

Puppy Care Sheet

Puppies are eating **Pro Plan Performance Kibble**. They are eating $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ cup 3 times a day and that amount will steadily increase as they grow. If they don't eat it all, remove it in 5-10 minutes. Don't let them overeat at a sitting or they may get diarrhea. Slowly wean them down to 2 feedings in 1-2 months. The puppies have been exposed to a variety of chewies, including Greenies, Rawhides, cow hooves, bones, and bully sticks. We keep as many chew options as we can around for our dogs and the puppies get their choice.

Dewormings: Pyrantel at 3, 5, and 7 weeks
Toltrazuril at 4 and 8 weeks for 3 days
Panacur at 7 weeks for 5 days

Fecal: 7 weeks

Vaccines: DPC at 7 weeks

Other: Heartguard at 7 weeks
Frontline at 4 and 7 weeks

A vet visit the first week is always great for getting the puppy looked over again and starting the relationship with the vet. The puppies are due for their next vaccine around **10 weeks old**. Discuss the vaccines available with your vet. They will know which diseases are common in your area and what is needed there. Your lifestyle will also decide which vaccines are needed. Boarding, grooming, and classes will require more vaccines than others. Hiking, hunting, camping, or being on a farm will also increase risks. We vaccinate our dogs for DPC for the puppy series, 1 year old, and 4 years old and then do titers yearly, starting at 7 years old. Most vets offer titers as well as vaccines. We do Lepto and Lyme yearly due to where we live and Rabies around 6 months old and then as a 1 year old and every 3 years after that. Each state has different laws for vaccines that your vet must follow. Bordatella and Flu vaccines may be required where you live as well for classes, boarding, and grooming.

The puppies have started clicker training. We use string cheese and a variety of flavors of Zukes minis for treats. We introduce the clicker in the puppy palace and the basement. We usually try some clicker training outside, but very few puppies can focus that much outside yet. Start new places with the fewest distractions and then work up from there. Some puppies are more food motivated than others. Training before meal times can be helpful for those that are not as food motivated. This will help when you start puppy classes. There is tons of info at this site for clicker training <http://www.clickertraining.com/>

The puppies have started kennel training. They go to individual kennels every day after play time for their naps. We start this around 7 weeks. The kennels have a puppy blanket in them so they get the smell of them on it to take home with them. Expect them to do some crying the first few days away from home and their siblings. Tire them out as much as you can before they have to kennel for the night. This helps to decrease the crying and helps them sleep through the night.

The puppies have started potty training. They are doing amazing about potty outside, but still have accidents in the house and will still go overnight. Carry them outside as soon as you remove them from their kennel. It is not unusual for them to potty multiple times outside before they are done. Make sure they go out right away after naps and eating. We find that most of our puppies will potty a lot the first couple hours of the morning and after meals. In the inside play area we have an area with turf that the puppies use. I find this a lot less messy than the bedding options or puppy potty pads, that they always seem to shred. We get ours from PetEdge.com.