which should work for immediate needs and size will vary as puppy grows to adult size.**
* **Q: Are puppies crate trained??**
* **A: All Cabernet Goldendoodle puppies get crate “familiarization” with us. They have crates in their pen (door open) so they leave us with a positive affiliation with the crate as a cozy place to be – which is ½ the battle with crate training. Working towards crate training at home if desired is a matter of continuing the positive affiliation with the crate – lots of treats and praise – and closing the crate door and longer intervals until pup is comfortable with longer periods in the crate.**
* **Q: How big should my crate be?**
* **A: When full grown your dog should be able to stand in their crate without discomfort. We provide estimated sizes of mom/dad and pups for height “at the withers”, which is the measurement from the floor to the top of the front shoulder when standing. If you add `6” to that measurement you should be good for the height measurement of the crate. Your pup will need to grown with the crate – its important when housebreaking to NOT have a crate large enough for pup to have a clean area and dirty area inside the crate – just large enough to stand, lay, and turn around - so we recommend a crate for your full sized dog that has the ability to install crate spacers to make it smaller for pup and can be adjusted while they grow.**
* **Q: How do I housebreak my puppy??**
* **A: Housebreaking is hard work. Its as much people training as it is puppy training! All puppies leave is fully litter box trained and we begin basic housebreaking training. We send home a sample of pine pellets, which is the litter they use in their litter pan in their pen. These are a great tool to sprinkle in your yard where you want puppy to potty – they will immediately associate the scent with the bathroom. The trick is getting them there….. A LOT. It may be wise to set a timer at every 15-20 min – take puppy to the potty area ON A LEASH. If puppy uses the bathroom reward immediately with treats and praise and immediately go back inside. Its important to not confuse outside play time with potty time so be aware if puppy thinks its time to play and redirect with your chosen command (i.e. potty…). If no potty or insists on play return to the house. Its important to monitor puppies behavior (sniffing etc.) as these may be indicators to immediately take puppy out. Its also a good idea to visit the potty immediately after meal times. You can slowly start to increase the time in between outside visits as puppy gets the hang of it. Do not scold for accidents inside as negative reinforcement can cause confidence issues in pup. Stick to it!!!! They more you are on it they quicker they will learn!!**
* **Q: What kind of treats should I buy?**
* **A: There are many brands out there that will do the trick – we prefer Pet Botanics Training Treats (Petsmart/Chewy) – they are small low calorie training incentives that puppy will love and it’s a great idea to keep some in your pocket all the time during basic training.**
* **Q: What shots does my puppy have?**
* **A: All puppies get a vet health check, age appropriate vaccinations, and deworming with us. They will get three doses of dewormer at 5, 7, and 8 weeks with Panacur C, which is a broad spectrum anti-parasitic for animals. Just prior to 8 weeks they will receive DAPP (Distemper, Adenovirus, Parvovirus, and Parainfluenza). You’ll want to schedule a vet check within 10 days of pick-up day for a health check and so your vet can start their remaining vaccine schedule. At 10-12 weeks they will be due for DAP boosters (plus Leptospirosis, Lyme, Canine influenza). And at 14-16 week they will be due for DAP boosters and rabies vaccine. We will send home documents from our vet of fecal exam, vaccines, and health check so your vet can pick up where we left off.**
* **Q: What is Parvovirus and why do I need to know about it?**
* **A: Parvovirus is a dangerous viral intestinal disease that can affect dogs – which can potentially be fatal. Until a dog is fully vaccinated (including all boosters) for parvovirus its important to avoid areas frequented by other dogs like dog parks, truck stops, petsmart/home depot parking lots, etc. etc. etc. Once they are fully vaccinated it should be safe to participate in activities in these areas.**
* **Q: Can we choose our puppy in person??**
* **A: No. It is our strict policy to limit outside exposure to our unvaccinated litters to the max extent possible. There are lots of dangerous viruses and parasites that could be inadvertently introduced to an unvaccinated litter of puppies, that could potentially be deadly for the entire litter – or even impact our ability to safely breed future litters in our breeding/whelping/play areas. For that reason, we only do puppy picks virtually. We are happy to do facetime/video chat, send individual pictures/videos, side-by-sides, or discuss personality and temperament types to ensure you are able to select the perfect pup for your situation. We are always happy to meet with families or potential clients – but our policy regarding interaction with our litters or our breeding/whelping/play areas is not negotiable for the safety of our moms, pups, and future litters.**
* **Q: When do we pick our puppy?**
* **A: At 6 weeks of age we will open picks starting with pick #1… we will post individual videos of each pup on our Facebook page:** [**https://www.facebook.com/cabernetgoldendoodles/**](https://www.facebook.com/cabernetgoldendoodles/) **. As picks progress we will update the pick list with selections at:** [**www.cabernetgoldendoodles.com/availablelitters**](http://www.cabernetgoldendoodles.com/availablelitters)
* **Q: When can I pick my puppy up??**
* **A: We keep pups until they reach 8 weeks of age. We will provide a window (usually a weekend Fri-Sat-Sun) for you to pick up your pup.**
* **Q: What is in the “puppy starter kit”??**
* **A: We send home samples of food, pine pellets, treats, and some other goodies to help puppy feel right home. We’ll include a blanket with mom and the litter’s scent on it as well. Included in the go-home kit are copies of important documents including health check, vaccine records, microchip registration information, and purchase agreement and health guarantee.**
* **Q: Will my puppy be good with kids? Cats? Other dogs? Etc?**
* **A: Puppies are very adaptable and will adapt to just about any environment if they are introduced and socialized properly. Puppies with us get exposure to kids, cats, other dogs, various indoor and outdoor environments, etc. Continued socialization and exposure to new interactions and environments are critical as puppy grows. For those with younger kids a good practice is to give puppy small tugs on things like ears, tail, paws, etc. so if little ones play a little too rough puppy won’t be caught off guard. Exposure to other animals is rarely and issue on the puppy side of things as they will more than likely be excited for the new experience and want to play. Monitoring their interaction with other dogs/cats/household pets and introducing them slowly usually is the trick. Some mature dogs may not take immediately to pup but in the vast majority of cases will come around. Supervision is key in the beginning.**

**Here are some great training resources – and always remember dog training is just as much people training as it is dog training:**

[**https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/training-resources/**](https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/training-resources/)

[**https://www.preventivevet.com/recommended-dog-behavior-and-training-resource-list**](https://www.preventivevet.com/recommended-dog-behavior-and-training-resource-list)