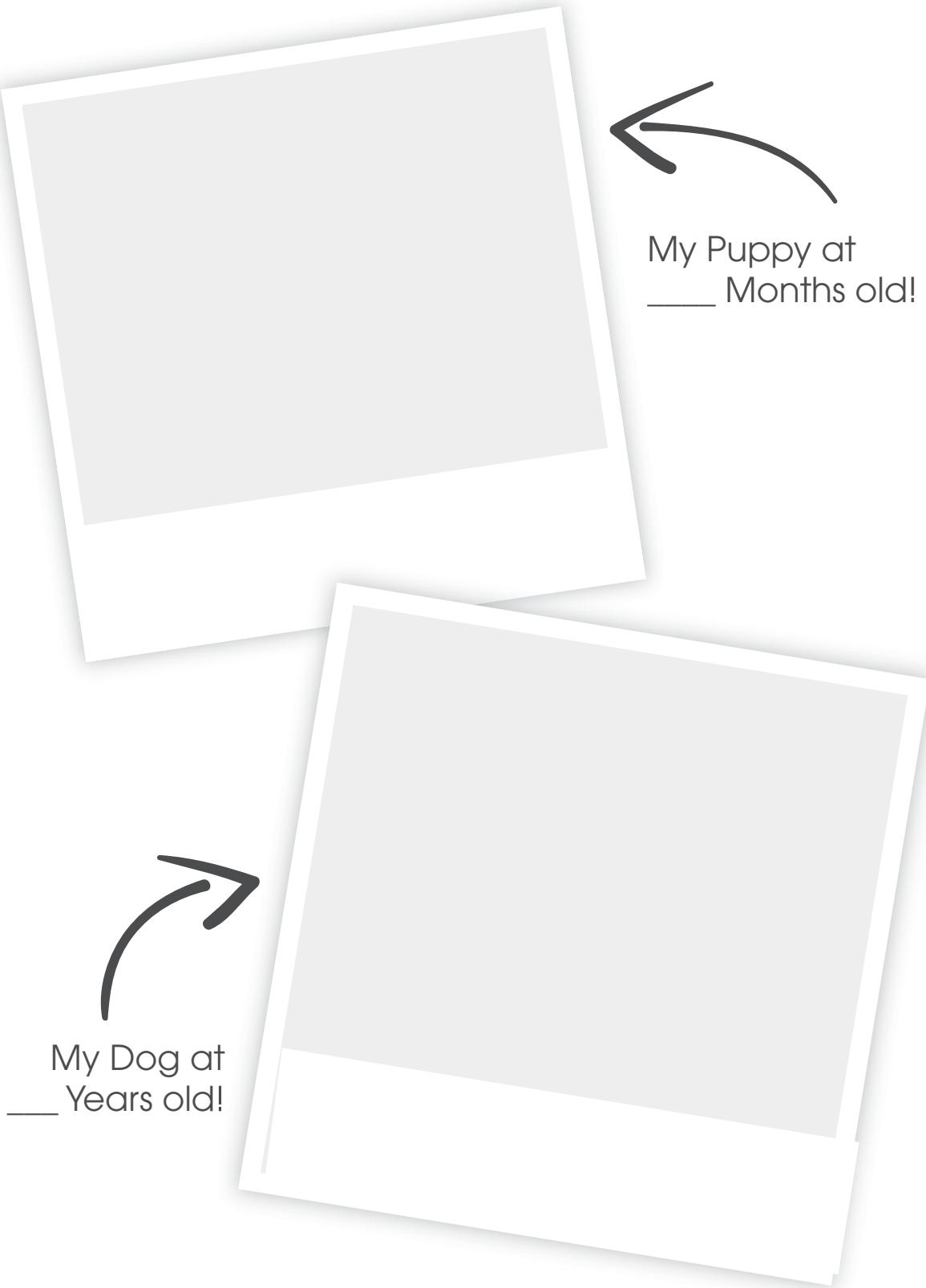


the PUPPY CARE GUIDE



WATCH YOUR
PUPPY
GROW!



My Puppy at
___ Months old!

My Dog at
___ Years old!



100 Beiber Road | R.R. #3 | Guelph, Ontario | N1H 6H9
www.royalcanin.ca/veterinary

Printed March 2013



WATCH YOUR PUPPY GROW!

Your puppy's development is divided into several important stages. These stages, or periods, are based on mental and social progression during specific age categories.

To better understand your puppy's growth, it is helpful to be aware of what is occurring during these time periods.

3 to 7 WEEKS

Some things your puppy learns at this age:

- Interacting and socializing with other littermates and developing a pack through playing, chasing, barking, etc.
- Bite inhibition (how hard to bite).
- Accepting discipline from their mother.
- One-on-one human contact.
- Exposure to a variety of surfaces and noise.

At this young age your puppy should still be with their canine family.



7 to 12 WEEKS

Some things to note about this stage:

- Your puppy is learning things very quickly. What they learn now will have a great impact on their future social behaviour.
- Though puppies will always be learning, this is the easiest time to teach them.
- Enrol them in a puppy class.
- Take advantage of their willingness to learn.
- It is vital that they have many positive experiences and associations at this young age.

Talk to your veterinary team about proper nutrition and vaccinations!



