

New Puppy Supply List

Here is a list of items I recommend getting and some points/tips to help make your new addition successful!

Recommended Supplies:

- **Crate w/ divider** - I highly recommend using a crate. Set this up in an area that your puppy can see the family.
- **Soft blankets** - puppy or baby blankets work
- **Snuggle Puppy** - These have little hearts inside that have a "heartbeat" which really helps soothe puppies when crate training.
- **Good enzyme cleaner for accidents** - I like Amazon Commercial Multi-Purpose Enzyme Cleaner
- **Soft training treats** (The smellier the better) - I can give you a list of ones I use
- **Adjustable collar** - do not go nuts on one since he will grow out.
- **Leash** - I recommend having 2 so you have one as a back-up. Look for ones with a comfortable handle and most trainers recommend a six foot leash.
 - I love water proof collars and leashes made with Biothane! These help stop odor and are super durable!
- **Stuffing free stuffed animals**
- **Natural Bones** - They can also be restuffed with things like peanut butter and the Kong company makes a stuffing you can easily inject into bones.
- **Beef Cheek Rolls** - a good rawhide alternative.
- **Bullysticks**
- **Nylabones** - good for teething
- **Teething ring toys**
- **Balls** - Make sure they are durable and cannot get stuck in the mouth.
- **Bitter Apple** - great to use to prevent nipping or chewing on items.
- **Food/Water Bowls** - Make sure these are sturdy. If you have a fast eater there are slow eating bowls which are great and help prevent bloat.
- **Puppy Shampoo** - You can always use Johnson & Johnson baby shampoos and body wash. The lavender scented ones are great.
- **Nail clippers** - I would do this often to help the puppy get used to it.
- **Dog bed** - I highly recommend getting a waterproof cover for any bed that way if there is an accident the bed is not ruined. It also will protect the bed during the chewing/teething phase so the bed does not get damaged.
- **Hard puppy treats**
- **Puppy/Dog food** - watch for allergies against chicken.
- **Fanny Pack/Treat Bag** - something to constantly carry treats around with you so you can quickly praise good behaviors. I got mine on Amazon.

- **Kongs** - great toys that are practically indestructible. Something you can try that has been recommended to me by multiple trainers is wetting some dry food and stuffing it in a Kong and freezing it. Give it to the pup when you place him in the crate. It will keep him busy and will lessen the chance of whining.
- **Lick Mats** - Great to use to keep a puppy busy and occupied.
- **Puzzle Toys** - Wonderful to work the minds of puppies!
- **Easy-Walk Harness** - These are wonderful for dogs who pull. They do not put pressure on the neck or shoulders. The leash attaches to the chest.
- **Salmon Oil** - I use a little of this daily for my pups to help with their skin and fur.
- **Poop Scooper** - I shouldn't have to explain this one.

Suggestions for a Great Relationship with your Puppy:

- Use the crate! I know that your puppy is adorable but you want to train the dog to be comfortable in the crate and use it as a place for comfort.
 - When using the crate, put a special treat or toy that the pup only gets when in the crate (stuffed Kongs are great).
 - Use the crate when you cannot watch the puppy, at bedtime or when the puppy needs a "break" from a lot of activity.
 - Only allow enough space for the pup to turn around. Increase the amount of space as the pup grows.
 - Try playing a radio or leave the TV on in the room that the crate is located.
 - Place an old t-shirt that smells like you in the crate to help provide the pup with some comfort.
 - Let your puppy cry it out! I know it is awful (and frustrating) to hear them whine because they want your attention but BE STRONG. Only let the puppy out when it is quiet that way he/she learns that whining does not mean they will get attention.
- When feeding your puppy, use a nutritious brand and be conscientious of the ingredients. Pet food is such a controversial topic and there are so many options out there.
 - When feeding your puppy sit next to him, pet him, play gently with his paws and move his food around a bit. Do not try to take his bowl but try to get him accustomed to you being around when he eats and OK with you handling his food. This will help with food aggression. Try hand feeding at the same time too. Practice this with taking away toys and bones too. This is so important. I like to make sure that I can take food, toys, bones and anything else from my dogs without them reacting.
- No tugging games - never rough house or play any game where the puppy might try to dominate you. Establish that you are in charge early on.

- Practice flipping the puppy on his back and even carrying him like a baby. If he does this easily without overly struggling that means he is submitting to you. If he puts up a big fight, watch out for dominance issues. This applies to any puppy.
- Socialize your puppy early on! Expose them to as many people and situations as possible. Different age groups, ethnicities, people with hats, glasses, tall, short, different pets, places, bikes, cars, skateboards, etc. Puppies go through several different fear stages. One of the biggest socialization stages is between 8 and 12 weeks old.
 - Puppies also go through fear stages. This can happen close to 5 or 6 months of age in small dogs. Your outgoing pup that had no fears may start barking at people or things and/or showing fear to objects or situations it never had issues with before. Do not panic! This is normal. Make all of these situations positive and continue exposing them to new things so phobias and unwanted behaviors do not develop.
- Promote good behaviors. If you do not want your puppy jumping up on you, on your furniture, begging for food, etc. as an adult then do not reward and allow it now. Set boundaries. It is easy to get lost in those sweet puppy eyes but they do grow up so establish your rules.
- Your skin is off limits! Do not let your puppy chew or nip on your hands or skin. Puppy teeth are sharp and can hurt! Adult teeth hurt too so stop this behavior before it gets bad! If the puppy nips at you, yell out "ouch". Don't use your hands to play with your puppy, use a toy. If the puppy is getting nippy then redirect the puppy with a toy. Bitter Apple is a great tool to use as a bite deterrent.
- Housebreaking...
 - Take the puppy out the moment he/she gets out of the crate, immediately after waking up, after eating and after playing. Usually, the most common times I find my puppies having accidents is after they were running around playing for a bit and then just stop and pee.
 - Try to establish a routine and schedule with your puppy so you become accustomed to when they have to go out.
 - If you can't watch your puppy, crate them! One of the most common mistakes that people make when housebreaking a puppy is giving them too much freedom too fast. Take it slow. Your puppy should never be out of your sight.
 - Don't panic if when your puppy starts reaching the adolescent phase (close to 6 months) that they may regress a bit with training and housebreaking. This is normal. Again, don't give too much freedom too soon. Use the crate when you can't supervise!
 - Accidents happen. Clean up accidents quickly and use a good enzyme cleaner to prevent the puppy from soiling the same area. Dogs have an amazing sense of smell so you want to make sure there is no residue behind!
- Puppies & children
 - Don't let a child get in the puppy's face or wake a sleeping puppy up.

- Involve children in the training of the puppy so they learn how to work with the puppy and the puppy doesn't view them as a littermate.
- Screaming and running children can over excite a puppy and cause the puppy to want to jump up and nip to play. Teach children proper techniques when interacting with their new dog.
- Don't let children take bones, valuable toys and/or food from the puppy. Dogs will sometimes resource guard these items which can lead to a bite. This is why it is important to practice sitting with your puppy when they are eating and get them comfortable with being handled when food or valuable items are present.
- No matter how careful we are, accidents happen and we need to prepare for the unexpected. I recommend looking into some type of pet insurance. Most plans cost about \$35-\$45 per month. You might never need it but if you do, it will save you possibly thousands of dollars.
- Practice from a young age bathing your pup, cleaning its ears, wrinkles on the face and cutting its nails. Some dogs do not do well when their face, ears and feet are touched so getting used to this type of handling early on is important so it does not lead to difficulties later.