



Preparing for a puppy

To ensure that you have a long and healthy relationship with your puppy, there are a few things you should do before your puppy arrives home.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNING A DOG

- Make sure you are well aware of the responsibilities that owning a dog entails. Speak to your veterinarian, people who have owned puppies, or get some good reading material on raising puppies
- Make sure you can afford a dog as they can be expensive
- Ensure that you have the time to look after, train and feed your new puppy
- Consider if your home is suitable for a dog, especially with large breeds

PUPPY PREPARATION

- Make sure there is nothing treasured or dangerous that your dog can chew up, or anything poisonous in their reach. "Keep out of reach of children" means "Keep out of reach of puppies."
- Set up a safe and secure sleeping area where they can sleep at night and during the day when you're not home

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Food and water bowls
- Bedding
- Pee pad or piles of newspaper
- Something to transport your puppy in
- Collar and leash

BEHAVIOURAL TRAINING

- Make sure you have a good idea of basic behavioural training methods so your puppy doesn't get into bad habits
- You can get this from your veterinary clinic and in materials on raising puppies

VETERINARY CHECK AND PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT

- Check what preventative treatments your puppy has had for fleas, heartworm, and intestinal worms etc. and when your puppy is next due for these
- Make sure to collect your puppy's registration papers, microchipping documents and vaccinations certificates from the breeder so your veterinarian can record them in your puppy's medical record
- Speak to your veterinarian about puppy socialization, puppy preschool, training and ongoing preventative care