8 to 11 WEEKS

Your puppy will experience the fear impact phase twice in their life. During these phases, anything that frightens them could have a lasting effect on them. It is essential that you make experiences with your puppy as pleasant as possible!

- Trips to the veterinary clinic need to be positive. Bring your puppy for a visit just to say hello and receive a cookie!
- Keep training sessions short and positive.
- Avoid any potential frightening experiences that you cannot supervise.

Continue to socialize your puppy but be sure to keep all experiences as happy and rewarding as possible.



6 to 14 MONTHS

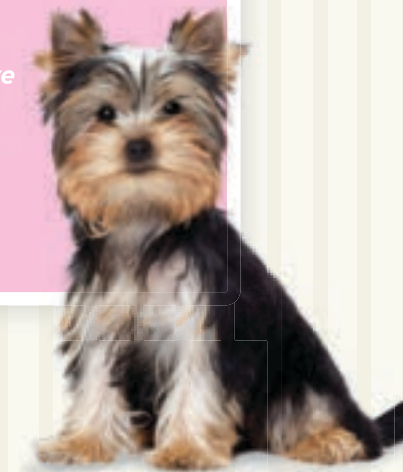
12 to 14 WEEKS

Your puppy is now feeling comfortable in the home. Now he or she may test the limits of what is (and is not) appropriate behaviour. Much like teenager going through puberty, your puppy is also experiencing many physiological changes. The more you're aware of these changes the easier it will be to help them through it. This period can last a few days to a few months.

What you can expect:

- Puppy will suddenly not obey commands that they recently just mastered.
- He or She will not return toys (as in a game of fetch).
- Puppy may question your leadership and challenge it.
- They may be uncomfortable as his or her teeth are growing in. You can help this with giving them veterinary approved toys to chew on.

Stay Positive! This can be a tough stage to go through. With a positive attitude it will help strengthen the bond between you and your new family member!



1 to 2+ YEARS

Congratulations! Your puppy is well on their way to entering maturity. Maturity can range anywhere between one and two years of age. Continue to provide your puppy with plenty of walks, playtime and training.

Once your dog enters maturity you may realize that there was training they did not learn. Examples such as food guarding or inappropriate reactions towards people (be that jumping up out of excitement or growling) illustrate some key training concepts that were not successful.

Don't give up! Your puppy is never too young, nor too old to train!



Puppy Care Guide Features

3 Preparing for Your New Puppy

5 Puppy Proofing Your Home

7 Veterinary Care

11 First Aid for Dogs

17 Keep Active

19 Dental Care

20 Grooming

23 Science of Nutrition

27 Dogs are Different

28 Behaviour and Training

31 Dog's Information



Preparing for Your New Puppy!

You've made the decision to add a puppy to your household, congratulations! While this is an exciting time for you, it can be a stressful time for your new addition. Separated from mom and littermates, your new puppy will be experiencing a multitude of new sights, sounds, and smells.



By following the three principles of the Circle of Health – Veterinary Care, Exercise and Nutrition – and creating a partnership with the team at your veterinary clinic, you and your puppy will have a healthy and enjoyable relationship.

Choosing a Veterinarian

It is important to have an initial checkup once obtaining your puppy. Choosing a veterinarian before your new puppy comes home can save time. If you do not have a veterinarian, friends or family members with pets can give you a recommendation.

Choosing a clinic nearby is not only convenient, it will allow you to get there quickly in case of an emergency.

Remember to:

- Keep emergency veterinary clinic numbers handy
- Keep records of your puppy's vaccines, deworming, and any other medical treatment
- Trust Royal Canin to provide nutrition for your puppy's needs

Puppy's First Things

- Collar (be prepared to adjust fit regularly as your puppy grows)
- Leash
- Identification tag with name and phone number
- Food and water bowls (a small bowl for food since puppies eat multiple small meals, and a larger bowl kept filled with fresh water. Stainless steel or ceramic are the easiest to keep clean.)
- Crate (appropriately sized for your puppy)
- Blankets for your crate
- Puppy bed
- Puppy pee-pads
- Pet stain/odour remover
- Brush for grooming
- Nail clippers
- Quality puppy toys
- Appropriate Royal Canin Veterinary Care Nutrition Formula (your veterinarian will prescribe the proper formula for your puppy!)
- A name!



Puppy Proofing your home

One of the best ways to puppy-proof your home is to get on your puppy's level – literally! Get down on your hands and knees to assess potential hazards.

- When not confined to a kennel or safe area, always keep your puppy under direct supervision.
- Keep stairs, balconies, and any highly elevated areas out of reach - baby gates can be quite helpful.
- Store any cleaning supplies or potentially toxic substances out of reach. Store them in a high cupboard, or place baby locks on your lower ones so that a sniffing nose cannot open them!
- Keep garbage cans safely tucked away from your puppy.
- Make sure that any household plants are safe from your puppy.
- Keep all electrical cords out of reach.
- Place any sharp objects, plastic bags, or other potentially harmful materials out of your puppy's reach.

Of course, it is difficult to completely, 100% puppy-proof your home, but these tips can get you started on the right path.



