



BRINGING A PUPPY HOME

Before You Bring A Puppy Home

- **Puppy-proof your space:** Remove cords, small objects, shoes, and anything chewable.
- **Set up a safe area:** A crate or gated space with a bed, water, and a few toys
- **Have supplies ready:** Food (same as the breeder's), bowls, collar, leash, toys, and cleaning supplies.

The First Day Home

- **Keep it calm and quiet.** Too many people or activities can be overwhelming.
- **Stick to a routine right away:** Feeding, potty breaks, play, and rest at consistent times.
- **Go outside often**—after waking, eating, playing, and every 1–2 hours.
- **Expect accidents.** This is normal and part of learning.

The First Week

- **Use the same food** your puppy is used to; changes can cause tummy upset.
- **Introduce family members** and supervise interactions with children.
- **Begin crate training:** Make the crate a positive, cozy place.
- **Limit freedom:** Too much space too soon leads to accidents and mischief.
- **Puppies sleep a lot!** Up to 18–20 hours a day is normal.
- **Nighttime crying is common** the first few nights—comfort without reinforcing bad habits.
- **Schedule a vet visit** within 72 hours.
- **Follow the vaccination schedule** and deworming plan provided by your vet.
- **No public places** (parks, pet stores) until vaccines are complete.

Training

- **Be patient and consistent.**
- **Potty Training:** Take your puppy outside after eating, and then every 1-2 hours.
- **Short training sessions** (5–10 minutes) work best. Reward good behavior with praise and small treats.
- **Handle paws, ears, and mouth gently** to build comfort with future grooming and vet visits.
- **Handle food** as your puppy eats to mitigate any tendency towards food aggression.

Final Encouragement

The first few weeks are about **building trust, routine, and security**. Your puppy doesn't need perfection—just consistency, patience, and love. The work you put in now sets the foundation for a wonderful lifelong companion.