

## Caring for you new PUPPY

Dogs make enjoyable and affectionate pets and they very quickly build up a strong bond with humans.

There is a great variety in sizes of dogs, from the giant Great Dane to the small Chihuahua. There are over 188 pedigree breed recognized by the Kennel Club. There is also a great variety in size and type in the many crossbreeds available.

Dogs are a  ${\it LIFETIME}$  commitment! The average life span of a dog is 12-14 years.

## Choosing and buying your puppy

When choosing a breed you must consider the adult size of the dog, the size of your home and garden, exercise and grooming requirements. You also need to consider the cost of feeding, health care, professional grooming, holiday care and day care for while you are working.

A healthy puppy should be:

- Bright and alert
- Have no signs of discharge from eyes, ears, mouth and nose
- Have a clean anal area
- Have a glossy coat
- Be able to move about easily with no signs or lameness

## Housing

Keeping your puppy in a crate within your home is a great training device as well as a comfort place for your puppy to go to bed. Crates should have enough space for you to include: a bed, toys, food and water bowls. Please ask us how it can be used as a great training tools as well as a bed!

## Feeding and Water

When buying or receiving your puppy, their current diet should be explained to you. If it isn't, ASK THEM. If you decide to change your puppy's diet (whether to adult food or just a different brand) you should do it over a period of time, as sudden changes in diet can cause upset stomachs. At Jumanji Pets you will be able to find many different ranges of wet and dry foods to suit you and your puppy's needs. Ask if you feel you need any extra advice. Fresh water should be available at ALL times.

## Handling

#### Settling in:

When you take your new puppy home he/she could be very nervous. Make sure you do not leave him/her unattended for long periods of time. He/she is still just "baby". It is advisable to confine your puppy to an indoor kennel (crate) when left alone; much like leaving a baby child in a cot.

#### Toilet Training:

Puppy training pads are great accessories to have before your puppy will have had both vaccinations. They are best used near the door to the outside so that when they are fully vaccinated it will be easier to train them to go toilet outside. When leaving your puppy in an indoor kennel (crate) for quick trips out, or during the night time it is advisable to have the bed in half the kennel while the pad takes up the other half in case of accidents. Puppies can hold their bladder on average for 3-5 hours. As they get older, the longer they can hold it. A good rule of thumb would be to take your puppy out for toilet in the mornings after waking up, after meals and at bedtime. Wait until he/she finishes and praise him/her.

#### **Exercise**

Your dog will require daily exercise. Depending on the breed of dog you have, the exercise requirements will differ. Please look up or purchase a book specific to your breed for more information. When taking your dog outside for exercise you should keep your dog on a lead in public, except in designated areas. Be prepared to clean up after your dog when necessary. Your dog must wear a collar with a fitted tag or disc when in public. The disc must bear the owners name (surname at least), address (post code at least), and a contact number. You may be subject to a fine if you don't have a tag on your dog's collar.

## Socialization and Training

A well trained dog is a happy dog and is unlikely to cause a nuisance to others. After fully vaccinated, it is advised to bring your puppy into contact

with other dogs and people. In some areas there are even socialization classes and training clubs that you can learn about by going to google online.

#### Toys

There are a wide variety of toys that you can choose from for your new puppy. There are chew toys, comfort toys, interactive toys and many more. Every dog has different likes and dislikes for what they prefer playing with. You will have to trial and error until you find the perfect ones for your puppy. There are also many toys that all breeds love and we are more than happy to advise you on those.

#### **General Care**

Grooming- all puppies will benefit from regular grooming, particularly if long haired. Just ask about a suitable tool best for your puppy's coat type.

Worming- should be done regularly. Depending on the brand you choose, will determine how often to repeat the process. Ask if unsure!

Flea control- to prevent fleas and other skin parasite you should treat regularly. Depending on the brand you choose, will determine how often to repeat the process. Ask if unsure!

Vaccinations- Are to protect from infectious canine diseases: distemper, parvovirus, leptospirosis, parainfluenza, and infectious hepatitis. The first set of vaccines should be carried out at the age of at least 8-9 weeks old with a second set to follow 3-4 weeks after. Then yearly boosters will be required from a year's date after the second vaccine. If you intend to take your pet abroad he/she will need a pet passport. Please seek advice on how to obtain one if desired.

Neutering- neutering is advised in keeping away unwanted attention from other dogs as well as preventing unwanted pregnancy. It can also bring down male testosterone levels

Insurance- registering with an insurance company will help to cover against unexpected veterinary bills in any emergency

## **Shopping List**

- O Food
- O Water/Food Bowls
- O Food Mat
- O Bed/Crate/Kennel
- O Brush/Comb
- O Lead/Collar/harness
- O Disc/ID tag

- O Worming/Flea preparations (Sherly's One dose wormer/ Johnson's Flea treatment)
- O Puppy training pads
- O Toys (Rope/Balls/Comfort/Squeaky)
- O Treats/training treats (Coachies/Natures Menu/Pig Ears)
- O Shampoo/coat conditioner
- O Minerals/vitamins (Vionate)
- O Book on care specific to your dog breed

# For more information feel free to talk to any of the Jumanji Pets employees, we are here to help!

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