



HAPPY DOG

All you feed is love

Puppy Care Guide

Valuable tips
on care and nutrition for young dogs.

We are delighted that you have embarked on this adventure with Happy Dog!

Our Puppy Care Guide is designed to help you think through what keeping a dog will mean for you, your family and your life. It also provides lots of tips on the development, feeding and care of your puppy. You will need patience, empathy and sensitivity, lots of humour and a very good mop! You will have to learn to understand his language, so that you can help him when he is scared, when he is exhausted or simply totally lost, because the human vision of the world does not tally with his perspective of things.



A PUPPY MOVES IN

<i>Page 6</i> You've fallen in love!	And that's understandable.
<i>Page 8</i> Before your puppy moves in.	Tips for your shopping list.
<i>Page 10</i> Look out – danger!	Dog-proof your house.

TRAINING AND BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP

<i>Page 14</i> How your dog learns.	Making it fun.
<i>Page 16</i> Partner for life.	Getting on well together.
<i>Page 20</i> House-training.	Tips for the first few weeks.
<i>Page 22</i> Dog obedience classes.	In good hands.
<i>Page 25</i> Home alone.	Practice makes perfect.
<i>Page 27</i> Travelling with your puppy.	Discovering the world one step at a time.
<i>Page 28</i> Getting used to the car.	You will get there in the end.

KEEPING YOUR DOG HEALTHY

<i>Page 32</i> Vet training.	Exercises for at home.
<i>Page 34</i> Preventive health care.	Vaccinations and worming.
<i>Page 35</i> Infectious diseases.	A brief overview.
<i>Page 37</i> When the 2nd teeth appear.	Points to note.

DOG NUTRITION

<i>Page 41</i> Feeding guide.	How many meals does your puppy need?
<i>Page 42</i> Appropriate nutrition.	For a perfect start in life.
<i>Page 46</i> Natural dog food.	A healthy for a long life.

A puppy moves in



You've fallen in love! And that's understandable.

Nothing could be easier than to fall in love with the adorable little creature sitting on your lap, all cuddly, fluffy and warm. Your puppy! One look in those big, sparkling eyes and you're lost. What a joy to be able to share your life with a dog – "Man's best friend". However, turning your pet into a trusted friend and well-mannered companion is something that needs to be worked at. Before you take that furry bundle of joy home and let him into your life, there are a number of factors you should take into consideration. Will this dog with all his needs really fit into your life? Even when he has grown up? Have you thought about who will look after your dog during the holidays? Are you calm enough and do you really have sufficient time and patience to learn your dog's language, play with and train your pet, even if you're then exhausted for the rest of the day? Once you bring your little dog home, your life will never be the same again. It will be more exciting, colourful, emotional and fun. And for a while it will be a lot more work. If you have children, you will have some idea of what is coming. The disturbed sleep, the whining at night, the tiny bladder that needs to be constantly emptied. If this is your first venture into the world of children – in this case four-legged ones – then you are in for a shock! This roller-coaster adventure will be different to anything you have ever experienced.

But don't forget to enjoy yourself while training, feeding and caring, even when you are running downstairs and up again for the fourth time because you thought your puppy needed to go out (and then didn't). That's why you brought your dog home with you. So there would be more happiness, warmth and fun in your house. The improved complexion and new leg muscles are just the icing on the cake!





Before your puppy moves in. Tips for your shopping list.

Basic equipment for living with a dog

- FOOD**
- FOOD AND WATER BOWLS**
- COLLAR AND LEAD**
- COLLAR TAG**
- DOG BED**
- TOYS**
- CHEWS**
- POO BAGS**
- TICK TWEEZERS**
- PUPPY SHAMPOO**
- TOOTHBRUSH**
- COMB AND BRUSH**
- DOG CRATE**
- STAIN AND ODOUR REMOVER**

FOOD

Find out what food your puppy has been used to and stick with this brand to start with. The puppy's tiny digestive system is still delicate. The last thing you want is a puppy with an upset stomach or diarrhoea because you changed his food too quickly! After a week or so you can start mixing the new favourite food from Happy Dog into the familiar brand over a period of 10 to 14 days.

FOOD AND WATER BOWLS

Food and water bowls should be non-slip and machine washable. They should also be heavy and made of sturdy materials that cannot be easily tipped over or chewed.

