

PUPPY 101

Congratulations on your new furry family member!

The transition to a new home can be stressful for puppies, which may cause them to not eat well for the first few days. This is somewhat normal. Keep an eye on your pup and ensure it's eating, drinking, and going to the bathroom. After the first day or two, we would like to see them regularly eating well.

Remember, this is a big move for your pup, so give them plenty of rest and quiet time to adjust. Please don't overdo it with playtime that first week or two. Play a bit, and let it cuddle, rest, and explore its new surroundings. Your puppy is a baby, so it needs lots of sleep at this tender time. Once they have adapted to their new surroundings, puppies need plenty of playtime to help them learn, socialize, and burn off energy. We recommend offering a variety of toys and playing with your puppy regularly to keep them happy and healthy.

Your puppy will be used to dry food when it comes home, and if at all possible, try and keep it on the same food for at least a week. If you choose to change your puppy's food, do so gradually by mixing the new food with the old and increasing the amount of new food over the course of a week. This will help prevent digestive issues. If your puppy develops diarrhea, try feeding them a bland diet of boiled rice and boiled chicken or turkey for a few days. You can also give them a bit of Pepto for an upset stomach. If diarrhea persists or is severe, contact your veterinarian.

Be sure to get follow-up deworming and booster shots to ensure your puppy stays healthy. Protecting your puppy from diseases until they are fully vaccinated is important, so use caution when taking them for potty breaks outside. Avoid taking them to public places or exposing them to other animals until they have completed their vaccination series.

There are many options for housing and beds for dogs, including crates, kennels, and soft beds. Choose the option that best fits your puppy's needs and your lifestyle. Crates can be a useful tool for housetraining, but it's important to choose the right size crate and to not leave your puppy in the crate for too long.

If you are planning on having your dog inside, you must first survive housetraining. Housetraining can be a challenge, but with patience and consistency, it's possible to teach your puppy to go outside to do their business. It's critical to teach them not to use their crate as a bathroom, but some are quicker to figure it out than others! You can also use puppy pads around the house. Whatever method you choose, it's important to begin right away and reward your puppy with treats and praise when they go outside. Be sure to take them outside regularly to prevent accidents indoors, and remember to be patient, as they can't truly control their bladder at this age.

Most importantly, love your new family member, let them rest and sleep, and give them playtime when they are in the mood. With love and care, your puppy will become a beloved member of your family in no time!