Bringing Your New Puppy Home

You are now responsible for your puppy's safety, proper growth, and health. The following information will provide insight when introducing your newest member of the family to already existing members of the family - human or dog!

Introductions

Introducing Children

Children often do not realize they need to be very careful with a small puppy. A responsible adult should always be there to supervise when children are playing with, or meeting a puppy.

When you bring your puppy home, it is best to have the children sit down and let the puppy come to them. Explain that they should not scare the puppy by moving quickly or making loud noises. They should not rush at the puppy or try to pick the puppy up. Explain that, while sitting on the floor, the puppy will probably climb on them anyway!

Introducing Older Dogs

Older dogs may have a hard time adjusting to sharing space with a new puppy. Some dogs become friends right away, even playing or sleeping together. Until you know how your resident dog is going to react, you should take precautions to ensure your puppy does not get hurt or scared.

Try introducing the dogs in a neutral area instead of your home. Make sure that both your resident dog and the new puppy are on leash so they can be controlled by you. Let them sniff and investigate each other. Give your resident dog plenty of time to get used to the puppy.

Veterinary Care

Your veterinary team is the best source of information for veterinary care, exercise and nutrition.

Caring for your Puppy

Your puppy's first visit to the veterinarian is not a simple consultation, but an in-depth examination. Your veterinarian can identify hidden health problems. Initially, your veterinarian will give your puppy a thorough physical exam.

A stethoscope will be used to listen to the chest and check the heart and breathing. The abdomen will be felt, and the eyes, ears, mouth and coat condition will be examined.

Your puppy will also receive vaccinations during these appointments. Your veterinary team can advise you on what vaccine protocol your new puppy requires.

There are many medical conditions that may be of higher importance in certain regions of the country. Your veterinarian will design the best protocol for your puppy depending on your geographic area, your travel plans, etc. Use a record chart to keep track of the vaccines your

puppy receives now, and throughout his or her life. You may also need to provide proof of vaccination for different occasions in your puppy's life, such as boarding, doggie daycare, or crossing the border.

Parasites

Puppies often have internal parasites when they are born. Your veterinarian will recommend a de-wormer, and de-worming schedule. It can be useful to bring in a stool sample from your puppy, so that your veterinarian can identify which parasites are present and need to be treated. Your veterinary team can advise you on what internal and external parasites your puppy may be at risk of contracting. It is very important to treat and prevent parasites early and regularly, not only for the health and safety of your puppy, but also because they can be spread to humans (particularly children). Ask your veterinarian to explain their de-worming protocol, so that you may best protect your puppy and your family!

Sterilization

During your appointments, your veterinarian may mention spaying or neutering your puppy. Unless you have a purebred for breeding or showing purposes, this procedure is highly recommended.

Some benefits of spaying/neutering your puppy are:

- Your puppy may be easier to train (less distracted by other dogs).
- Your puppy may be less likely to mark territory by urinating (both indoors and outdoors).
- He or she may exhibit less roaming behaviour, as there is no need to find a mate.
- Sterilization reduces the risk of certain health problems, such as pyometra and mammary cancer in females and prostate cancer in males.

Speak with your veterinary team about the optimal time to spay/neuter your puppy!

Permanent Identification

A microchip is a small implant (similar in size to a grain of rice) that is placed through injection under your puppy's skin. It contains a tracking number that is unique to your puppy. In the event that your puppy gets lost, the shelter, veterinary clinic, or animal control officer that finds him or her will be able to scan your puppy with the microchip reader, retrieve the microchip number and contact you to safely return your puppy!

Pet Insurance

While you may try your best to create a financial budget for your puppy, unexpected situations can arise in which your puppy will require life-saving veterinary care. The decision to treat your puppy in any situation should not be dependant on the cost involved. One way to avoid this is to enrol your puppy with a pet insurance company.

There are several different companies that offer pet insurance. Your veterinary team can advise you on the different options available.

Ask your veterinary team member to go through the different options and help you select a plan that is right for you and your puppy.