COLLAR

A dog collar should be the width of at least two of the dog's vertebrae. The collar must not be too tight, but it must be snug enough that the puppy cannot back or wiggle out of it. A harness should be neither too tight nor too loose.

LEASH

Go for a thin, lightweight but strong leash which is at least 1.5 to 2 metres long.

CHEWS

Beef scalp chews not only help massage a dog's teeth and gums, they also provide a useful distraction for puppies who would otherwise try to chew table legs or the edges of your carpet. Too many treats will provide more energy and can lead to digestive problems.

POO BAGS

Preferably made of a recyclable material – dog owners tend to get through a lot of plastic over their dog's lifetime.

PUPPY SHAMPOO

Ordinary human shampoo is not suitable as a dog's skin has a completely different pH to that of humans.

TOOTHBRUSH

It is important to brush a dog's teeth to prevent tartar and the inflammation it can cause. A small, soft child's toothbrush is suitable for this. Alternatively, you can gently rub the animal's teeth and gums with a special finger-stall.

COMB AND BRUSH

A rubber curry comb with soft teeth is best for short-haired breeds. Coarse-haired, double-coated and long-haired breeds need a wire brush and a comb to remove tangles. The regular use of brushes, etc. is not only great for body care. It encourages trust and the puppy also learns how to stand still.

DOG CRATE

A hard-shell flight crate or a foldable soft box where your puppy can sleep for the first few weeks and months until he is reliably house-trained and can wake you when he wants to go outside. The crate will also be useful for transporting your puppy in the car or as a safe place to sleep when on holiday or in an unfamiliar hotel room. The crate should be a place to which the puppy can retreat, and should never be used to "lock him up".

STAIN AND ODOUR REMOVER

Young dogs are largely made up of fluid and are highly likely to have a few "accidents" in the first weeks of life.



Look out – danger! Dog-proof your house.

Young dogs are curious, into everything and like to pick everything up in their little mouths. So you need to walk carefully around your home and remove anything that could be dangerous to your puppy. Buy

a swing top dustbin or a pedal bin that your dog cannot push over or open. You will be amazed at all the potentially serious hazards that lurk in your nice, peaceful home.

You need to prevent these dangers!

INDOORS AND OUTDOORS



Cables, office equipment, scissors, nails, screws, needles, knives, forks, tampons, toiletries, nylon tights, burning candles, rat and mouse traps, fishing hooks, gardening tools, garden ponds and pools, stairs, plastic figures, Lego blocks, toy swords, plastic animals, stuffed animals and dolls with glass eyes, pearls ...

LOOK OUT – TOXIC!



Cigarettes, ashes, ashtrays, fertiliser, insecticides, rat poison, slug pellets, anti-freeze, cleaning agents, laundry detergent, drugs, adhesives, ink cartridges ...

POISONOUS PLANTS



Such as: cyclamen, amaryllis, primula, Japanese lily, crown-of-thorns ...
Ask your vet which plants could be dangerous for your puppy.

DANGEROUS FOODS



Chocolate, boiled sweets, chewing gum, grapes, raisins, avocado, stone fruit, beans, onions, garlic, milk, caffeine, nuts ...

Training and building a relationship



How your dog learns. Making it fun

Dogs enjoy learning. It extends their behavioural repertoire, enabling them to adapt to a wide range of situations. And best of all, your puppy will learn lots of important things while he is out on his walks with you.

IN THE WHELPING BOX

Puppies learn motor functions, coordination and their initial behavioural responses entirely subconsciously while they are playing with their siblings. Even older dogs find that the daily routine always has something new to offer ...

ROLE MODELS

So much is learned by watching and imitating. Puppies model themselves on their mother, while young dogs learn from their "chums" on the playing field. But remember that in the latter case, the behaviour they learn may not be exactly what you want!

OWN EXPERIENCE

Getting through a challenge creates a good feeling and boosts self-confidence. It might be meeting an unfamiliar obstacle or balancing on a tree root, but every new experience gives your four-legged friend the opportunity to solve new problems under his own steam.

TRIAL AND ERROR

Success or failure? It all depends! If you respond to your puppy's behaviour in a way that rewards him, it will reinforce that behaviour. If you appear uninterested, he won't bother to do it again. The technical term for this is "operant conditioning".

