

New Puppy Checklist

Bringing home a new puppy is an exciting time for any family. Here are a few tips on making the transition easy.

Puppy Food

The first year is critical to your puppy's development. During this time, your puppy needs special nutrition to promote strong bones and teeth, building immune system, proper development of body systems and a thick, lustrous coat. At certain times during this period of growth and development, your puppy will need up to twice the amount of food per pound of body weight compared to an adult dog. Start your puppy on the right track with a complete and balanced puppy food. A small amount of [Royal Canin Small Puppy Dry Dog Food](#) will come with your new puppy. This is the food he/she has been raised on and I recommend.

NuVet Plus

As a dog breeder, animal health is my top priority. That's why I enthusiastically recommend NuVet Plus immune system builder to all of my customers. Simply put, it is the best nutritional supplement available today. To assure your puppy gets off to the right start, they have been enjoying NuVet Plus every day as a treat (they love the taste). Continuing this daily regimen is the easiest and best way to keep your pet on the path to perfect health! This is not just a vitamin. It's an immune system builder with a precise balance of vitamins, minerals, omega fatty acids, amino acids and high-potency antioxidants. That's why it works so well through all three stages of a dog's life. For your convenience, you may order directly from the manufacturer by calling 1-800-474-7044 and using Order Code: 25980, or ordering online at www.nuvet.com/25980

Training Treats

Purchase treats that are low in calories and are a small size to reinforce a puppy's good behavior during training. A good rule to live by is the "10% rule." Treats should not exceed 10% of your puppy's daily calorie intake.

Collar and Leash

Your puppy's first collar and leash will be included with your new puppy. It should be made of lightweight nylon or leather. Nylon is my favorite because it breaths. For collar size, measure his neck and add two inches. Check his/her collar frequently to be sure he/she hasn't outgrown it. Six feet is the best length for training and walking.

Identification Tag

An identification tag permanently attached to the collar should have your new dog's name, and your name, address and phone number. Your puppy will be microchipped prior to leaving as well. I use the brand Nanochip. It is the least invasive, little tiny chip. Fetch ID is NanoCHIP's official recovery service for pet owners. Online registration is fast & easy at www.fetch-id.com

Crate

The crate will become your dog's safe place, and his special place to go to sleep and feel secure. Put it near or in the family hub of activity, so your dog feels like part of the family. This is his / her home too, and he/she should feel comfortable here. The key to successful use of the crate is to always use it in a positive manner — never as a punishment. I recommend a 24.5 L x 17.5 W x 19.5 H " size crate with a divider. This size can be used from puppy through adult, by just adjusting the placement of the divider.

Puppy Play Pen

This is optional. Puppies can NOT hold or control there bladder until 4 months of age. The pen provides a safe spot for your baby while at work, running errands, or just simply can't watch them for a few minutes while you shower.

Litter Pan

This is optional. Your puppy has come litter trained. You can put the puppy pan in play pen for when you need to leave your home. This is very useful, in prevention of accidents while you potty train your new baby to the outside. I use [rolled pine pellet bedding](#) Or [Pine Pellet Stall Bedding](#)

Grooming Tools

The proper grooming tools will differ depending on your puppy's stage. The Toy & Miniature Australian Shepherd needs little grooming and are an average shedder. Brush occasionally with a sturdy wide-tooth metal comb and perhaps a slicker brush and bathe only when needed. Establish your dog's grooming program as soon as possible so he'll get used to being groomed. Brushes that work great for Aussies are: Pin Brush, Slicker Brush, Greyhound Comb, & Undercoat Rake (That's the order I use them in as well)

Toys

Safe toys are an important part of your pet equipment. They can help your dog exercise and provide a safe way to satisfy your puppy's need to chew. Rubber toys that can be filled with treats, nylon chews, hard rubber balls, squeaker toys, and different texture toys are fun and usually safe. If your dog can fit a toy in his mouth, the toy is too small and could be unsafe.

Notebook

Keep all of your puppy's photos, vet records, and vital statistics in one place. This will be especially helpful if your puppy/dog gets lost.

And Don't Forget the Basics

Make sure to grab things like food and water bowls, a dog bed, pet shampoo, a pooper scooper, carpet stain remover, and puppy training materials.

Item Checklist

- ___ Royal Canin Small Puppy Food <https://www.chewy.com/royal-canin-small-puppy-dry-dog-food/dp/35403>
- ___ Collar & Leash (Included w/ puppy)
- ___ NuVet Plus K-9 Wafers www.nuvet.com/25980
- ___ Training Treats & Puppy Bones
- ___ Crate (24.5 L x 17.5 W x 19.5 H ") <https://www.chewy.com/midwest-icrate-single-door-fold-carry/dp/45364>
- ___ Crate Liner <https://www.chewy.com/frisco-mocha-swirl-pet-bed-crate-mat/dp/137872>
- ___ Food & Water Bowl
- ___ Puppy Play Pen (optional) <https://www.chewy.com/frisco-dog-exercise-pen-step-through/dp/125051>
- ___ Puppy litter Pan <https://www.chewy.com/puppy-pan-dog-cat-small-animal-litter/dp/167816>
- ___ Litter <https://www.chewy.com/natures-logic-100-all-natural-pine/dp/180679>
- ___ Dog Bed
- ___ Toys
- ___ Grooming Tools <https://www.chewy.com/conairpro-puppy-grooming-starter-kit/dp/176747>
- ___ Pet Shampoo <https://www.chewy.com/earthbath-oatmeal-aloe-dog-cat/dp/40479>
- ___ Pooper Scooper & Poop Bags
- ___ Identification Tag
- ___ Carpet Stain Remover