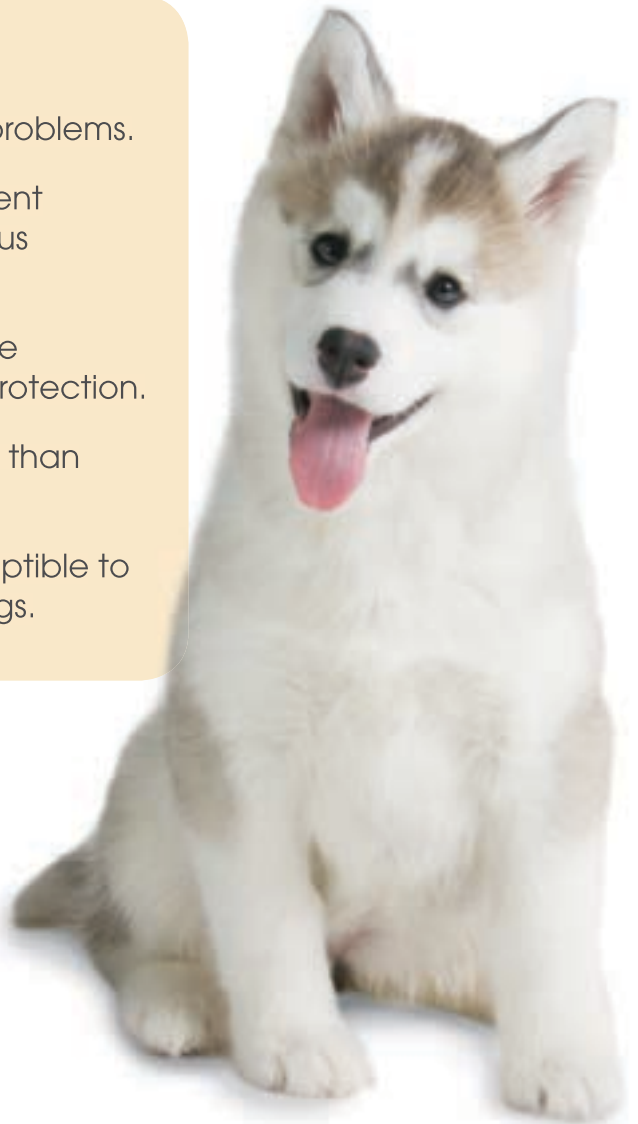
Things to watch for

If you have noticed any of the following in your puppy, be sure to mention it to your veterinary team member:

- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea or blood in stool
- Constipation
- Difficulty urinating or blood in urine
- Vomiting (bring to clinic immediately if there is blood present)
- Pain
- Difficulty breathing
- Excessive panting
- Coughing and sneezing
- Head shaking
- Limping
- Constant scratching or biting
- Lethargy or listlessness
- Any lumps or bumps
- Any discharge from the eyes or nose
- Anything you find unusual or are unsure about



- Your veterinarian can identify hidden health problems.
- Vaccinations help prevent the spread of contagious diseases.
- Booster vaccinations are necessary for optimal protection.
- Flea prevention is easier than treatment.
- Puppies are more susceptible to parasites than adult dogs.



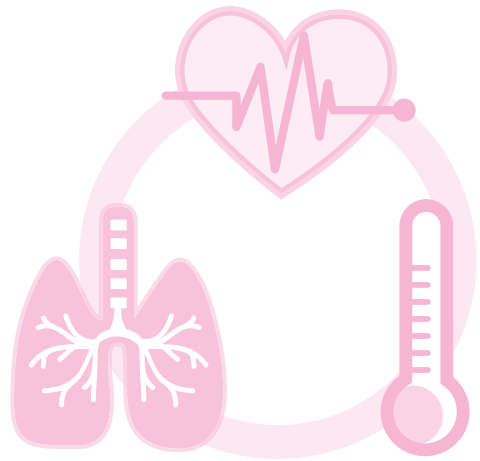
First Aid for Dogs

Even if you provide your dog with everything they need - regular grooming, veterinary check-ups, appropriate diet, lots of love and care - accidents can still happen. Being prepared for these situations is important, knowing what to do could save your dog's life.

In case of emergency, immediately contact your veterinarian.

Checking Vital Signs

- Heart rate can be checked by placing a hand over your dogs chest.
- Respiration can be measured by observing the flanks, or holding a wet finger in front of the nostrils.
- Measure both rates for 15 seconds, then multiply by four to get the rate per minute.



Handling and Transporting

- Do not assume a dog will not bite or scratch.
- Do not try to comfort an injured dog by hugging them.
- Do not put your face near the dog's head.
- Muzzle dogs if necessary with gauze or soft towel strips. Wrap small dogs in a towel.
- Perform any examinations slowly and gently. Stop if the dog becomes agitated.
- Do not attempt to lift or drag a large injured dog. Improvise a stretcher out of a board, throw rug, blanket, etc.
- Before transport, try to stabilize injuries.

Supplies for a Dog First Aid Kit

- Alcohol-based disinfectant
- Antibiotic cream
- Antiseptic solution
- Bandaging materials
 - gauze pads and rolls, self-adhesive elastic wrap, tube socks for slipping over an injured paw
- Extra blankets
- Rectal thermometer
- Blunt scissors
- Towels
- Tweezers



Normal Vital Signs

Heart Rate:

60 - 180 beats/minute

Respiration:

10 - 12 breaths/minute

Temperature:

37.5 - 39.2 °C (99.5 - 102.6 °F)



Emergency Action Steps

The following situations generally require veterinary attention. These action steps are designed to help you stabilize your dog while veterinary help is being obtained.

Bee or Wasp Sting

- 1 Neutralize the sting. Bee stings are acidic, neutralize with toothpaste. Wasp stings are alkaline, neutralize with vinegar or lemon juice
- 2 Apply cold pack.
- 3 Apply calamine lotion or antihistamine cream.
- 4 In case of severe swelling or difficulty breathing – transport to clinic immediately.

Bleeding

- 1 Arterial bleeding requires immediate veterinary attention.
- 2 Apply a clean cloth or sterile gauze to the wound.
- 3 Apply direct pressure for at least five minutes to stop bleeding.
Do NOT apply a tourniquet.

Arterial blood will be bright red, will bleed in spurts, and will be difficult to stop.

Choking

- 1 Gently pull tongue forward and inspect mouth and throat.
- 2 If a foreign object is spotted, hold the mouth open and attempt to remove the object – take care not to push the object farther down the dog's throat.
- 3 If your dog is not breathing, go to your veterinarian or afterhours emergency clinic immediately.