REINFORCEMENT

Desirable behaviour deserves a reward. This should be given as soon as possible after the behaviour, i.e. within 1 or 2 seconds. Otherwise your puppy will not be able to associate his behaviour with your response. But it doesn't always have to be treats. Try a few strokes or a few minutes' play. The main thing is that your dog loves it.

PUNISHMENT?

Sounds too severe? Don't worry. Verbal chastisement or worse is absolutely taboo. Try to simply ignore unwanted behaviour such as begging. This is the biggest punishment for him because what he actually wants is your attention.



SIGNALS

Do you just say "Sit!" and wait for your dog to settle on his behind? This will only work if you have first shown him what he should do. And wait until he has reliably mastered the desired action before you add in the signal. Otherwise he won't be able to link the two together.

CONSISTENCY

This is the fundamental principle of dog training. Unless you remain consistent, your puppy will not understand that you want him to obey certain rules and respond in a specific way to your signals. This helps to guide him, and avoids unnecessary bones of contention between the two of you.

An indicative target contains both claim and encouragement. Here is an example: "We want our dog to be an important part of our family. We want a harmonious and trusting relationship. He should be an active participant and companion in our leisure activities. We would like to be able to trust him and look after his needs." If there is a relationship between you and your puppy, he will confidently follow you in all your adventures.

Partner for life. Getting on well together.

MUCH MORE THAN JUST OBEDIENT

If you were to ask parents what raising their children means to them, they are unlikely to respond that it means they empty the rubbish bin upon request or sit down when instructed to do so. That's part of it, of course, but it is more important to equip their children with skills that will allow them to make their way successfully through life in all its facets. It's the same with your puppy. Again, it isn't all about obedience. A good basic training means teaching him behavioural strategies that will equip him well for everyday life. Because ultimately this means he will be able to share in your life as much as possible.

DEFINING GOALS

So exactly how do you want your life with your dog to look? What expectations does he need to meet? The focus of the training for a dog who is intended for a special task (such as a hunting companion, therapy dog

or search & rescue dog) will be different to that for a family pet. Indeed, the services required from a companion dog can differ greatly from one owner to the next. One may want the dog to be "companionable" together on the sofa, while the couch may be forbidden territory for another. The owner of a small dog may be entirely happy when their little friend jumps up on his hind legs, and may even encourage him to do this. A St Bernard owner will probably be of an entirely different opinion. So regardless of how "relaxed" your own attitude towards your puppy's training might be, don't forget to take other people's interests into account. He needs a certain amount of basic training to guarantee both of you relaxed encounters of all types.

DOMINANCE PROBLEMS?

You may feel that it isn't very companionable for you to be the superior partner in your human/dog team and to impose rules that



your pal will have to obey. But if you don't, the issue of dominance will very quickly rear its head. This is a term with rather negative connotations, and for many people it conjures up an image of a hierarchical society in which it is the laws of the powerful that prevail. But it simply describes the relationship between two individuals, and it will always depend on the situation. A wolf or dog which behaves dominantly towards another under certain circumstances can, in the next moment, become the one who is

dominated. So there is really no such thing as a generally dominant dog. But there are individuals who, in many situations, take decisions and take the lead, while there are others who prefer to follow. Today we understand that a wolf pack is a family group

consisting of father wolf, mother wolf and their offspring from the previous two or three years. The pack is generally led by the parents. With their experience, they know how to ensure the pack's survival and how to defend it against dangers; they also know how to set rules that allow the group to live together harmoniously. If they act and appear confident in this role, the other pack members are prepared to cooperate. In their families, puppies are only free to do as they please in the first few weeks of life. After that they have to learn what is allowed and what isn't.

PACK LEADER WANTED

You will see that, by its very nature, your puppy is willing to fit in with a group, accept certain rules and be guided by a leader. A leader does not necessarily exhibit physical superiority and willingness to fight; leadership takes the form of a self-confident presence and ability to act appropriately in a given situation. Be guided by these characteristics! If you convince your puppy of your leadership qualities right from day one, then he will confidently align himself

Even he still appears so cuddly, he is growing up. Show your puppy the right way, then your relationship will remain relaxed later on, and there will be plenty of opportunity for cuddles.

with you and be guided by your rules. Especially since training creates more scope for activity, rather than actually restricting personal freedom. A dog with reliable recall can be allowed outside off the lead. If he gets along well with other

two and four-legged friends, then there is nothing to prevent some playful fun. And your youngster will certainly find it much better to walk around town with you, than having to wait for you at home alone.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

At the same time, joint training is also a great opportunity to build upon and reinforce your person/dog relationship. Because your pup is not just "walking with you" during the training; you are specifically devoting your attention to him. He really doesn't mind if it is

a bit of boisterous play, scent work or training exercises. Learning can be made fun for him if you celebrate your successes together.

