

New Puppy Tips

Here are some tips and advice we have put together from our experience in raising our own dogs and puppies. Raising a puppy is a lot of work and a lot to learn! You will inevitably have plenty of questions, and hopefully this guide will help you through some of it. Please don't be afraid to call us if you have other questions that are not addressed here!

FEEDING SCHEDULE

(Life's Abundance All Life Stages as recommended by Fields' Folly)

Age	Qty	Frequency	Total / day
8 weeks to 5 months	1/2 cup +	4x per day	Total 2-3 cups / day
5 months and up	1 cup	2x per day	Total 2-3 cups / day

(Other Food Brands)

Age	Food Type	Qty	Frequency	Total / day
8 weeks to 5 months	Puppy food	1/2 cup	4x per day	Total 2 cups / day
5 months to 1 year	Puppy food	1 cup	3x per day	Total 3 cups / day
1+ years	Adult food	1 cup	3x per day	Total 3 cups / day

Ok to increase food amount if your puppy is looking too lean.

Your food bag will have a chart on the back that can be used as a guideline depending on your dog's weight. Please consult this as and adjust as needed to fit your dog's weight and body type. You be the judge. It's ok to feed less or more if you feel their feed amount needs changed.

As bulldogs have a tendency to eat too fast and choke/regurgitate their food, if your puppy does this we recommend using a slow feed bowl, elevating the bowl, and/or soaking food in hot water to soften prior to feeding. Always have fresh water available.

TREATS

You may feed puppy treats or pieces of kibble for training or rewards. We recommend Life's Abundance or all natural products.

SUPPLEMENTS

We start all our puppies on NuVet Plus immune support supplements and recommend for life, but at least the first year. NuVet will help cover your pup during their vulnerable transition period to their new home before they're fully vaccinated, boosts vaccine effectiveness, fills in nutritional gaps, and helps promote healthy skin, bones, eyes, organs and overall quality of life.

VACCINES & DEWORMING

Your puppy will need at least two more rounds of shots before 14 weeks of age. Their first round was administered at 6 weeks. Call your vet to schedule shots 4 weeks apart. The next time they will need shots is a booster at 1 year, then every 3 years thereafter. Please do not place your puppy on the ground or floor during your vet visit, or visit any public places until fully vaccinated to avoid the possibility of contracting contagious illnesses.

Your puppy has been given 3 rounds of dewormer at 4, 6 and 8 weeks of age and are now covered for their first year of life. Please deworm annually.

HARNESS

Please use a harness instead of a collar for the life of your puppy. Puppies need training on a leash, and holding him/her back firmly while on a collar can choke them. They can also be choked if their collar gets stuck in something such as a crate. This can be deadly if left unattended. As adults, bulldogs have a lot of strength in their upper bodies and wearing a harness gives you more control and them more comfort.

BATHING

Bathe your puppy every 2-3 weeks, or when you just know they need a bath (puppies like to get dirty!). We recommend a natural Oatmeal dog shampoo, Inexpensive brands sold at grocery stores or Walmart tend to cause breakouts so paying for a higher quality shampoo is worthwhile. Your puppy has already been bathed using *Life's Abundance Revitalizing Shampoo*, with no negative reaction, so this is a safe bet. We also use this on our adult dogs and it leaves their skin and coats clean and smelling great.

POTTY TRAINING

Your puppy is trained to use a puppy pad and litter box and has gotten a start on going potty outside. We recommend buying puppy pads and a pad holder. Keep them in an available spot for your puppy so they know where it is, but start potty training outdoors as soon as you bring them home. Their little bladders can only hold so much so they'll need to go outside every 2 hours at first. You may choose to get up with them at night to let them out or have them just use the pad. They will likely potty train sooner if you take them outside at night. Take them to the same area and out of the same door each time to establish a routine. Carry treats or kibble in your pocket for rewards and lots of praise when they go potty! Be patient. Accidents will happen and every puppy is different. Potty training can get quite frustrating but if you stay consistent and patient, they will learn in their own time.

CRATE TRAINING

We recommend having a crate for your puppy. If you ever need to leave them alone, having them crate trained is invaluable so they are comfortable and happy being left there. At first, they may cry when left alone but they learn quickly that they're supposed to be there and that it's ok. Don't give in to their crying and pick them up if they're supposed to be in their crate and really want out! They'll have to learn you're not a sucker! The crate becomes their safe area where their bed is kept. While they're allowed to roam free, always keep the door open so they can freely go into their crate when they want to. Never use it as time out. They should not have any negativity associated with their safe area.

CHEWING & BITING

Bully sticks (with supervision) and chew toys are great when they're learning not to chew or bite. If they chew or bite on the wrong things, give them a firm NO and immediately give them their chew toy so they know what is ok to chew on. When they bite you (those puppy teeth are sharp!), flip them on their back and firmly hold them down with your hand on their chest and say "No bite". This tells them you are the boss and that is unacceptable behavior.

BEHAVIOR TRAINING

We recommend enrolling your puppy in local behavior training classes so you and your pup can have the best chance at success and a good lifelong relationship. There is also a lot you can do at home. Make sure they know you're in charge. Be consistent. Be firm with No's. Use authority. Don't let them pull you on their leash. Don't allow biting. Be patient. Teach them tricks with treats.

All Life's Abundance and NuVet products mentioned can be purchased at fieldsfolly.com.