Possible causes: Foreign object lodged in the throat, esophagus, or teeth; allergic reaction.

Heat Stroke

- 1 Move dog to a cool, shaded area. Immediately bathe dog with tepid water – never leave the dog unattended in water.
- 2 Monitor rectal temperature. When temperature drops to 39.5 °C (103 °F), dry off the dog.
- 3 Transport to clinic and continue to monitor temperature. Do not allow the dog to become chilled.

Possible causes: *Excessive heat and/or lack of shade; overexertion; lack of water. Dogs differ in how much heat they can tolerate – even mildly warm, humid temperatures can stress some dogs.*

Limping

- 1 Attempt to localize injury through gentle inspection. Once localized, examine the affected area to check for pain, heat, injury and swelling.
- 2 If a fracture is suspected – carefully transport to veterinary clinic.
- 3 Cover any wounds with a clean cloth (*see bleeding section*).

Possible causes: *Broken limb or digit; acute arthritis; injury to footpad; dislocation; sprain; muscle soreness.*

Porcupine Quills

- 1 Do not attempt to remove them.
- 2 Seek veterinary care immediately.

Unconsciousness

- 1 In case of drowning – clear the lungs of fluid. Lift dog's hindquarters high overhead and squeeze chest firmly until fluid stops draining.
- 2 In case of electrical shock – DO NOT touch dog until he or she is no longer in contact with the electricity source.

- 3 In case of airway obstruction – the object will need to be gently removed (*see choking section*).
- 4 If your dog is not breathing – go to your veterinarian or after-hours emergency clinic immediately.

Possible causes: *Drowning; electrocution; trauma; drug ingestion.*

Vomiting

- 1 Examine vomit for blood or other clues as to cause – bring any foreign objects, parasites, or solid material found in the vomit with you to the veterinary clinic.
- 2 Gently press on stomach to detect abdominal pain.
- 3 If poisoning is suspected – bring a sample of the suspected poison, preferably in its original packaging, to the veterinary clinic.
- 4 Abdominal pain, enlarged stomach, and unproductive vomiting are serious signs – call your veterinarian immediately.

Possible causes: *Poisoning, abdominal injury; motion sickness; disease; overeating; fear; brain injury; parasites.*

Poisonous Substances

There are many items that are known to be poisonous to puppies and dogs. Make sure these items are locked up so your puppy can not get into them. For more information on poisonous substances, or for an item that is not listed here, consult your veterinary team.

- Antifreeze
- Anticoagulants
- Aspirin
- Bleach
- Boric Acid
- Brake Fluid
- Carburetor Cleaner
- Chocolate
- Dandruff Shampoo
- Deodorants
- Deoderizers
- Disinfectants
- Drain Cleaner
- Dry-cleaning fluid
- Dye
- Furniture Polish
- Gasoline
- Hair Dye
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Kerosene
- Laxatives
- Lead
- Lye
- Phenol
- Matches
- Metal Polish
- Mothballs
- Nail Polish and Remover
- Paint
- Paint Remover
- Rat Poison
- Pine-Oil Disinfectants
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Snow Melting Products
- Shoe Polish
- Snail or Bug Bait
- Suntan Oil with Cocoa Butter
- Tar
- Turpentine
- Xylitol-Sweetened Products
- Windshield-Washer Fluid



Toxic Foods & Plants

Symptoms

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty Breathing
- Abnormal Urine (colour, odour, frequency)
- Salivation
- Seizures
- Weakness

If your dog should ingest harmful substances, contact a veterinarian or poison control centre immediately.

Toxic Foods

- Alcohol
- Apricots
- Avocados
- Balsam Pears
- Bones (of any type)
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Fatty Foods
- Grapes or raisins
- Garlic (chinese chive or anything from the garlic (Allium) family)
- Japanese Plums
- Moldy or Spoiled Food
- Mushrooms (if also toxic to humans)
- Nuts
- Onions (including onion powder)
- Pear and Peach Pits
- Raw Bread (of any type)
- Raw Meat (ex. fish, chicken, etc.)
- Tea
- Xylitol Sweetened Products (i.e. chewing gum)

Toxic Plants

- Azaleas
- Dffenbachia
- Lilies
- Rhododendrons
- Rhubarb
- Spinach
- Tomato and Potato leaves and stems
- Tulip and Daffodil bulbs
- Mistletoe
- Mushrooms (if also toxic to humans)
- Wild cherry
- Marijuana



Keep Active

Destructive behaviour in puppies is often a result of boredom.

A puppy who is not being stimulated enough will find his or her own means of stimulation, whether it be chewing on a shoe, digging up the carpet, or harassing the family cat.

Exercising your large or giant breed puppy

Due to their rapid growth rate, special care must be given to ensure that your large or giant puppy has the proper support to develop at a healthy rate. Great Danes and Mastiffs have the ability to grow from a couple of pounds at birth to, sometimes, close to 250 lbs within two years! This growth rate would be equivalent to a human baby, born at 7 lbs, growing to 1000 lbs at age 8!