TACT AND SENSITIVITY

With your dog, success or failure will determine whether he retains a certain behaviour or steers clear of it better in the future. Of course, every dog owner will want to keep their four-legged friend on the winning track and give him as many positive experiences as possible. But you also sometimes need to establish boundaries. As a fair partner, you don't simply tell him what he shouldn't do. At the same time you should show him an alternative behaviour, i.e. what he may do instead (and which you can then reward). This shifts the weight from bad behaviour to desired behaviour, making the whole situation relaxed once more. This is good because stress will prevent your four-legged friend from learning successfully. As will mental overload. For this reason you should always give your youngster some downtime. Sleep mode needs to be learned as well.

CHECKLIST: A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP

Characteristics of a good person/dog team are:

- In new and unsettling situations, the dog looks for and receives contact from his owner..
- Out of the house, the dog always orientates himself towards the human, and keeps looking for eye contact.
- The human recognises his dog's needs and reacts appropriately.
- The dog is also able to calmly spend some time without his human.
- Dog and human are prepared to cooperate with one another and have fun together.
- The dog accepts limits set by his human.
- Human and dog trust one another.

House-training. Tips for the first few weeks.

Always take your puppy outside if he:

- *has just woken up*
- *has just had something to eat or drink*
- *greeted you cheerfully*
- *has been playing in one particular place and then wanders off somewhere else as if “searching” for something*
- *starts going round in circles and sniffing the ground*
- *after a boisterous play session*

Routine is everything. The smaller the dog, the smaller his bladder. So it goes without saying that a puppy's bladder is very tiny, and the muscles he needs to be able to “hold on” take time to develop. Punishing a puppy when he has a little “accident” in the house achieves nothing except to make the little dog afraid of you. It's entirely your responsibility to recognise if and when your dog needs to go outside and to take him out straight away – if possible, always to the same place so that he gets to recognise his own scent.

During waking hours an eight week-old puppy can normally “hold-on” for around

an hour to an hour and a half. By the age of three months, he will be able to manage two to three hours (unless he has been playing boisterously, has just woken up or had something to eat or drink). Even adult dogs have to relieve themselves four times a day on average. Always keep your puppy within sight so that you can see if he starts to look for somewhere to go to the toilet, then pick him up and take him outside quickly to his usual preferred spot. It is better to take him outside too often rather than too little



and it's a good idea to have a cue word or phrase, such as “Hurry up!”, which the puppy will then associate with doing his “business”. This will be helpful later when you are away on holiday or the dog is anxious or distracted because he will immediately know what is expected of him. It won't take long before your puppy understands that the house is not a toilet, and will take himself off to the

door whenever he “needs to go”. If there is an accident indoors (and you can more or less bank on it happening some time), clean the area thoroughly using an enzyme cleaner from your local pet shop. Be sure to remove any residual smell that might encourage the puppy to think this is a nice, warm, draught-free spot to go to the toilet.

Dog obedience classes. In good hands.



Training and
building a
relationship

Obedience classes have been an essential component of dog training for some time. Puppy training courses are especially popular since every dog owner ultimately wants his four-legged friend (and himself) to prepare as well as possible for life together. So how will I recognise a good dog obedience class? Here are a few tips:

SPOILT FOR CHOICE

There are currently over 2300 registered dog obedience classes in Germany alone. And that's a good thing given that there are just under 10.7 million dogs in Germany (from a 2020 pet study "The number of pets in Germany"). Surveys show that even the owners of dogs with no behavioural issues at all have completed at least one training module in the life of their pet (from a 2015 pet study "Economic factor – pet ownership"). And the approaches to training are just as numerous as the courses themselves. So it isn't easy to find the right person to advise about your own human/dog team. It depends on:

QUALIFICATION

When the Animal Welfare Act was amended, greater significance was placed on the training and qualification of dog trainers. Since 01.08.2014, this activity has required a permit and an appropriate certificate of competence from the responsible veterinary authority. So you should ask about qualifications, certificates and continuing professional development. The training should be based on modern

standards, focussing particularly on positive reinforcement.

