

eventually the papers can be lifted when the puppy no longer makes any mistakes.

- A pup should be given the opportunity to go outside to the toilet regularly, especially after meals and before bedtime.
- You should go outside with the puppy to the place where you want him to go to the toilet and stand with him. When he 'goes' give him lots of praise as he finishes and give him a treat. He should need to pass urine and faeces so wait for him to do both.
- Never put your puppy's nose in the "mess" or scold after this has happened, as they will not understand what they are being scolded for.
- Crate training is also a convenient and quick way to toilet train your dog. Ask your local veterinary nurse for guidance.

BASIC OBEDIENCE

- A puppy's concentration time is very short. Keep lessons brief (5-10 minutes).
- Incorporate the training into a daily routine.
- Training should take place in a quiet area with no other distractions.
- Make lessons fun, incorporate play and learning together.
- Be patient.
- Daily repetition reinforces learning.
- Use a firm but kind voice.
- Praise success.
- Do not punish mistakes.
- Use the command 'NO' in a firm voice. Do not lose your temper.
- REWARD RATHER THAN PUNISH.
- Rewards can be given such as food, affection, praise, etc.
- Daily walks are essential to use up your dog's energy. This will make your dog more likely to behave and listen to you.

GENERAL INFORMATION



Dirty ears in your dog may indicate an ear mite infection. Treatment involves ear cleaning, drops or a spot-on to kill the mites.

- Daily brushing of your dog's teeth can help to prevent dental and gum disease.
- You should get your puppy used to being groomed from an early age. Do not use a hard brush and be very gentle. Certain breeds may need to be clipped 3-4 times a year depending on their coat.

INSURANCE

- Advances in veterinary medicine means your vet can do more for your dog but treatment can be expensive.
- Pet insurance allows you to budget monthly rather than face unexpected bills that you might not be able to afford.
- Numerous companies offer pet insurance. Research the various policies available and see which policy is most suitable for you and your dog.
- In general, a lifetime policy is best as it will cover any condition for the duration of your dog's life. Make sure you insure your pet as soon as you acquire it. Any illness noted before the start of the policy will not be covered in any subsequent policy. Don't wait until they are sick!

CONCLUSION

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you many years of fun and companionship with your dog. We are always happy to answer any questions you may have regarding your dog.

25 Knocknamoe Road, Killyclogher,
Omagh, Co. Tyrone. BT79 7LB

SURGERY HOURS
Monday - Friday
8.30am - 7.00pm

Saturdays
9.00am - 5.00pm

Sundays and Out of Hours
Please call if you have an emergency

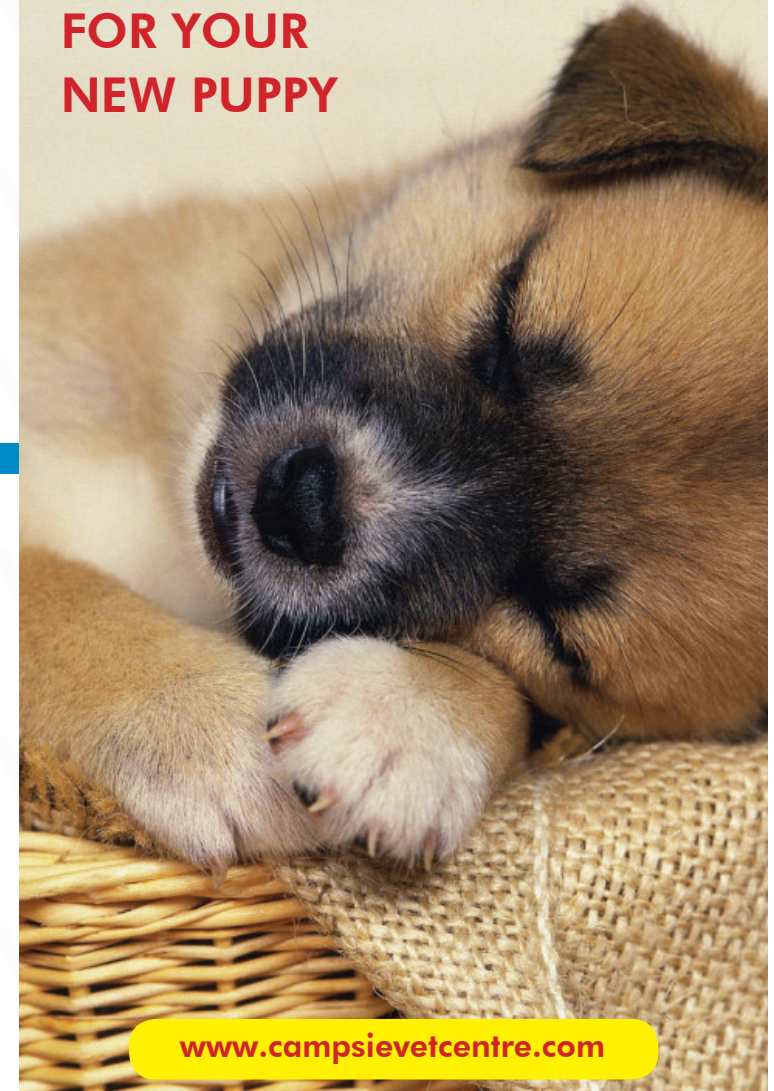
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Campsie Veterinary Centre

GUIDELINES FOR CARING FOR YOUR NEW PUPPY



www.campsievetcentre.com

Congratulations on your new canine friend. This booklet will provide you with helpful advice for the care of your new puppy.

