ROYAL CANIN

PUPPY GUIDE

The essentials for a good start in life



ROYAL CANIN

Raising a healthy, happy puppy requires time, patience and planning. As a new puppy owner, you'll be making many decisions that will impact his health and behavior in the long term. There are so many things to consider, such as choosing the right food, providing the best training and keeping your puppy in optimal health. To help you navigate the joys of raising a new dog, we are delighted to offer you this guide, packed with valuable information to help get you and your new puppy off to a great start together.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW PUPPY!

Rest assured that you can trust Royal Canin to provide the best health nutrition available to get your new puppy off to a great start toward a long and healthy life. Enjoy the adventures and pleasures of life with your new puppy!





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PREPARING FOR YOUR NEW PUPPY

At last, the puppy you've wanted for so long is finally here. This is an exciting time for you, but it can also be a stressful time of adjustment for your new pet. He will be leaving the security of his mother and littermates and experiencing a multitude of new sights, sounds and smells. Here are some tips to help you get your new puppy settled into his new home.

PUPPY-PROOF YOUR HOME

INDOORS

Before you bring your puppy home, you'll need to get your house ready for its new resident. Electrical cords should be hidden or wrapped to prevent him from chewing them. Items you don't want your puppy to have should be stored in a place that he can't access, like a closet or cabinet with a door you can keep closed. And poisonous household products (like those used for cleaning or for auto maintenance, including antifreeze) should be safely stored where your puppy can't get to them.



OUTDOORS

Inspect your lawn for holes or gaps in your fence where your puppy could escape, and remove all chemical fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides and poisonous plants. Ask your veterinarian for a list of plants that should be kept out of your puppy's reach.

CHOOSE A VETERINARIAN

It is important to have an initial checkup, so select a veterinarian before your new puppy comes home. If you don't already have a vet, friends or family members with pets can be good sources of recommendations.

PUPPY'S FIRST THINGS

Use stainless steel food and water bowls

Outfit your puppy with proper tags and identification

Begin exposing your puppy to brushes, collars and leashes

STAINLESS STEEL FOOD AND WATER BOWLS

Teething puppies will chew anything in sight, which can be a problem when using plastic bowls. Stainless steel food and water bowls are durable and do not rust, break or chip, and they're also more sanitary than plastic bowls. Find a permanent place for your puppy's bowls.

SLEEPING PLACE

Having his own space will help your puppy get used to his new home and help him feel safe, take refuge and sleep. Provide a comfortable bed or puppy crate in a quiet corner.

COLLAR AND LEASH

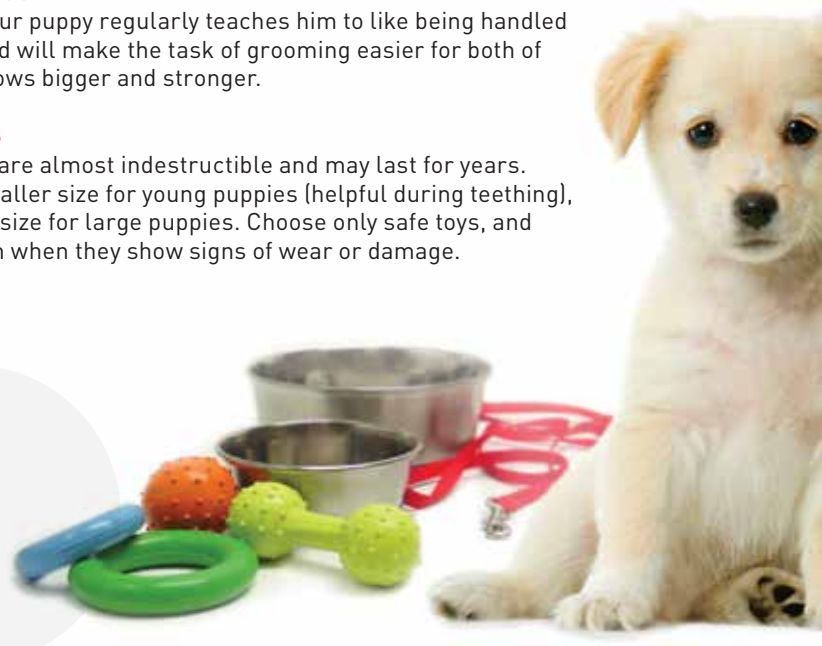
It's important to start using a collar and leash right away so your puppy can get used to them. Make sure that the collar, complete with an identification tag, is snug enough not to slip over his head, but not too tight.