A good obedience class will ensure that you and your puppy are getting on well together. Play, fun and learning are all in the programme.

LIKEABILITY

The chemistry has to be right – between you, your dog and the trainer. What would be the point in going if your four-legged friend adores the new teacher, but you are not going to accept anything he says because his personality or training approach grates on you? You can and almost certainly should address this. You will recognise the right dog training class when you and your dog both have fun and the exercise is successful.

INDIVIDUAL AND FLEXIBLE

The training should be tailored to you and your dog. It should take account of the particular needs of your everyday life, as well as your four-legged friend's breed and personality. If you find that one exercise isn't working well, the trainer should swap to an alternative strategy and check your progress.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

It is your "couple therapist's" job to discover what is still missing from your human/dog team. Sometimes they have to dig deep to find out the cause of a problem. But you can set clear boundaries if you don't want to address a certain topic, or even if you simply don't want to let your dog trainer walk your dog on the lead. There is no law that says you have to.

EFFECTIVENESS

Is the course well-structured? This means that you can clearly see at all times what and why you are practising something in a given session. It's great if your trainer gives you homework, then provides constructive feedback at the next lesson. This includes him telling you what you are already doing well, and where you can make improvements.

IT AIN'T WHAT YOU SAY, IT'S THE WAY THAT YOU SAY IT

Look for a friendly attitude and way of speaking to both the dog and yourself. Don't allow yourself to be criticised if something doesn't work.

TASTER SESSION

Well-managed obedience classes allow you to watch the training without obligation, or to book a trial lesson. It is good to get a feel for the class before you sign up.

AGE-APPROPRIATE

Ideally, the puppies in a group should be no more than 16 weeks old. Young dogs are not ideal as they are already much more boisterous in their play.

A CHANGE OF SCENERY

Another benefit of dog obedience classes is that they also change the atmosphere. So your puppy not only gets to know the dog field, but can also learn his lessons in public. He may even get to know the town, the woods, the wildlife reserve or even the vet... But it is always important that the puppies are not only able to play

with one another, but are also encouraged to do bonding exercises or explore the environment with their attachment figure.

CHECKLIST:

In good company

If you are both new to the puppy group, then you should still keep an eye on your little friend. The training will not make sense to him unless he feels comfortable in the group and is not overwhelmed. You may also have to help him to get used to the situation:

- You will be able to tell when your puppy feels comfortable in the new group because he won't exhibit any avoidance behaviour when you arrive at the class.
- You should only join in the exercises if you both feel comfortable.
- Support your dog. If you feel it is all becoming too much for him, sit down beside him. Don't pick him up as this will prevent him from communicating naturally. He could also exploit the situation and act a lot more bravely from a height than is good for him.
- After the lesson, your puppy should be allowed a little break. But keep an eye on the clock. If your youngster appears to be sleeping for a very long time, the experience and the lesson may have been too much for him.



Home alone. Practice makes perfect.

Puppies normally trot along behind you wherever you go – this is because in the wild a puppy that has been abandoned will not survive long. So if you leave your little dog on his own he will howl loudly – because as far as he is concerned there must be something wrong.

Dogs that are left on their own too early become so stressed that they will start chewing furniture, tearing wallpaper off the walls and generally wrecking the house. Once a dog has started to exhibit this sort of behaviour, it is very difficult to cure the deep-rooted anxiety. This is often the reason for a dog having to be given away.

If things are done right, and the dog is given time to settle properly into his new home before being left alone, he will learn that he doesn't need to get distressed because you will be coming back.

Being able to leave your dog on its own takes practice, and this should only be done when the animal is old enough to be able to stay calm. This is not usually before 14 – 15

weeks. Start by giving him a chew. Wait until he is calmly enjoying it, then leave the room and start banging about in the bathroom with the door closed. Or in the kitchen. If he comes up to the door and starts crying, don't open the door until you hear a break in his whining. Go to the postbox without him and don't make a big fuss when you come back

in the door. You were only away for a few minutes.

The more often you practise, and the more patient you are, the less stressful your dog will find being left alone – and the more you can relax too! But if your pet develops symptoms of stress, despite your best efforts, it might be time to seek the advice of an expert.

