



FAQs

What will my puppy come home with?

- We will provide a new puppy collar and leash, a blanket with the scent of their littermates and mama, a gallon bag of the food they're currently eating, antibiotics for ear cropping, suture removal tools, ear posting resources and kit, and a small supply of multivitamin supplements.

How do I take care of my puppy's sutured ears?

- When you pick up your puppy, their ears will be taped together overtop of their head. This is because the sutured edge of their ears from cropping need to be exposed to air to heal properly.
- Leave ears taped until edges heal, about 14 days post-op.
- Apply Gold Bond Medicated Powder once daily. **You should not use any ointment such as Neosporin or Vaseline on the wound.**
- Clean the ears daily with a warm, damp washcloth or baby wipes. Re-apply powder after cleaning.
- Sutures are very easy to remove yourself and we will send the removal tools along home with you. They would be removed 10 days post-op. Alternatively, you can have your vet remove them.

How long do I need to post my puppy's ears for?

- Your puppy's ears will need to be posted until they're a minimum of 6 months old. Posting changes should happen every 5-7 days or whenever necessary. A short break in-between posting changes is appropriate, but shouldn't exceed 12 hours.

When can tail sutures be removed?

- Not all puppies will have sutures in their tails but it is a possibility if their docking from newborn needs fixed. Improper docking can result in pain for the adult dog and self-mutilating behavior down the road.
- Sutures can be removed 14 days post-op with suture tools provided to you in your take home kit.

What food do you currently feed or recommend?

- We currently feed Inukshuk, Professional Dry Dog Food 26/16. If you would like to change your puppy over to a new food, do so gradually, mixing it with the food provided.

When do I need to take my puppy to the vet?

- We ask that you take your new puppy to the vet within a week of bringing them home. They will need their vaccine booster shot within a few weeks. If the booster shot is not administered, you will have to start the vaccine cycle again.

What age can I have my puppy spayed/neutered?

- Talk with your vet about this. Generally it's recommended to wait until 16-18 months of age for larger breed dogs. Waiting until this age significantly reduces the chances of orthopedic injury in large breed dogs.
- There is a chance that if your puppy is spayed or neutered at any point in time it could possibly cause incontinence (the inability to hold the urine).

How often should I worm my puppy?

- Talk with your vet and decide on a schedule together. We recommend worming them every two weeks until twelve weeks. Then every month until they are six months old, and then after that every three months.

What flea and tick treatment do you recommend?

- We use Seresto Flea and Tick collars. They are good for 8 months at a time and are available at all major retailers.

What treats should I give?

- We like to use their dry food for training and treats!
- Bully sticks are a wonderful all-natural chew for when your puppy is a bit older and their adult teeth are in.

Suggested Resources

Training

- We are big advocates of crate and leash training. Your puppy is essentially a new born and needs around 16 hours of sleep per day. A wild puppy is a tired puppy and a quiet crate is the best place for them to rest. It also takes any unsupervised decision making away from the puppy, thus giving you the best success in creating good habits with them.
- We really like "Say It Once Dog Training" with Vinnie Soma. He's located in Pittsburgh, PA, and on YouTube, and through social media. Just an FYI, he does swear in his videos. www.sayitoncedogtraining.com

Ear Posting Resource

- Summit View Great Dane Ear Taping www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCZjtbFKtOQ - Recommended method of Dr. Brittany Faison (vet who cropped puppy's ears)

Feeding

- There has been strong correlations (supported by the FDA) suggesting that grain-free diets and their ingredients are contributing to Dilated Cardio Myopathy, so we recommend feeding your dog a quality diet with healthy grains, not grain-free.

Medical Care

Ear Cropping Care (Ears will be cropped on November 20th)

1. Apply Gold Bond Medicated Powder to the sutured edge at least once a day until edges are healed.
2. Ears should be cleaned daily with a warm damp cloth or wet wipe. Reapply powder after cleaning.
3. Sutures will need removed 10 days post surgery. (November 30th)
4. Leave ears taped together until edges are healed (about 14 days). Over the head glue lasts about 2 weeks. By then, the edges should be healed. Once there are no scabs you can start posting. (Glue can be removed by a product called Unisolve)
5. Post ears every 5 days for 15 days (3x).
6. Ears should then be reposted every 5-7 days or as needed until puppy is at least 6 months of age (March 29th).
 - A short break in-between posting changes is appropriate, but shouldn't exceed 12 hours.

Tail Sutures *if applicable*

The two tail sutures should be removed 14 days post-op. (December 4th)

Antibiotics/Supplements

- Puppy should receive Cephalexin (antibiotics) after a meal every 12 hours until gone.
- We recommend 500MG of Vitamin C (bottle included) once a day until puppy is 6 months of age
- We recommend Sure Grow 100 (multivitamin supplement) be given as directed until puppy is 6 months of age (We have been administering and have included a 10 day supply). Available on Amazon

**These are only our suggestions, we are not veterinarians. Consult your vet with any questions or additional recommendations for optimal puppy health