

PUPPY GOES HOME

THE FIRST NIGHT:

The first few days can be a very stressful time for your puppy. Be prepared for it to cry, whine or howl when it is left alone. Let the puppy be with you, it misses his littermates and you are it's only comfort. If you are going to crate train your puppy, which I suggest you do, place the crate next to your bed (**not a childs**) for the next several months, later you can move the crate to the room or area you want your puppy to sleep or eliminate it all together. The puppy will settle down much faster in your room than if it is isolated. You may choose to cover a wire suitcase crate with a light sheet on 3 sides and the top leaving open only the door area. **I find that adding a small fan pointed at the front of the crate that it settles Puppy Down.** Remember- Your puppy has been accustomed to much cooler sleeping in their outside kennel than what your home will be. When your puppy begins to cry place your hand inside the crate door or just your fingers through the wire mesh. Make sure that his crate has the toy and blanket taken home with you. **DO NOT WASH THESE ITEMS!** You may try putting a bone or Nylabone in his crate as a diversion.

When your puppy wakes up in the middle of the night and begins to cry, it needs either reassurance that it is not alone or it needs to go to the bathroom. Try once again to put your fingers in the door of the crate to get puppy's attention and settle him back to sleep. If this fails and the puppy continues to whine or bark then it needs to go to the bathroom. Take it outside and make certain it goes potty before putting it back in the crate. Once in the crate it may begin to fuss again, however, just follow through the same routine as above and the puppy will go back to sleep. **Your PUPPY SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE IT THROUGH 6 Hours IF you did your job correctly before bedtime.** Remove water 2 hours before going to bed. Make Absolutely certain your puppy has pee'd immediately before going to bed and has pooped in the evening hours after feeding him. You will find that by 9-10 weeks of age your puppy should be sleeping through the night.

One mistake commonly made by most people is every time puppy fusses in the crate at night they tend to quickly take the puppy outside for a potty break. If you are not careful you could be doing this several times a night for several months. Be certain that you are not teaching your puppy that every time it cries it gets to go outside.

FEEDING SCHEDULE:

Your puppy has been fed **Purina Pro Plan Large Breed Puppy**, You may mix with 1/2 sardine or with 1 Tablespoon ground boiled chicken.

Note: The following schedule is just a **RULE OF THUMB**. Puppies activity levels as well as metabolism differ. Most puppies will act like they are starving at every meal. Especially Goldens!

DO NOT follow the feeding instructions on the back of the bag!! If you do your dog will be fat and this will be the beginning of health problems including hip dysphasia.

Your puppy is currently eating $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of food per day split between three meals with one-half a sardine or a teaspoon of the boiled/ground chicken. Let the food soak in warm tap water before giving it to your puppy. This softens the food a bit and releases more of the flavor. Give the puppy 20 minutes to eat; if they do not eat, or eat only a portion, pick up the food and throw it away (do not save it for the next meal). This will teach the puppy good eating habits and most important aids in housebreaking and weight control! Your puppy may not eat well the first few days as it will not have the competition of its littermates to remind him that it's time to eat. Don't worry your puppy won't starve and will begin eating fully in a few days.

As your puppy grows older remember to increase his/her food. After 3-4 months of age you can stop feeding the mid meal. At 3 months add another $\frac{1}{4}$ cup to each meal. If feeding three times a day does not fit into your schedule you can go to twice a day anytime after 10 weeks. It is critical that your puppy be thin rather than overweight. Added weight only opens the door for problems with growing bones, including hip dysplasia, osteochondritis of the shoulder, and a host of other orthopedic problems. Your puppy should remain thin for the first two years of their life; they will add bulk and width with age NOT food. **THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR A FEMALE IS 65- 70 POUNDS FOR MALES 70-75. Their waist measurement for females should NEVER exceed approx.. 25" for males approx. 26"-27".**

FREE FEEDING IS NOT AN OPTION FOR OUR DOGS! If you own a cat and free feed the cat, alternatives will need to be made to put the cat food up on a shelf where it is reachable for the cat but out of the reach of your puppy.

8-12 weeks of age: A pup will usually eat 2 -3 cups per day, split into 3 equal portions. Begin with 2 cups, gradually increasing as they grow.