As soon as he accepts these brief absences, extend the period a little. Before you go, give him a food toy that you have filled with kibble or a little cream cheese so that he is not so terribly upset by your departure.

Never creep out of the house. Always use the same neutral voice to say goodbye. The more you practise this, the less he will make a fuss about being left on his own. The commonly

held view that dogs have no sense of time and can last for hours on their own if you spend half an hour with them is not true, however. Quite the opposite. Dogs know exactly when it is dinner time, when your child normally comes home from school, and so on.



Travelling with your puppy. Discovering the world one step at a time.

Go easy on your puppy in the first few weeks. He isn't ready for long walks yet because it would put too much strain on his bones and musculoskeletal system.

AS A RULE OF THUMB:

One minute of actual walking per week of life. It is much more important to allow extensive play time in a field or the garden where he can sit down whenever he feels like it.

Give you and your puppy time. As long as your dog isn't isolated and growing up away from normal noises and other people, you can safely start visiting shopping centres, using public transport and walking near playing fields with him within the first seven months.

When you start walking with him on the lead, match your pace to his. Never tug on the lead. Talk to him instead. The lead isn't a tow rope; it is simply there to prevent him getting lost. In the early days if he wants to sit down, then let him. He needs to get to know the world first.

If you take your puppy into the town, don't go shopping. Just go for a short walk to let him experience various things. Keep to the edge of where it is all happening so that he doesn't become overwhelmed by too many legs (in the mall, on the shopping street), sights and smells. If you absolutely have to do this before he is four or five months old, then sit down with him on a quiet bench for a while and watch the street scene together.

Getting used to the car.

You will get there in the end.

Young dogs need to get used to travelling in a car. Lots of puppies don't really enjoy it; they are restless, tremble or are physically sick. Don't worry too much about this. Most dogs grow out of car sickness at around 9 months / one year old. There are various reasons for car sickness. Some dogs cannot tolerate going round sharp bends or the constant starting and braking. Don't take your puppy out in the car after feeding him. Ideally put him into a crate in the car so he cannot jump around and cannot see the trees, houses, etc. flashing by. If you have a "sicky" pup, put him into the parked car, give him a couple of biscuits or play with him for a while in the boot so that he associates the car with nice things. Then let him out again. Make lots of short journeys – just once around the block – so the puppy doesn't have time to feel sick, doesn't think of the car as something unpleasant and so doesn't vomit simply at the smell of the car. Make sure that there is something fun at the end of your car journey – a walk in the woods, a muddy path, another dog to play with – so he feels happy.

If you have to take a long journey with your puppy, then ask your vet to give you travel sickness pills, otherwise the trip will be unforgettably awful for all concerned!



Keeping your dog healthy



Vet training

Exercises for at home

To make life easier for you, your dog (and your vet!), it's recommended that you start practising going to the vet and having general health checks from an early age. Practising the following regularly will help your puppy get used to the procedure in familiar surroundings so that he no longer finds being checked over by the vet quite so strange and frightening. You can also make your own routine health checks.

Always consult your vet if at any time you notice anything unusual or are at all worried.



EXERCISES:

- Sit the puppy on a table.
- Stick to very short practice sessions and give your pet a little treat or play with him for a while as a reward for sitting still.

INSIDE THE DOG'S MOUTH:

- Are all his teeth undamaged?
- Has he experienced any problems getting his permanent teeth?
- Is there anything lodged between his teeth?
- Are the gums smooth, pink and healthy-looking?

EARS:

- Are the ears very dirty inside?
- Do they smell unpleasant?
- Is there any redness? Small amounts of dirt can be carefully removed using a moistened cotton bud. If you suspect there is inflammation or a parasite infestation in the ears, a visit to the vet will be necessary.

EYES:

- Are the eyes very watery?
- Are there any signs of conjunctivitis? Any secretions or dirt in the corner of the eyes can be wiped away with a damp cloth.

JOINTS AND MUSCLES:

- Get your puppy used to having his legs and paws examined.

ANAL REGION:

- Is the dog's anal region clean or often/always dirty?
- Does your dog often have diarrhoea?
- Does he lick his rear end repeatedly?

TAKING YOUR DOG'S TEMPERATURE

- Use a digital thermometer and insert it gently into his anus. A dog's normal body temperature is 38 - 39°C. With puppies anything up to 39.5°C is normal. A temperature that is too high or too low is a sign that your dog is ill.

