

The Kindred Doodle Co

All about your pup

Training

It is best to start training your puppy immediately but smoothly. Dogs are pack animals and are looking to you for leadership and guidance when they join your pack. It can be very exciting and rewarding when your pup learns something new! Along with potty training the first few days, you can also start teaching them a few commands. Starting at minutes a session.

- Some cues you can start with are “place”, “sit”, “down”, “stay”, “crate or house” and “go potty”.
- You can do these on your own or you can have a trainer come to your home and help you or watch some videos together so each of the family members are using the same commands and sounds.
- It is important to enroll your puppy in a puppy kindergarten class or puppy school once your vet has given you the go ahead that your puppy is finished with its vaccinations and is safe from Parvovirus. They will get to socialize, start learning self-control and begin on basic obedience tasks and many more benefits.
- Upon graduation, you can enroll your pup in a basic obedience class. Then you can certainly continue onto more advanced training. You can also get your dog certified as a Canine Good Citizen.
- Crate training is strongly suggested to use as a great tool to help aid you in potty training. Puppies will rarely potty where they sleep. If you cannot watch your puppy or it is nap time, tuck them into their crate.
- In the beginning you need to carry them right outside having the leash ready to snap on when you put them down in their potty spot. If you don't carry them, they sometimes squat after just a few steps!
- When your puppy has an accident, just clean it up thoroughly after taking puppy out. Try not to react. Rubbing their nose in it, yelling is not beneficial and can be harmful to your puppy's progress.

Physical Exercise

Although some dogs need more physical exercise than others and some dogs might need more mental exercise, all dogs need sufficient daily off-leash exercise. Please make sure that your dog is in a safe environment.

- A puppy should not have more than 20 to 30 minutes of leash walking at a time – in other words, no long hikes or 5 mile walks with them until they are over a year.
- If they get tired when playing in the yard or house, they will stop and lay down.

Socializing and Developmental Stages

You should be cautious of Parvovirus, a highly contagious and very dangerous virus that can live in any environment for years and can be easily tracked into your own house on your shoes. It is a good idea to clean your house before your puppy comes home and keep your shoes at the door. Using a bleach solution of 1: 28 kills parvovirus. Use caution and avoid areas with other dogs such as puppy play parks or walking areas. Brief and safe socializing is important to the proper development of a puppy.

- Let your vet tell you when it is safe for your puppy to be out and about.
- Steer clear of other unknown dogs and any areas populated by puppies and other dogs until your veterinarian has administered your puppy's vaccinations.
- Once your puppy is finished its vaccinations and your vet gives you the go ahead, having your puppy around other people, dogs, new locations, in the car, stores that allow dogs etc. will create a much happier, well-socialized dog. You will be so proud and it will be a joy to take your pup with you on the go, and your puppy will enjoy and excel meeting new people and visiting new places.

Schedule / Routine

- Last feeding of the day is around 3 to 4 hours before bedtime.
- Remove food and water 2-3 hours before your bedtime to allow the puppy a greater chance of holding it all night. Your puppy's bladder will not be fully developed until he or she reaches five months old.
- If you do have to take your puppy out during the night, use caution not make this a play session. Keep it strictly "business" (as little talking and interaction as possible).
- Praise the potty behavior and put your puppy right back into the crate. These puppies are very bright and if they know that you will get up in the middle of the night to play, talk sweetly and love on them, they will start waking you for this extra special attention. In general, your pup will need to potty every 30 minutes as well as after a nap, vigorous play, exiting the crate and following meals Then you can build your time up as they are successful. When in doubt, just take your puppy out! There are many good training methods for this period in your puppy's life. If your breeder recommended one, using it will help you save lots of time and challenges.

Positive Reinforcement

This is a very exciting time for you and your family and your new puppy! Remember the puppy is still a "baby" and having to learn and adjust to so many things.

Remember, if everyone is saying something different to the puppy for the same behavior....example: Puppy jumps up on you, you say off, another says get down, still another says no. You are expecting puppy to speak several different languages when

you only speak one. Work with everyone to use the same verbiage, for the same behavior, every time. Success will quickly come!

Basic Physiological Needs

(food, water, sleep, etc)

We recommend feeding three times a day from the time you bring your puppy home until about six months of age. Then you can start feeding twice a day. Your veterinarian will tell you what is the best timing for this change for your puppy. We do recommend a good, balanced diet which promotes better long-term health.

Access to water throughout the day. Stopping water a few hours before bedtime will help your puppy to not need to potty during the night.