12-16 weeks of age: A pup will usually eat 3-4 cups per day

16 weeks and older: Use 3-4 cups a day as a beginning guide. You may need to increase up to 6 cups depending on puppies activity level. You should ALWAYS be able to run your hand down his rib cage with little pressure and feel ribs. Behind his rib cage should ALWAYS be a waist.

As your puppy finishes his major growth up to 6-8 months, decreasing his/her food will be necessary to maintain optimum weight.

**THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR FEMALES IS APPROXIMATELY 60-70 POUNDS.
THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR MALES APPROXIMATELY 70-78 POUNDS.**

All of my adult dogs receive 3 cups of food a day. I do add fresh meat, raw meats or cooked chicken breasts. I may increase or decrease depending on their activity level for short periods, but 3 cups seems to be amount that they do well on. THE thing that I notice most often with pet dogs is that they are overweight and because a vet has not mentioned this the owner is unaware. UNFORTUNATELY, MOST VETS DO NOT MENTION OBESITY AS THEY DO NOT LIKE TO OFFEND THEIR CLIENTS. I on the other hand, WILL

make it known if I see a dog that I have bred either in pictures or during a visit that is overweight! Make yourself knowledgeable! They should look thin! Have a waistline! Believe me, I have informed many buyers that what they consider a BIG dog is not, it is obese! If your dogs are not within 5 pounds of the above weight you can be guaranteed it is obese!

COOKIES: Be careful! Here is where most people make the mistake not thinking of cookies and treats as food. Some dog cookies are equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ $1\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of food. Use very small cookies or break cookies up to give to your puppy. I do give my dogs a cookie at bed time going to their kennels or when training. Pay particular attention if you have children as they love to feed your puppy.

Problem puppies:

I am not going to eat that!!!

You may experience some problems with puppy not wanting to eat. Entice him with boiled chicken, grated cheese or sprinkle a touch of sugar on his food.

I am so hungry!!!!

Gorging can be a problem also. Put an object, as in a tennis ball in his food dish so he has to work pushing the ball aside to get his food.

But I want to eat my feces!!!

Unfortunately, this does happen and they usually outgrow this. Some say it is because they are not getting enough nutrients, but I don't believe this for a second.

- 1) Brought on by example, influenced by the desire to clean.
- 2) Usually occurs when pup is bored, alone or confined.
- 3) Keep feces picked up! Use a product called Forbid.

If Purina ProPlan is unavailable to you or you can not locate readily these are my top suggestions: **ANYTIME A CHANGE IS MADE TO THE DIET IT NEEDS TO BE A GRADUAL CHANGE! I suggest changing the Puppy Formula to adult formula at 9-12 months of age REMEMBER- Slowly transition puppy onto new food.**

Water should ALWAYS be available, except if you are still housebreaking then follow the rules in the housebreaking section. Puppies love to play in their water bowls and buckets. Indoor bowls should be placed where it would be easily cleaned up if spilled. Outdoor buckets should be attached to something, like snapped to fencing, to keep it from being knocked over. This is especially important during the hot summer months when dogs need lots of water.

Also new information has come out regarding the benefits of feeding a raw diet or a mixture of kibble and "fresh foods". Kibble was produced for the convenience of humans, NOT because that is what they should eat. I think of it as cereal. A child can exist on cereal but it does not have all the benefits of fresh fruits, vegetables and meats. There are MANY books and articles on the benefits of raw foods.

The Whole Dog Journal is an EXCELLENT Magazine and deals with every topic including, feeding, training and health concerns & issues.

http://www.whole-dog-journal.com/landing/052011LP_S.html?s=GL_PD_WDJGeneral&st=PPC&gclid=CKGP0OeMi6kCFQcBbAodWze-ow

VITAMINS AND SUPPLEMENTS

You have also been supplied in your puppy pack with Solid Gold Sea Meal. I add this to warm water in the morning and evening meals. The amounts are listed on your bag. You may purchase this supplement through various specialty food stores or through catalogs.