Preventive health care. Vaccinations and worming.

VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations are the most important step you can take to prevent infectious diseases. Nobody disputes that vaccinations are necessary; they improve health and performance and prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Immunisation also has an important animal welfare aspect. There are a range of vaccines available for our dogs. Until recently, most dogs were immunised according to "rigid" schedules, but today the actual need for the vaccination is considered for the individual animal. An immunisation programme should be determined for the adult dog in combination with the annual health check-up. There is a schedule recommended for puppies, however. This is the "basic immunisation".

Visit your vet as soon as you bring your puppy home. Ask the vet to check your four-legged friend's general state of health. Of course, there are more infectious diseases for which vaccines are available. Your vet will be happy to advise you.

Basic immunisation

- 8 WEEKS:**
Parvovirus, distemper, leptospirosis, (HCC , rabies))
- 12 WEEKS:**
Parvovirus, distemper, leptospirosis, (HCC, rabies)
- 16 WEEKS:**
Parvovirus, distemper, (HCC)
- 15 MONTHS:**
Parvovirus, distemper, leptospirosis, (HCC, optionally rabies)



Infectious diseases. A brief overview.

DISTEMPER

The distemper virus is closely related to the human measles virus; it affects the mucous membranes of the nose and throat, brain or gut. The animals often present with pulmonary inflammation, bowel inflammation or meningitis. This disease is highly likely to be fatal.

PARVOVIRUS

The animals are directly infected by virus-infected faeces. Infection is also possible via contaminated shoes, clothing, etc. The main symptom of parvovirus is a bloody gastrointestinal inflammation. The mucous membrane cells of the gut are generally completely destroyed.

LEPTOSPIROSIS (STUTT GART DOG PLAGUE)

These bacteria occur in many game, domestic and farm animals. They are also found in humans. Bodies of water can also be contaminated with this pathogen (particularly if they are warm, stagnant or slowly flowing). If the dog then bathes in or drinks from such water, he may be infected. This generally takes the form of impaired kidney and liver function accompanied by internal bleeding.

HCC

This virus causes liver inflammation in dogs. The animals are generally infected by infected faeces. This infectious disease is still rarely diagnosed in Germany, possibly as a positive result of consistent immunisation over recent years.

RABIES

The virus is transferred through the saliva of infected animals. It can take up to 5 months before the actual visible outbreak of the disease. This is followed by severe damage to the entire central nervous system and brain. It generally takes 1 to 7 days before the animal dies. There have been no confirmed cases of rabies in Germany since 2006. This is certainly due to the comprehensive vaccination programmes of the last few decades.

Ask your vet about other diseases for which vaccination is possible.



PUPPIES AND WORMS

There are many different types of worm that can infest dogs. You are most likely to hear about roundworms, tapeworms, hookworms, whipworms, lung and heartworms. Your four-legged friend can become infected in so many ways: from worm eggs or larvae in other dogs' faeces, from the mother's milk or even through the placenta.

A good and serious dog breeder starts to protect against roundworm at the age of 2 weeks. This treatment is repeated at 2-week intervals. Worming is then generally repeated when you take the puppy home with you and you have paid your first visit to the vet together (at around 10 to 14 weeks).

To find out more about worms in dogs, go to www.esccap.de



WHEN THE 2ND TEETH APPEAR

Just like human babies, puppies are born without teeth. The first milk teeth erupt after 3 – 6 weeks. The puppy then receives his permanent teeth at 4 – 7 months. With the smaller breeds, in particular, there can sometimes be problems. If a milk tooth doesn't drop out of its own accord, the adult tooth at this point won't have enough space and will grow crooked. If this does happen, take your dog to the vet as it may be necessary to have the milk tooth removed.

There are 42 permanent teeth in total (compared to just 28 milk teeth). Dogs need to chew a lot more than usual while the new teeth are erupting. We recommend that you provide your dog with chews for the sake of your furniture! If your dog refuses dry food at this time, it may be a sign of mild toothache.

In this case, soften the kibble in warm water to make it easier for your four-legged friend to chew.

*Keeping your
dog healthy*

When the 2nd teeth appear.
Points to note.

Dog nutrition



Feeding guide. How many meals does your puppy need?

