

How To Care For A Puppy

Bringing home a new puppy is fun and exciting, but also comes with responsibilities. Your new friend is depending on you to help grow in to a healthy, happy dog so learning how to care for a puppy from day 1 is key. Here are 5 things you can do to help ensure the health, safety, and comfort of your new family member.

1. Your Puppies Comfort

In order for your new puppy to be secure and comfortable in your home, you should prepare for its arrival. Set up a special place for your puppy to sleep, with a soft, warm bed as well as toys and a convenient location for food and water.

First of all, you must spend as much time with your puppy as to fully acquaint you with him. You must make him feel safe and secure. This is necessary because he has just come to you leaving behind his mother and siblings and his known environment.

2. Proper Food

Puppies have delicate digestive systems so do some research before choosing what you will be feeding your puppy. When you acquire your puppy, ask the owner what they have been feeding the dog. If it is not the food you would choose, gradually mix the old food with your new food. Start with a small amount of the new food and gradually increase the amount until you reach 100% of the new food.

Make sure that you do not start your puppy off by giving him scraps leftover from the table - he needs to be able to adjust before he can handle "people" food.

3. Medical Care

One of the most important aspects of learning how to care for a puppy is making sure you provide adequate Veterinary care. You'll need to make sure to schedule regular appointments at the veterinarian's office. Sometimes a puppy needs to be wormed; they also need regular vaccinations to stay healthy. Be sure to find a veterinarian and schedule check ups soon after your puppy comes home. This step will ensure your puppy has the best chance of being healthy.

4. Puppy Safety

Just as you "child proof" your home before you bring home baby, you should "puppy proof" your home before you bring home that new addition to the family. Puppies are naturally curious about their new world, and need to be protected from danger. That danger not only comes from what is in your home, but also from older and/or stronger pets who want to play too rough with the puppy. Also, make sure that any young children are taught that the puppy is a real live creature, because many puppies have been injured by a child who thinks they are a stuffed animal.

5. Train Him Properly

A dog that isn't properly trained can be a nuisance who no one wants to be around. If you don't want your puppy to grow into a nuisance dog, then you need to have a plan for obedience training. Not only will this make him a dog everyone wants to hang out with, it will help you to keep him safe.

The most important thing in learning how to care for a puppy is planning ahead to make sure you have everything you need for your puppies, other than that just add love and watch him thrive.

About the Author

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