This rapid, extensive growth puts stress on your puppy's bones and joints. Excessive activity can result in injuries, causing serious long term problems.

What can you do to help your large or giant breed puppy get exercise, but prevent added strain to his or her bones and joints?

- Do not allow children to jump or lean on your puppy.
- If you have hardwood or tile floors, put down some throw rugs and only allow your puppy to play on the carpeted surfaces in your house while their joints are developing.
- Do not allow your puppy to run for long periods of time or jump from heights (like the bed) until they are at least 18 months old.

Ask your veterinary team member to help develop a safe exercise plan for your large or giant breed puppy!





Special breeds have special needs

Based on the breed you have selected, there may be different key aspects to their care that you should keep in mind.

For example, a Yorkshire Terrier will not require as much living space as a Labrador Retriever puppy. The exercise requirements vary among breeds. A Border Collie will require quite a bit more exercise than a Boston Terrier. However, do not be fooled by size! A Jack Russell Terrier is very active and would need to be exercised significantly more than a Bulldog, who is larger in size. Giant breed puppies benefit from exercise modifications to help reduce the chance of injury.

Not only do dogs differ in terms of activity level, but also in terms of nutrition and veterinary care. Different dogs are prone to different conditions, such as skin allergies, respiratory issues, and organ function. Large and giant breed dogs have different nutritional requirements than a small breed dog.

Ask your veterinarian to describe your breed, its characteristics, and nutritional needs so that you can be proactive!



Supervision

- Confine your puppy to the areas of the house where you spend the most time
- Block off your puppy's special area with baby gates

Do not be in a hurry to allow your new puppy total freedom in your house. It may take months, or longer, for your puppy to be able to be left alone without being confined.

Confining Your Puppy

Confinement in an area of the house where you normally spend time will prevent many housetraining and chewing accidents.

Using a kennel or crate, or confining your puppy to a "puppy proofed" area when you are unable to directly supervise will keep them safe and out of trouble.

Supervised Exploration

Let your puppy explore their new home – but under your supervision. Reinforcing appropriate behaviour is the best method for preventing misbehaviour. It's a whole new world - they love to explore and investigate everything

around them. Just make sure that while they are doing all of that exploring that you keep a close watch on them!

Dental Care

Temporary Teeth in Puppies

Usually temporary, or baby teeth in puppies will fall out easily, and are often not found at all. In some cases, temporary teeth persist alongside the adult teeth and may need to be extracted in order to allow the adult teeth to come in properly. Retained baby teeth left unaddressed can cause serious problems with adult dentition.

Caring for Teeth

Many dogs will allow their teeth to be brushed. Handling your puppy's mouth and teeth when they are young will help them accept daily brushing, which is the most effective way to prevent dental disease.



Temporary Teeth

1 month

Permanent Teeth

4 months

Permanent
Canine Teeth

5 - 6 months

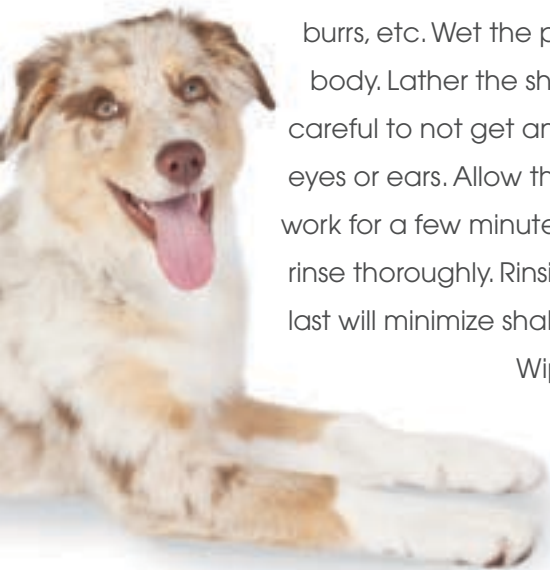


Puppy Grooming

Bathing

The frequency of baths will vary according to the coat and lifestyle. Lukewarm water should be used, along with a shampoo made specifically for puppies. Human products are too acidic and can irritate the skin. Before bathing, thoroughly brush your puppy to

remove any knots, tangles, burrs, etc. Wet the puppy's entire body. Lather the shampoo, being careful to not get any in their eyes or ears. Allow the shampoo to work for a few minutes and then rinse thoroughly. Rinsing the head last will minimize shaking.



- Use lukewarm water and a shampoo made for dogs
- Rinse from tail to head to minimize shaking
- Allow a wet puppy to dry off in a warm area

Wipe your puppy down vigorously and leave him or her in a warm room to dry. A hair dryer can be used, on a low, or cool, setting only.

Trimming Nails

All puppies need proper nail care. Nails should be clipped regularly, when left too long they can become very painful for your puppy's feet. Handling your puppy's feet regularly will make nail trimming much easier! When trimming the nails, use either nail clippers made for dogs, or an appropriate file or dremel tool. Hold the foot gently, but firmly, if your puppy tries to pull his foot away while his nails are being trimmed he or she could be hurt.

Be sure to avoid hitting the quick, or soft tissue, inside the nail. Cut or file each nail back a little bit at a time.

Brushing and Combing

All puppies, regardless of coat type, need regular brushing. The frequency and the type of equipment used will vary depending on the nature of the coat.