The more often, the better as a rule. As with people, several small meals are more digestible and gentler on the digestive tract than a couple of large meals per day. Until they are 4 months old, puppies need at least 4 meals a day, then at least 3 meals a day until 6 months. From six months onwards, feeding can be reduced to twice a day. But even adults find several smaller meals easier to digest. For example, the risk of twisted stomach can be reduced with three or more meals per day.



Changing a puppy's diet in the first few days after being separated from his mother, siblings and familiar surroundings, is definitely to be avoided. It can lead to the animal becoming stressed and this in turn will affect the dog's ability to take in and digest his food. If digestive problems (e.g. diarrhoea) persist for longer than a day, a visit to the vet is essential.

A gradual change of food over the course of a week will prevent digestive upset. You will find more information about this on the following pages.

Always match the amount of food to the young dog's (ideal) body weight.



Appropriate nutrition. For a perfect start in life.

The Happy Dog 2-phase nutrition concept was developed using the latest scientific knowledge.

A balanced and species-appropriate diet is essential to ensure that any puppy grows up as he should. The recipes used in Happy Dog Young products focus on the needs of puppies and young dogs as they go through the different growth stages. Your puppy receives everything his body needs – for

healthy growth, a strong immune system, a robust locomotor system and a glossy coat. Our Happy Dog puppy food combines the highest quality with the maximum care.

The Happy Dog 2-phase concept is designed for dogs weighing 11 kg or more (weight of the adult dog).

And what about the small breeds? Small breeds with an adult weight of up to 10 kg grow up faster and grow at a more even rate than large breeds. For this reason, they do not need the 2-phase nutrition concept. For optimum development, your dog will receive everything he needs from our Mini Baby & Junior range.



Keeping your
dog healthy

PUPPY: Main growth phase

The first 6 months are the “main growth phase”. During this time, baby dogs grow very quickly. With some breeds, the puppy can reach up to 75% of his later weight as an adult dog at this stage. His need for energy and high quality nutrients in appropriate amounts is correspondingly high during this period.

JUNIOR: Moderate growth phase

It takes another 6 to 12 months before a young dog is fully grown. He spends much more time in this 2nd growth phase. He puts on weight more slowly, so the energy content of the food needs to be reduced to avoid growth disorders. When they reach adult age (roughly 18 months), they should be switched to a suitable Adult product.



CHANGING THE FOOD MADE EASY!

To ensure that your four-legged friend does not have digestive issues, here is a brief guide to gently changing his food. The first thing you will need is time and patience. We recommend that you plan to change the food over the course of 7 days so that your dog's digestive system can gradually get used to the new composition. This is especially important if you are also changing the type of food, i.e. dry food, wet food or BARF.



For very sensitive pets, the food should be changed over a period of 10 days (in increments of 10%).

The way to the heart is through the stomach

Patented perfect bite-size





Happy Dog Young heart-shaped kibble



Natural dog food. Healthy nourishment for a lifetime.

Keeping your
dog healthy

 small breeds up to 10 kg (adult weight)

 mid-sized & large breeds from 10 kg (adult weight)

1
PUPPY
Age in months
6
JUNIOR
Age in months
18
ADULT

Mini



SMALL BREEDS
grow up faster and grow at a more even rate than large breeds. For this reason they do not need the 2-phase nutrition concept.

Sensible

Sensible Puppy
Lamb & Rice
Sensible Puppy
Salmon & Potato



Sensible Junior
Lamb & Rice
Sensible Junior
Salmon & Potato



fit & vital

fit & vital
Puppy



fit & vital
Junior



NaturCroq®

NaturCroq
Puppy



NaturCroq
Junior



GIANT

Baby Giant
Lamb & Rice



Junior Giant
Lamb & Rice




Mini Fit & Well, Mini Sensible



Sensible



fit & vital



NaturCroq



fit & vital Maxi Adult, NaturCroq XXL

We hope you have found our little care guide for the first few days with your four-legged friend useful and are able to apply some of the tips and tricks. Be patient if something doesn't work the first time. You will get there in the end! We wish you many lovely walks, no chewed shoes, dry carpets and lots of wonderful moments that you will remember for ever.

If you still have questions about feeding your young four-legged friend, our VET Service Team will be happy to advise you on 08234 - 96 22 418.

The Happy Dog team

HAPPY DOG[®]
All you feed is love

