

NEW PUPPY?



Consider following these tips to help your furry friend live a well-rounded and healthy life.

Feed an appropriate diet ... This is crucial!



- Are you feeding a complete diet with essential nutrients?
- Ensure your puppy is getting "puppy food."
- Know how much you are feeding by using a measuring cup.
- Feed your puppy meals. Don't leave food in a bowl all day to avoid overeating which can lead to obesity.

Start obedience training early.



Use small training treats and keep training sessions short, less than 5 minutes and do them frequently.

Potty training tips.

- When your pup wakes up, take them outside on a leash to potty.
- Consider restricting access to areas in your home outside your view.
- Give your pup an "ah hah!" when you find them urinating or defecating and tell them "Outside" as you usher them outdoors.
- Praise and treat them when they finish their business.
- If training continues to be difficult, talk with your veterinarian about other strategies.



Consider crate training.



Crate training keeps puppies (and your home) safe while you're away. It also provides a safe place for them to relax and settle down.

Get your pup familiar with touching.



Your puppy will need to be touched by family, friends and veterinarian. Give treats and praise as you touch your pup.

Puppies need physical and mental exercise.

It is important that pups get lots of physical exercise, as well as mental exercise, too. Obedience training, food puzzles and sniffing games are great ways to wear a puppy out!



Don't forget about oral care.

The ONLY way to prevent dental cleanings at the veterinarian's clinic is to brush your pet's teeth at home. The sooner you start, the quicker your puppy will get used to it.



Start an Emergency Fund.



Puppies can be expensive! They are accident prone and could require emergency care that can cost thousands of dollars in health care.

Beware of some toys ...



Rope and similar toys that are easily chewed apart are risky. They can lead to emergency surgery if the pup swallows filaments that block their intestines. Signs include lack of appetite, sluggishness, vomiting or diarrhea, so be on the lookout!