- Regular brushing will keep your puppy's coat shiny and healthy
- Trim away hair that is likely to become tangled or dirty

Ask your veterinary team for their recommendations for the proper grooming essentials based on your specific breed.



The Science of Nutrition

Royal Canin's knowledge of the needs of puppies and dogs ensures formulas that precisely meet the needs of your dog through every stage of their life. Each dog is an individual, and nutrition must address age, lifestage, specific needs, and breed.

Your veterinary team will prescribe the right formula to provide the following benefits:

- Optimal nutrient delivery to help build bone, muscle, healthy organs, and teeth.
- Easier house training due to small, well formed stools.
- Excellent digestion and gastrointestinal health.
- Ideal skin quality and a luxurious coat.
- An improved immune response to optimize protection from vaccinations and for overall general health.
- Superior nutrition can increase a dog's life expectancy.
- Royal Canin formulas address the specific needs of age, lifestyle, and sensitivities.
- Your veterinary team can advise you on the appropriate diet for your puppy.

Royal Canin Veterinary Care Nutrition Puppy formulas are based on the most recent research and innovations in nutrition from the Waltham Centre for Pet Nutrition, the Royal Canin Campus, and clinical trials conducted by Royal Canin worldwide. These formulas incorporate a specific combination of nutrients to meet the very unique needs of the growing puppy.

Do not “free choice feed” your puppy.

Free choice feeding is essentially feeding your puppy as much as he or she wants to eat. Free choice feeding can contribute to digestive upset (vomiting and diarrhea), bloating, difficulty in house training and obesity. The best approach is to feed your puppy's daily allotment of food in three or four equal measured meals a day.

Avoid feeding your puppy “human food”

Establishing right from the start that “human food” is off-limits will reduce begging and the risk of obesity. It also minimizes the chance of dogs becoming very picky eaters.

Offer healthy treats

Everyone likes to treat their puppies. It helps in socializing, training and just plain loving them. Ask your veterinary team member about healthy, low calorie treats for your puppy.

Use meals as a house training opportunity

Puppies normally eliminate five to fifteen minutes after eating a meal. Therefore, after feeding, take your puppy outside to the appropriate place where you would like him or her to eliminate, and wait for the “magic moment”. Praise your puppy for a job well done!

Food is an excellent training tool

Talk to your veterinary team members about training your puppy using food rewards. It makes training easier and more positive for you and your puppy.

Feed your puppy in a quiet place

This helps establish consistency, reduces excitement around a meal and reduces the incidence of stomach upset. Avoid feeding just prior to or after exercise.

Bones, milk, and raw meat

Please do not feed your puppy any bones. Bone fragments and their resulting damage can require the use of medication and possibly surgery.

Many puppies cannot digest milk and may develop diarrhea as a result. All

your puppy needs to drink is fresh, clean water. Raw meat can contain a number of pathogenic bacteria and parasites that can be hazardous to your puppy's health. A raw meat formula is not a balanced formula and can have a large number of nutrient deficiencies. Additionally, the bacteria associated with raw foods may present a human health hazard to family members.

Change formulas slowly

If you are changing your puppy's formula, gradually introduce the new formula over 5-7 days by mixing it in with the old formula. This will reduce the likelihood of vomiting and diarrhea. Please contact your veterinary team if you experience difficulties in transitioning your puppy.



The 5 Objectives of Canine Nutrition

1. Development and Maintenance

Nutritional needs for the development and maintenance of the body require certain amino and fatty acids, minerals, and vitamins.

2. Energy Supply

Lipids and carbohydrates are the main energy sources for dogs.

3. Nourishment and Prevention

Some nutrients are added to the formula (antioxidants, prebiotics, fibre, essential fatty acids, etc.) to help prevent the risk of diseases, digestive problems, and to fight aging.

4. Nourishment and Recovery

Certain nutrients are added, and others are limited to support the therapeutic process and help dogs recover from illness or ailments.

5. Nutrition and Treatment

Specific nutrients are added, or limited in a formula to help treat certain diseases such as arthritis, food allergies, and renal disease.



Why is it not ideal to feed your large or giant breed puppy an adult maintenance formula?

- Growing puppies have unique needs for calcium and phosphorus, many adult maintenance formulas do not meet these needs.
- Protein amounts and quality in many adult foods will not meet the needs of the growing puppy.
- Puppies eat to meet their energy needs. If the adult food chosen is considerably lower in energy than the puppy food, the puppy will have to consume more of it (this means more stool and increased possibility of digestive upset).



How to avoid resource guarding

Some dogs are predisposed to guard their food or toys as they grow older. It is not something that can be predicted, however, it can create a very dangerous predicament if not corrected early on. A large portion of dog bites come as a result of a child approaching a dog with food or a toy. To be safe, it is best to teach all puppies that guarding possessions is not acceptable. Start from an early age, before your puppy shows signs of food bowl aggression. The following tips will teach your puppy that when someone approaches the bowl, only good things happen!