FEEDING

- It is recommended that you feed your puppy 4 times a day up to 12 weeks of age, 3 times a day up to 6 months and twice a day thereafter.
- We recommend you feed your dog a good quality complete dog food. The best dog foods offer size-related life stage diets, as your pet's requirements change throughout their life. A Chihuahua's requirements are very different from a Great Dane's, so one size does not fit all! You can discuss your individual pet's dietary requirements in a free nurse consultation. All our nurses are trained canine nutritionists!
- Do not feed your dog cow's milk as they cannot digest it and this may cause diarrhoea.
- Always have a supply of fresh water available along with your complete dog food.
- Do not give your pup human food as a treat; reward your pup for good behaviour with a few of their own nuts from their daily allowance.

IMMUNITY

- We recommend that all pups are vaccinated against parvovirus, distemper, hepatitis, para-influenza and leptospirosis. All these diseases are contagious and potentially fatal.
- Vaccinations can be started from 6 weeks of age. Initial vaccination involves two injections, 2-4 weeks apart.
- Your pup is not fully protected until 1 week after the second part of the initial vaccination.
- Annual booster vaccinations are necessary to keep your dog protected for life. They also act as a useful opportunity for an annual health check for your dog.
- Canine Cough vaccination is not included in a standard vaccination program, requiring an additional splash of fluid up the nostril. Kennel cough is transmitted by contact with respiratory discharges from an infected dog, just like the common cold. We recommend it if your dog is in contact with other dogs or in the park regularly and most good boarding kennels require the vaccine at least 72 hours before kennelling.



WORMING

- Worms can cause a poor coat, pot-bellied appearance and even weight loss.
- Pups are born with roundworms and should be wormed every two weeks from 2-12 weeks of age; and then every month until 6 months of age.
- As a general rule, we recommend treatment against roundworms every 3 months. This will remove any current worm burden and reduce infection loads over the following months. However, canine roundworms are transmittable to humans, especially children, where they can migrate to the brain or eye, resulting in blindness. If your dog is in contact with children, scavenges, or eats raw meat, then worming monthly may be more appropriate. We offer free nurse checks where we can develop an individual treatment plan for your pet.
- Worming can be done using a tablet or a spot-on.
- Worms your dog may have are transmittable to humans.



FLEAS

- Fleas can cause itching or even severe allergic reactions.
- Treatment can start from 6-9 weeks of age depending on the product used.
- Every individual's risk of fleas is different so discuss an individual treatment plan with your veterinary nurse. In general we recommend monthly treatment with a combined flea / worm / tick treatment. Your vet will have a wide range of convenient products to suit your individual needs.
- If your dog has fleas you will also need to treat your home. This involves using a recommended aerosol spray, vacuuming and washing bedding at 60 degrees.

MICRO-CHIPPING

- Micro-chipping allows your dog to be permanently identified. Each pet receives a unique number which is registered against the owner's details on a national database. Micro-chipping is a legal requirement in Northern Ireland, as in most European countries, and allows your dog to be permanently identified. An un-microchipped dog can be seized by the Dog Warden at any time.
- This allows your dog to be traced back to you if it gets lost.

- It is easily done when your dog is being vaccinated or at another convenient time.
- It is essential when travelling abroad with your dog as part of the Pet Passport scheme.

NEUTERING

- Both males and females can be neutered from 6 months of age. You do not have to wait until a bitch has a litter before neutering as she will get the same protective benefits against mammary cancer from early neutering as she would from having a litter. Waiting until after she has 3 seasons significantly reduces this benefit. Neutering your dog not only helps prevent unwanted puppies but also reduces aggression / roaming behaviour and certain other types of cancer.
- A bitch will have her first heat between 6-12 months of age. A heat will last for an average of 3 weeks, during which time she will pass blood stained discharge from her vulva. During this time she will attract male dogs and can be mated. If you do not want your bitch to be mated, then it is advisable to keep her in a secure place whilst in heat.

ADVANTAGES OF NEUTERING

Males:

- Reduces unwanted sexual related behaviour, e.g. mounting, marking territory with urine, straying.
- Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer.
- Reduces the risk of some anal and perianal tumours.

Females:

- Eliminates the risk of unwanted heats and pregnancies.
- Reduces the risk of breast cancer and infections of the womb.
- Your dog is only very slightly at risk of gaining more weight after neutering. To avoid this we recommend feeding a specific neutered pet diet. Ask your local veterinary nurse for post-neutering advice. All our nurses are qualified pet nutritionists!

TOILET TRAINING

- Sometimes house training a puppy or newly adopted dog can seem difficult and frustrating.
- If the pup is staying indoors, it should be kept in the kitchen or the utility room where a 'mess' is easily cleaned up. Newspapers should be laid down near the door in case of any accidents. These should be replaced and moved closer to the door over a period of time until