I also supplement my dogs with Nu-Vet. I suggest you order it now to have on hand. It can be ordered 1-800-474-7044. Order Code 45773, if you have other dogs I suggest you also begin to put this in their food also. You will get pamphlets and a few to begin with. The contact number is also on the refrigerator magnet.

GUIDE FOR PUPPY SHOTS

General Guidelines for Puppy Shots

Here is a general schedule to follow to give your puppy a healthy start. *Please check with your veterinarian for more specific guidelines. Insure that your veterinarian knows that your puppys initial puppy vaccination was at 8 weeks, NOT 6*

Don't forget your puppy shots! - His/her health depends on it.

8 WEEKS

Examination (for general health)

DHP-PV-CV (1st for distemper parvo/hepatitis/parainfluenza-parvo-carona)

Fecal Flotation (for parasites)

Heartworm Prevention

Flea & Tick Prevention

12 weeks

Examination

DHP-PV-CV (2nd)

Fecal Flotation

Heartworm Prevention

Flea & Tick Prevention

16 WEEKS

Examination

DHP-PV-CV (3rd)

Bordetella (Kennel Cough)

Fecal Flotation

Heartworm Prevention
Flea & Tick Prevention

18 WEEKS

Examination
Parvo Vaccine
Rabies - 1 Year (required for every pet in the state of Kentucky)
Heartworm Prevention
Flea & Tick Prevention

WORMING SCHEDULE:

Your puppies have been wormed on the following schedule with Nemex:

2 weeks
3 weeks
5 weeks
7 weeks- Panacur
8 weeks

You have been given Albon as a preventative for Coccidia to be administered as soon as you take your puppy home.

Worms are a natural parasite in puppies. They can be difficult to rid, so I suggest that you take in a fecal sample on your first vet visit and they will prescribe a stronger wormer that can be administered after 8 weeks of age. Your first visit to the vet take in a stool sample! It is almost impossible to rid multiple puppies of all worms, coccidian and Giardia. Although I use a VERY proactive approach it is impossible to destroy 100% of cysts and puppies reinfect themselves as isolation is impossible. Giardia and Coccidia are extremely difficult to rid from properties as it is in the soil and other environments.

HOUSEBREAKING:

Be consistent!!! Remember that with every new activity requires taking your puppy for a potty break, both before and after. When your puppy wakes up, take him outside. After play, take him outside. After eating, after drinking, take him outside. Frustration with potty training due to ongoing accidents, is usually the fault of inconsistent training. This is especially difficult with children in the family who “forget” to take puppy out. **Go out with puppy, do not play, stand still and tell puppy to “Go Potty”, praise puppy highly when puppy achieves your goal.**

Puppy wants nothing more than to be with you, so if you let puppy outside by himself to go potty, he will not do his business but stand at the back door, not understanding what you want of him except that he has been left alone. When let in, OOOOPS! Puppy had to potty

after all.

Until the puppy is 100% housebroken I suggest the puppy does not have the entire run of the house. Confine them to only to the area where you spend your most time. Puppy should not be left unattended. It is only by watching your dog's behavior that you will recognize when they need to go out. To facilitate going to the door when they have to go out, always open the door whenever the puppy goes near it.

Be prepared for accidents in the house. Have paper towels, terry towels and carpet cleaner handy. When your puppy does have an accident in the house **DO NOT RUB HIS NOSE IN IT!**. The only thing that accomplishes is a dog with a dirty nose. If you are angry yell at the spot and yourself as you clean it up. If you **CATCH** your dog in the act of "doing it's duty" then you can scold them and immediately take them outside. Dogs cannot associate punishment with something they did 5-10 minutes ago.

Dogs are creatures of habit and they do best if they are put on a regular schedule. Once you put your puppy on a schedule you will find that soon they know when it's time to eat, go out and potty, and time for bed. Keeping your dog on a regular schedule, especially with feeding, will help with the housebreaking.