BRUSH AND COMB

Grooming your puppy regularly teaches him to like being handled by people and will make the task of grooming easier for both of you as he grows bigger and stronger.

PUPPY TOYS

Rubber toys are almost indestructible and may last for years. Choose a smaller size for young puppies (helpful during teething), and a larger size for large puppies. Choose only safe toys, and discard them when they show signs of wear or damage.





AT HOME TOGETHER

INTRODUCING PUPPY TO CHILDREN

Children often don't understand the need to be very careful with a puppy, so a responsible adult should always supervise. When you bring your puppy home, have the children sit down and let the puppy come to them.

INTRODUCING OLDER DOGS

- If you have an older dog who has lived in the house for a long time, he may be resistant to sharing his space with a new puppy. Try introducing the dogs in a neutral area, where your older dog may not be so protective. Make sure both dogs are on leashes and that you are able to control them. Let them sniff and investigate each other.
- Don't scold the older dog if he doesn't react the way you want him to right away. Give him plenty of time to get used to the puppy.
- Animals have their own rules, and your older pet will certainly let your young puppy know what the rules are. Everyone must be allowed a territory where they are not disturbed. Cats, in particular, must be allowed to rest in peace and quiet out of the puppy's reach and to get acquainted with their new housemate on their own terms.

Confine the puppy to the areas of the house where you spend the most time

An adult should always be present when children play with a puppy

Introduce the puppy to existing pets gradually and carefully

SUPERVISED EXPLORATION

Let your puppy explore his new home, but only under your supervision. The first day, block off your puppy in the rooms where you spend the most time. Reinforcing acceptable behavior often just means preventing misbehavior.

DENTAL CARE

Begin dental care early

Use a toothbrush and toothpaste designed especially for dogs

Brush your puppy's teeth several times each week

TEMPORARY TEETH IN PUPPIES

The milk teeth fall out easily. Don't worry about trying to find them as he sheds them. Puppies actually swallow most of them and excrete them naturally.

CARING FOR TEETH

Start dental care when your puppy is very young, so he can get accustomed to having his teeth brushed. By starting early, you'll have an easier time managing his dental health as he grows older. Brushing your puppy's teeth will help prevent the accumulation of dental plaque. Try to brush your puppy's teeth several times each week.

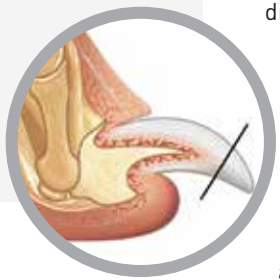
TEETHING PHASE	ERUPTION
Temporary Teeth	1 month
Permanent Teeth	4 months
Permanent Canine Teeth	5-6 months



PUPPY HYGIENE

BATHING

The frequency of baths will vary according to the coat texture and length. Lukewarm water should be used, along with a shampoo that's clearly labeled as safe for puppies. Use care to keep water and shampoo out of your puppy's eyes and ears. After each bath, towel dry him thoroughly and keep him in a warm room until he's completely dry. Avoid electric hair dryers as they can cause burns.



NAIL TRIMMING

Puppies need proper nail care early in life in order to get them off on the right foot for a lifetime of stress-free nail trimming. Use a specially designed dog nail-clipper. Hold your puppy's foot and gently push down with your thumb at the base of each nail. Beginning at the tip of the nail, cut back just a little at a time until you get close to the quick, the pink part. Be very careful. If you cut too far, you'll cut the quick, resulting in pain and bleeding. So keep styptic powder handy to help stop any bleeding. You many want to get a lesson from your veterinarian before you try this on your own.







GROOMING

Use only puppy-safe shampoo

Brushing will keep your puppy's coat shiny and healthy

Trim your puppy's nails regularly

BRUSHING AND COMBING

For most puppies' coats, their hair will shed and new hair will grow in its place. Regular brushing and bathing will help remove hair. The frequency and the type of equipment used will vary depending on the nature of the coat.

Short-haired
Although a short coat might not require intensive grooming, brushing once or twice a week helps to maintain a healthy, shiny coat.

Medium-haired
Because of the coat density (both undercoat and topcoat), this puppy should be brushed every other day.