Puppies need to nap very often throughout the day. This allows him/her to organize what he has learned and grow strong, as well enables him to behave. A tired puppy is equivalent to a very tired toddler.

Please be sure to keep your puppies area clean, washing washables at least every one to two weeks.

Safety Physical and Emotional Safety

The first few days will be somewhat stressful for your new puppy. Everything is new – no mommy, no siblings, no familiar places or smells. They need to be loved and snuggled while still implementing rules, boundaries and limitations. They need to be exposed safely to many faces, places, and things. Coupled with this, there is a need for the following:

Containment or safety barrier. This is highly recommended for your puppy. This will aid in the success of house training your puppy. Some families use options like a play pen area, or baby gates in a small room. A place where pup does not feel isolated but is a member of the family. Tethering is also a good tool for potty training.

Your puppy does not need free rein of a room or the house and will excel with proper boundaries. Just as it is not wise and could be dangerous to allow a baby or toddler to roam a room or home freely, the same holds true for your puppy.

When out of its crate or playpen, your puppy needs constant supervision. You don't want them to get into things that are not good for them. Be proactive for your puppy's success.

When they are out of the play area and you are watching them, it is comforting for them to have a leash on and even dragging the ground. This gives them some sense of stability. Keeping them in a small area really helps them with security the first couple of weeks. They do not need to be taken all over the house. They are seeing, hearing, and smelling so many new and different things, this should occur both inside and out of door.

Psychological Needs

Your puppy will need affection. This means special time with your puppy along with training and proper socialization. Your puppy has a sixteen week critical window where they can effectively be introduced to so many positives that they will remember the rest of their lives. So keep going, as it is recommended that they meet over 100 people of all different sexes, sizes, colors, ages, some with glasses and other without, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc.

- Puppies need to be mentally stimulated. You can make sure you are properly mentally stimulating your dog by allowing him or her to work to earn resources, learning cues and self control through consistency and positive reinforcement training.
- When puppy is in its crate or play pen, have toys that make the puppy work and play and get rewarded, such as Kong toys with kibbles inside, noise makers, cows hooves, but not toys that can be chewed up. Also try to stay away from antlers as they can be too hard for the teeth and cause cracks.
- Puppies can also benefit from me time. They need to be in their special play area by themselves throughout the day or they will have trouble wanting to go to bed by themselves at night and possibly develop separation anxiety.

Grooming

- Start brushing your puppy twice a week – to the skin. A ten inch metal comb works nicely. You can work in sections and brush from back to front on back, sides and tail, on legs brush up. You don't have to do this all at once.
- This gets them ready for a longer brushing as they get older. At around six to seven months (every puppy is different) the adult coat starts coming in and the baby coat does not shed. This is when brushing is vital to keep the coat from matting. The worse that can happen is it will get very matted, like a sheet, and the coat will need to be shaved off. The coat will grow back in nicely, but it will take a couple of months.
- Bathing does not need to be done often – A full groom is recommended every five to six weeks. Females should have their personal areas cleansed every couple of weeks to avoid bacterial build up and urinary tract infections. Males should have the hair around their genital's clipped as needed.
- For swimming if you want the puppy to keep the longer coat, put a cream conditioner on it before it goes into the water – pool, lake, river, ocean. When it comes out of the water, rinse it, and it will brush out well.

Face Trimming – Wavy and Curly

- Ears – Keep coat short, hair on ears should be trimmed to ear leather or no longer than two inches below the ear leather and complimentary to the beard and mustache. Inside the ear – to pluck or not, if plucking use a good ear wash for several days after to soothe and heal or moisten a cotton ball and wipe inside ear

canal just after grooming. Many choose not to pluck but trim hair short inside ear. If you only trim, cleanse ear canal weekly to rid it of gathering bacteria. Wash and clean – Need good ear wash for when puppy has been bathed or in water swimming.

- Eyes – Keep coat trimmed out of the eyes. Cut coat between eyes at top of nose. Wash eyes with soft cloth and water or eye wash.
 - <https://> special-senses-of-the-dog
 - Legs – look like tree trunks with coat going over the toes.
- Nails – Cautiously cut them. Having a flash light under the nail shows the vein – avoid the vein.
 - Recommended Fleas and Tick Prevention:

Advantage – monthly – topical
Frontline Plus – monthly – topical
Revolution – monthly – topical

If you want to go a la natural for flea and tick control, you will need to bathe often and manual pick fleas and ticks off. There are flea combs to help with this.

Newer medications can be effectively used but each dog will have their own response to the stronger, multi-purpose meds. Therefore, we cannot recommend any one product. Consult with your veterinarian.