- Feed a couple of kibbles by hand
- Pet and sit by your puppy when he or she is eating
- When the puppy is eating, take the food bowl away without warning, add a tasty treat and return the bowl
- When your puppy is playing with a toy, take the toy away, give a yummy treat, return the toy

If you notice that your puppy is already starting to show signs of food bowl aggression, or guarding of possessions, ask your veterinary team member to recommend an appropriate dog trainer that will help teach you how to work with your puppy.

Dogs are Different

Dogs need specific nutrition to be healthy. By nature, dogs are very active and draw their energy from fat. While they do not have cholesterol problems, they can suffer from the consequences of obesity such as heart issues, urinary disease, diabetes, or joint issues.

Characteristics	Small Breed Dog	Giant Breed Dog
Growth Duration (birth to adulthood)	10 months	18 - 24 months
Growth Range (ratio of birth weight to adult weight)	20 times	100 times
Average Adult Weight	up to 20 lb	Over 100 lb
Digestive Capacity	0.5 litres	Up to 8 litres
Average Lifespan	14 - 16 years	9 - 12 years



- Nutritional needs change as your dog ages.
- Change your dog's formula slowly to avoid digestive stress.
- Highly digestible ingredients are key to a high quality nutritional formula.



Behaviour and Training

- Don't wait for your puppy to signal his or her need to go outside
- Keep a regular schedule for feeding and walks
- Don't punish a puppy who has had an accident

Housetraining Your Puppy

Until your puppy is three to four months old, they have limited bowel and bladder control. Following these guidelines can help limit the number of accidents.

- Never punish a puppy who has had an accident. Instead, prevent your puppy from ever having the need to eliminate inside.
- Don't wait for your puppy to signal his or her need to go out, take them out on a regular schedule.

Guidelines

- Remember that most accidents happen by allowing your puppy too much freedom, too soon.
- Confine your puppy unless you can provide direct supervision.
- Have regularly scheduled feeding and walk times.
- Take your puppy outside first thing in the morning, after naps and meals, and before you go to bed.
- Reward your puppy for eliminating outside, always go outside with your puppy so you can reward good behaviour.



Basic Commands

- Repetition is necessary for training
 - Practice with your dog outside, as well as throughout your home
-

Teaching Your Puppy to Sit

Hold a treat or toy that your puppy wants over his or her nose and slowly move it up over their head. When they follow with their head, they will naturally sit down. When your puppy sits, say “sit”, praise them and reward with a treat. The reward must come immediately following the behaviour for your puppy to connect the two! Many repetitions will be necessary for your puppy to learn

that the word “sit” means to sit, *and* that they get rewarded. As they begin to understand, you can start giving the treats more intermittently. Remember to practice throughout the house, as well as outside, to ensure they really understand! The more distractions around, the less focused your puppy will be. Remember to always be patient and go back to giving treats more frequently, if necessary, to hold their attention.

Teaching Your Puppy to Lie Down

Another fundamental command is “down”. Again, start with a treat or toy that your puppy is interested in. Lower the treat between their front legs and back towards their chest. Reward your puppy when they begin to “bow” and get closer to the ground. You may need to reward at several stages between standing up and lying down to encourage him or her to lie down. As your puppy lies down say the word

“down” and give the treat. Remember the reward must come immediately following the behaviour for your puppy to understand. Continue to repeat in different areas of your house and different locations outside until your puppy is consistently lying down on command. Once your puppy is more consistent, you can begin to give the reward more intermittently.



If you have any difficulties traveling with your puppy or dog, consult your veterinary team for advice. For further training advice and resources, contact your veterinary team for recommendations.

Travel Training

- Calm your dog before a trip with some exercise or play
- Make sure to pack your puppy's food to avoid an upset stomach
- Keep your dog on a leash during rest stops

Traveling With Your Puppy

The best time to start traveling with your puppy is when he or she is young, allowing them to get used to travel gradually.

When you are first introducing your puppy to the car:

- Sit with him/her in the car playing with them or giving them treats.
- Take a few short rides before any long trips.
- Taking him or her for a walk or playing in the yard before a trip can help to calm them.
- Always keep proper identification and current tags on your puppy.

- Always keep your dog on leash when traveling, even the best behaved dogs may get spooked in a new environment.
- Take an adequate supply of their regular food, any medication, as well as bowls, bags for clean-up, and water.
- Dogs should not be allowed to ride with their head out of the window; particles of dirt can enter their eyes, ears, and nose, causing injury or infection.



My Dog's Information

Feeding Information

Formula Name: _____ Change to Adult food at: _____ Months

Food Portions: _____ Cups/Grams: _____ Times/day: _____

Provide clean, fresh water at all times.

Medical Information

Allergies: _____

Medications: _____

Conditions: _____

Emergency Caregivers

1 Name: _____

Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

2 Name: _____

Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

*In the unfortunate event that
your dog gets lost, place a
photo of him or her here to always
have a reference handy!*

Rectangle measures: 4" x 2.5"


**My
Dog!**

Name: _____ Sex: _____

Breed: _____ Colour: _____

Owner: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ P.C.: _____

Telephone: _____

License Number: _____

Pedigree Number: _____

Dog's Day of Birth: _____ Date Acquired: _____

Where Acquired: _____

Veterinarian's Name: _____

Veterinarian's Phone: _____

Breeder's Name: _____

Breeder's Phone: _____

Notes: _____