FLEAS:

The best new product on the market is *ADVANTAGE OR FRONTLINE*. Advantage is a liquid that is applied to the neck and the base of the tail once a month. Frontline is applied in the same manner only once every three months. Frontline also applies to Ticks whereas Advantage does not. I **ONLY** apply these products **IF** the need arises. The problem months for fleas is July-September. I check my dogs regularly during these months. Regular bathing and leaving the shampoo set 5-10 minutes will suffocate fleas. I rarely have a problem but I do check my dogs regularly and pay attention to any excessive scratching or biting for flea bites. If you do find fleas be aware that if there is 1 there is 100. Be sure that all animals in your house, including cats are treated. If you find you have a bad infestation treatment of your house as well as your yard may be required. **I NEVER TREAT FOR FLEAS UNLESS I AM CERTAIN I HAVE THEM-IT IS A POISON THAT IS TOPICALLY ADMINISTERED!**

PLAYTIME:

IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN:

Do not play aggressive games with your puppy! This includes pull/tug games and wrestling. Puppy does not know when pulling and grabbing at the toy, where the toy ends and the fingers begin. A puppy will play nip at a running child. Younger children have the tendency to run away from puppy if it is playing too rough or inadvertently scratches them or nips them. Teach your child that running away or pulling hands out will only cause more pain. Teach them to distract Puppy first!!! Replace the fingers or toes in his mouth with his own toys.

There are many interactive toys on the market. All toys should be large enough that they

can not be easily swallowed. My dogs favorites are tennis balls, kong balls, stuffed animals and the Chuck-It is a MUST for the older dogs.

CHEWING:

All dogs like to chew and it keeps their teeth and gums healthy. But, they need to learn what is appropriate and what is not! They need to be provided acceptable chewing items. Puppies can not associate what is OK to chew on and what is not. If you leave your new Tennis Shoes around, you can be assured it will be chewed on. The ONLY time you can reprimand your puppy for chewing is IF you catch him in the act. **REMEMBER-WITH ALL TRAINING, PUPPIES, AS WELL AS DOGS, DO NOT HAVE THE REASONING POWER TO ASSOCIATE BEING DISCIPLINED FOR SOMETHING THEY CHEWED UP OR DID WRONG 5 MINUTES AGO.** Rawhide bones, with the knotted ends can be dangerous as dogs tend to unknott the ends and swallow large pieces whole. I have given you femur bones that will provide hours of chewing pleasure. Bull wrinkles are also a long chewing item. **BE CAUTIOUS WITH ANY TREAT THAT CAN BE CHIPPED AWAY-** Ham flavored Nylabones are a good source for chewing. Greenies have been known to cause major problems as well as other items that can splinter into large pieces unable to be swallowed or unable to be digested.

I suggest purchasing *“Bitter Apple”* to use on anything you prefer not to have chewed. If your puppy starts chewing on things like chair legs, door moldings, or your bathrobe (playing tug of war while you are wearing it) you can spray the object being chewed. This spray tastes terrible to the dog. I have never found that it stains anything that I have used it on. Use it on electrical cords, shoes, pant legs, furniture. Once again, the only time you can scold your puppy for chewing is when you catch him in the act. Puppies do not have the reasoning power to associate they are being disciplined for something chewed up 10 minutes ago.

Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have. I am here to help you with suggestions for any situations that may arise during your puppys growth and through his adult years.

LEARNING ABOUT A LEASH

I start by allowing the puppy to walk around trailing the leash. It then associates the leash with stops, etc. as it steps on the leash. It will not associate the leash coming from you as restraint. After the first few days pick up the leash and begin walking your puppy.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOUR PUPPY BE SOCIALIZED BETWEEN 8 TO 16 WEEKS-THIS IS THE MOST CRITICAL TIME FOR SOCIALIZING JUST BE SMART AND GIVE THOUGHT NOT TO GO TO HIGH DOG TRAFFIC AREAS. ALWAYS CARRY YOUR PUPPY INTO THE VET OFFICE-LEAVE IN THE CAR UNTIL YOU ARE CALLED FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT.
Older dogs have built up immunities based on their habits, dog parks, dog day care, training

facilities, etc. but they can pass onto your puppy these illnesses.

I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THIS ABOVE ALL ELSE: **ETA**

E-xercise If You Exercise First It will get the ya-ya's out of

T-rain your puppy and will provide more focus for

A-ffection training. Once tired they are ready for loving!