Long-haired
The long-haired puppy requires daily brushing. Proceed delicately to avoid injuring his sensitive skin.

SHEDDING SEASON

Outdoor dogs shed their coat twice a year (spring and fall), corresponding to seasonal changes in daylight. Indoor dogs are not as affected by changes in light, so they shed hair throughout the year, with periods of increased shedding in spring and fall.





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THE PRINCIPLES OF NUTRITION

A puppy's food not only has to supply him with energy, but it also has to build and maintain the body's cells to support digestive, joint and aging functions. To fulfill these objectives, his diet must be precisely formulated to meet his specific nutritional needs.

Quantities of proteins, minerals, vitamins, fats and carbohydrates must be exact, neither too much or too little. A high-quality, nutritional food, meeting the demands of Health Nutrition, will combine just the right amounts of all of these nutrients. If fed nutrients in the wrong proportions, your puppy could suffer from major nutritional deficiencies or excesses, resulting in improper growth and possible long-term damage to his health.





A NUTRITIONAL APPROACH

Nutrition has four objectives: body development, energy provision, nourishment for prevention and nourishment for recovery.
Royal Canin, a leader in health nutrition, has applied this knowledge to our Canine Health Nutrition™ formulas. Our nutritional approach combines just the right amounts of approximately 50 nutrients in a single food to satisfy these four nutritional objectives and meet the real needs of dogs.

THE FOUR OBJECTIVES OF CANINE HEALTH NUTRITION

NUTRITION

1 Body Development
Nutritional needs for the development and maintenance of the body require certain amino and fatty acids, minerals, vitamins and trace elements.

2 Energy Provision
Fat and carbohydrates are the main energy sources for dogs.

HEALTH NUTRITION

3 Nourishment and Prevention
Some nutrients (antioxidants, prebiotics, fiber, essential fatty acids, etc.) are added to the ration, to help digestive problems and to support healthy aging.

4 Nourishment and Recovery
Certain nutrients are added and others limited to support the therapeutic process and help dogs recover from illness and a number of ailments.

NUTRIENT GUIDE

How nutrients improve the health of your puppy

	NUTRIENT	FOUND IN	BENEFIT
PROTEINS Build and regenerate organs and other structures.	Methionine & Cystine	Eggs, fish, wheat and corn glutens	Supports healthy hair and skin
	Tyrosine & Phenylalanine	Milk, rice, purified supplements	Supports hair color and iris pigmentation
	Taurine	Meat, chicken, purified supplements	Supports healthy cardiac function
	L-Carnitine	Meat, purified supplements	Supports healthy weight and cardiac muscle function
FATS Concentrated energy source: some have structural roles for the cell or are precursors to specific hormones.	Omega 6 fatty acids	Soy oil, canola oil	Supports healthy hair and skin and helps reduce inflammation
	Omega 3 fatty acids	Fish oils	Helps reduce inflammation; supports healthy brain development in young puppies
CARBOHYDRATES Great source of energy: provide fiber	Starch	Rice, oatmeal, barley, corn	Provides important energy source
	Fiber	Beet pulp, psyllium, cellulose	Promotes satiety and supports healthy intestinal transit
	Prebiotics	Purified supplements, chicory root, brewers yeast extract	Supports healthy digestion and immune functions





	NUTRIENT	FOUND IN	BENEFIT
VITAMINS Essential to the canine body for healthy cell generation, coat appearance and a variety of other functions.	Vitamin E	Vegetables, supplements	Supports healthy immune system; supports healthy aging
	Vitamin C	Citrus fruit	Promotes generation of Vitamin E; supports healthy cells
	Niacin	Meat, fish, cereals	Supports healthy skin and coat
	Biotin	Brewers yeast, eggs	Promotes glossy coat and healthy skin
	Folic Acid	Brewers yeast, liver	Promotes cellular and nervous system health
MINERALS Important for canine bone formation, metabolism, nerve conduction, muscle function, and Immune function.	Calcium & Phosphorous	Mineral salts, meat, bone	Promotes growth and supports bone health
	Zinc	Wheat, mineral salts	Promotes healthy hair and skin
OTHER NUTRIENTS	Carotenoid pigments	Marigold extract, corn, carrots	Supports cellular health
	Glucosamine & Chondroitin	Purified supplements, cartilage, crustaceans Purified supplements, cartilage	Supports healthy joints
	Green tea polyphenols	Green tea extract	Supports healthy aging and oral hygiene

WHY DOGS ARE DIFFERENT

Having a dog at home is a rewarding experience, but with it comes responsibility. The closeness we feel for our dogs can sometimes lead us to believe that things that are good for us are good for them, too. People tend to enjoy different varieties of food and give a lot of thought and attention to the meals they eat. Dogs, on the other hand, are regulated by their food. The same food, served in the same dish, in the same place at the same time is comforting. Because dogs have very specific needs that are different from ours, they need different and specific nutrition in order to remain healthy.

PHYSIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES

The size and shape of a dog's organs are very different than ours. Dogs have teeth made for cutting. Their saliva contains no predigestive enzymes like ours does, but their stomach is larger, expandable (holding up to two gallons in giant breed dogs) and is more acidic to digest "prey." Other physiological differences are illustrated in the chart below.

GASTROINTESTINAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HUMANS & DOGS

TRAIT	MAN	DOG
Diet	Omnivorous	Semi-carnivorous
Area of olfactory membrane	1-3 sq inches	20-80 sq inches
Olfactory cells	2-10 million	70-200 million
Taste buds	9,000	1,700
Number of teeth	32 teeth	42 teeth
Food intake time	30-60 minutes	1-5 minutes
Daily energy need	1,800-2,500 kcal/day	300-3,000 kcal/day
Stomach pH	2-4	1-2



GROWTH OF YOUR PUPPY

Growth is a distinct period in the puppy's life. Day by day and week by week, he undergoes changes and, whatever his size or breed, a close eye must be kept on certain sensitive aspects of his development.

DIGESTIVE CARE

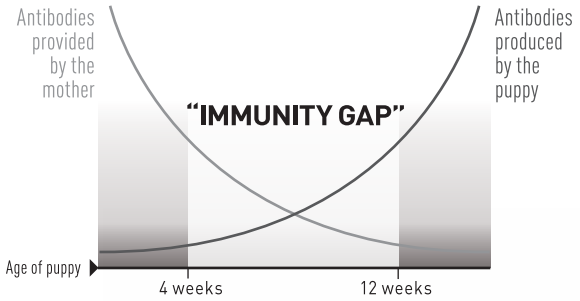
After weaning, your puppy's digestive system is still immature. He is not yet ready to assimilate large amounts of food. This must be a consideration to help support the puppy's digestive health.

PRODUCTION OF ANTIBODIES

Between 4 and 12 weeks, your puppy goes through a crucial period of immune development. The immunity provided by the mother via the first milk (colostrum) gradually declines, but his own defenses are not yet fully operational.

HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT

During growth, the puppy's energy requirements are higher than those of an adult but must be strictly controlled to help maintain a healthy weight.





HOW TO FEED YOUR PUPPY

Keep feeding times consistent

Avoid feeding your puppy table scraps

Make sure your puppy always has access to fresh clean water

GIVE SEVERAL SMALL MEALS

Depending on his age, your puppy should be given up to three meals a day at scheduled times. Always give your puppy his food in the same bowl placed in the same location. This will teach him good eating habits.

DON'T OVERFEED

Review the feeding guidelines recommended on the puppy food package and measure each serving accordingly.

MAKE SURE WATER IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Your puppy must always have access to a bowl of fresh clean water. Change the water regularly, as puppies tend to play with it.

AVOID TABLE SCRAPS

Although you might feel like you're giving your dog a treat when you give him table scraps, in reality, you may be upsetting the balance of his diet. Even the smallest piece of chocolate (which can be highly poisonous to a dog), cheese or bread can alter that balance which may impact your dog's overall health.



NUMBER OF MEALS PER DAY PER SIZE

Dogs up to 8 lbs (adult weight)	
Up to 4 months	3 meals per day
From 4 to 10 months	2 meals per day
Dogs 9–22 lbs (adult weight)	
Up to 4 months	3 meals per day
From 4 to 10 months	2 meals per day
Dogs 23–55 lbs (adult weight)	
Up to 6 months	3 meals per day
From 6 to 12 months	2 meals per day
Dogs 56 lbs and over (adult weight)	
Up to 6 months	3 meals per day
From 6 to 15 months	2 meals per day

HOW TO FEED YOUR DOG

RESPECT THE PUPPY-TO-ADULTHOOD TRANSITION

As your puppy reaches adulthood, his nutritional requirements will change. It is important to provide your adult dog with a diet that will meet his nutritional requirements and needs. When changing your dog's diet, make sure to gradually mix the food over a seven day period, increasing the amount of the new food added each day so that 100% of the new food will be provided to the dog by day seven. This will help to support a healthy digestive system during the diet change.

