



## **First Paw Puppy Information**

Congratulations on getting a new puppy! What an exciting time ahead. We have put together some information on what you might need to know for the first few months of your new puppy's life. For more comprehensive information, tips on behaviour and help with socialisation we recommend checking out the following:

[https://www.dogstardaily.com/files/downloads/AFTER\\_You\\_Get\\_Your\\_Puppy.pdf](https://www.dogstardaily.com/files/downloads/AFTER_You_Get_Your_Puppy.pdf)

<https://www.dogzwalkabout.com/>

### **Vaccinations**

These are imperative for your puppy to receive in their first few months of life to ensure they receive full protection from the following diseases - Canine Parvovirus, Infectious Hepatitis, Distemper, Bordetella Bronchiseptica and Parainfluenza. Your puppy will require a total of 3 vaccinations before they are 100% protected. These are given at 6-8 weeks, 10-12 weeks, and 14-16 weeks.

### **Diet**

Feeding your puppy the right food which is a 100% balanced diet is very important to ensure they grow and develop properly. They must receive a puppy specific diet which is balanced for calcium and potassium. We recommend feeding a premium brand food - as these are generally made with higher quality ingredients. This can be either dry food or wet food. It is important to transition your puppy slowly onto a new diet to avoid tummy upsets and diarrhoea.

### **Heartworm**

Puppies need to be protected against heartworm from 12 weeks of age - we recommend using a monthly product such as Nexgard Spectra which will also cover them for fleas, ticks, mites and intestinal worms (not tapeworm).



## **Worming**

We worm puppies to protect them from roundworms, whipworms, hookworms and tapeworms. Puppies need to be wormed **every 2 weeks** from 2 - 12 weeks of age, then **monthly** from 12 weeks - 6 months, then **every 3 months** for life. If you are using an all in one treatment such as Nexgard Spectra, Advocate etc, this includes worming so you will only have to give additional treatments before 12 weeks.

But don't forget the all in one products mentioned above do not cover tapeworm. We recommend Popantel for tapeworm protection.

## **Fleas**

We recommend protecting puppies against fleas especially if your dog will be socialising with other pets or attending puppy classes. A variety of products are available from chewable tablets to spot on treatments. Nexgard Spectra all in one covers fleas.

## **Toilet training**

We recommend starting this as soon as you get your new pup. Every puppy is different and it can take a few months before they are fully toilet trained. They only have small bladders so overnight accidents are expected. The times they will need to go to the toilet is after eating, playing or sleeping, so pro-actively and regularly take them to the designated toileting spot after these activities. After your puppy toilets in the right spot ensure to praise them. If they have an accident inside the house, there is no need to punish them, rather take them to the spot where they should have gone and thoroughly clean up the mess. It's important to use an enzymatic cleaner (such as UrineOff) on carpet to break down the stain so they don't go back to the same spot to urinate again.

## **Chewing**

Puppies are notorious explorers and like to chew and ingest things they are not supposed to! Ensure you keep their space free from potentially toxic plants and foods (we recommend familiarising yourself with these) and also from objects such as socks and small hard objects that can cause obstructions if ingested! Supplying them with plenty of dog friendly chew toys will help satisfy their urge to chew safely.