Nutritional needs change as your dog ages

Highly digestible nutrients are key to Health Nutrition food

Change your dog's food slowly to avoid digestive upset

FOOD TRANSITION PERIOD (1 WEEK)



Days 1 & 2	Days 3 & 4	Days 5 & 6	Days 7 & after
75% usual food + 25% new food	50% usual food + 50% new food	25% usual food + 75% new food	100% new food



SIZE MATTERS

One size doesn't fit all. Feed your dog a highly digestible food, precisely formulated for his age, size, breed and body condition. Not only do giant dogs like Great Danes look different than small breed dogs like Chihuahuas, they metabolize food differently and even age differently. Consider choosing health nutrition formulas with your puppy's adult size in mind.

Royal Canin® Size Health Nutrition™ is designed around a dog's size, age, activity and sensitivities. We know that dogs of different sizes have unique needs and can be kept at optimum health when you create nutrition that respects their physiological, metabolic and behavioral differences. For example, as a dog's weight increases, their energy requirement per pound of body weight decreases. What does this mean? It means a small breed dog needs a diet with a higher energy concentration than a large breed dog.

Use this chart to see some of the fundamental differences between dog sizes.

THE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DOG SIZES

Characteristics	X-SMALL	MINI	MEDIUM	MAXI	GIANT
Average Adult Weight	up to 8 lb	9-22 lb	23-55 lb	56-99 lb	100 lb+
Growth duration (birth to adulthood)	10 months	10 months	12 months	15/18 months	18/24 months
Growth Range (ratio of birth weight to adult weight)	x 18	x 20	x 50	x 70	x 100



X-SMALL DOGS

X-SMALL includes very small dogs weighing up to 8 pounds at adulthood. The ultimate "lap dog", these tiny dogs typically live longer than larger dogs—sometimes longer than 15 years. Their small size and loyal, energetic demeanor make the very small dog a popular companion for indoor environments.

CHARACTERISTICS

They have a faster growth rate – a very small dog achieves fifty percent of its adult body weight by around 3 months of age. Pound for pound, these dogs require more energy every day than larger dogs.

These very small dogs typically drink less water than larger dogs. A reduced intake of water, the very small dog's indoor lifestyle and lack of activity, coupled with their short gastrointestinal transit time means very small dogs can benefit from a diet designed to support regularity.

Also , very small dogs are sometimes fussy eaters and need something to stimulate their appetite. A tiny kibble suited to their jaw is best for these very small dogs.



MINI DOGS

MINI includes dogs weighing 9 to 22 pounds at adulthood. Their small size and lively, energetic personality make them popular among pet owners. They're also known for their long life expectancy, which can span as long as 14 to 16 years.

CHARACTERISTICS

Contrary to what you might think, small dogs actually have much higher energy requirements and require higher levels of calories (per pound of body weight) than large breed dogs.

MINI dogs have small mouths and jaws. It's important to take this into account when choosing a food for your puppy.

The MINI dog's digestive tract represents 7% of its total body weight, on average, compared to only 2.7% for large breed dogs. Therefore, it is critical for your puppy's food to have an adapted digestibility, taking into account the size of your puppy's digestive tract.

Notably, MINI dogs are also frequently fussy eaters due to the fact that owners often give them treats and table scraps, contributing to poor eating habits.

Weighs 9 to 22 pounds at adulthood

Requires small kibble due to small teeth and jaw

Has high caloric needs due to high energy



MEDIUM DOGS

MEDIUM includes dogs weighing 23 to 55 pounds at adulthood. Historically, some medium sized dogs were bred for their energy and their physical ability to work outdoors. Today, MEDIUM dogs have adapted to a wide variety of lifestyles, from working farm dogs to household pets. Regardless of where they live, it is essential for MEDIUM dogs to get frequent exercise so they can expend energy. The MEDIUM dog has a life expectancy of 10 to 12 years.

CHARACTERISTICS

During growth, a medium-sized puppy increases its birth weight by 40 to 50 times. During this period, he needs a high intake of energy and nutrients as well as balanced amounts of calcium and phosphorus for good bone mineralization and harmonious growth to occur. During this time of growth, the MEDIUM puppy's digestive system is quite sensitive, requiring a highly digestible food to support a balanced intestinal flora.

Weighs 23 to 55 pounds at adulthood

Has a courageous nature and keen sense of smell

Requires frequent exercise to expend energy



MAXI DOGS

MAXI includes dogs weighing 56 to 99 pounds at adulthood. Many were originally bred as working dogs, so they can withstand tests of endurance such as long walks, working under extreme conditions or keeping guard, and excel as livestock guardians, trackers, emergency rescue dogs or assistance dogs. MAXI dogs are faithful and affectionate and make ideal pets. The life expectancy of a MAXI dog is 9 to 12 years.

CHARACTERISTICS

The growth period for a MAXI puppy is approximately 15 months — almost seven months longer than the growth period for X-SMALL and MINI dogs. Through the course of this long growth period, the MAXI puppy's diet should contain a more moderate energy level to help maintain the puppy in optimal body condition. MAXI puppies also multiply their birth weight by 70 to 90 times, compared with 20 times for MINI dogs. Therefore, it's important that the nutritional needs of the MAXI puppy are met during this developmental stage to support healthy skeletal development.



GIANT DOGS

GIANT includes dogs weighing more than 100 pounds at adulthood. Many GIANT dogs were developed to work in cold climates as rescue dogs and today are primarily used to protect families or livestock. They have a life expectancy of 7 to 9 years.

CHARACTERISTICS

Its takes 18 to 24 months for giant breed puppies to reach their full size. Their birth weight will increase by 80 to 100 times during this period, which must be monitored carefully to support healthy skeletal and muscular development. Body weight, combined with an active temperament, puts their joints under daily stress. A food rich in vitamins E and C, plus natural sources of glucosamine and chondroitin, can support healthy joint development.



ROYAL CANIN FOR YOUR PUPPY

During the second phase of a puppy's growth stage, his body completes the building and developing of his bone structure and his adult teeth begin to grow. After weaning, a puppy gradually loses the immunity that had been transmitted through his mother's milk. So throughout the growth stage, your puppy's immune system requires strong nutritional support. His digestive system is sensitive, too, and keeping a consistent diet during this time can help support a healthy digestive system.

Royal Canin® Puppy formulas include an exclusive combination of nutrients to provide optimum digestive health and balanced intestinal flora that help improve the quality of the puppy's stool. A patented complex of antioxidants, along with mannan-oligosaccharides, also help support his natural defenses.



available at petco or petco.com

ROYAL CANIN® PUPPY FORMULAS

For puppies from eight weeks to adulthood



PUPPY

Optimal energy levels support puppy growth and helps maintain immune defenses with essential vitamins and antioxidants for X-SMALL and MINI puppies



X-SMALL PUPPY
Adult target weight
up to 8 lb

MINI PUPPY
Adult target weight
9–22 lb

MEDIUM PUPPY
Adult target weight
21–55 lb

MAXI PUPPY
Adult target weight
56–100 lb



Not all formulas are available in all retail locations.
Visit petco.com for more information.

ROYAL CANIN FOR YOUR PURE BREED PUPPY

Extensive observation of the unique characteristics of pure breed dogs makes it possible to formulate diets to support the specific nutritional needs of the breed. Each breed has genetic and physiological factors that may predispose them to potential health concerns, as well as physical differences that may make even the simplest act of eating and digesting difficult. Royal Canin® Breed Health Nutrition™ Puppy formulas address these tendencies through exceptional, nutritional support based on excellent raw materials, quality ingredients and precise formulations.

KIBBLE TECHNOLOGY

Just the action of eating varies among breeds. Breeds have different muzzle lengths, jaw structures and even lip and biting patterns that affect the way they pick up their kibble. That's why Royal Canin® BREED formulas have an exclusive kibble size, shape, texture and density designed for each individual breed.



available at petco or petco.com

ROYAL CANIN® BREED PUPPY FORMULAS

For purebred puppies from eight weeks to adulthood



BULLDOG PUPPY | CHIHUAHUA PUPPY | GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPY | LABRADOR RETRIEVER PUPPY



SHIH TZU PUPPY | YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPY



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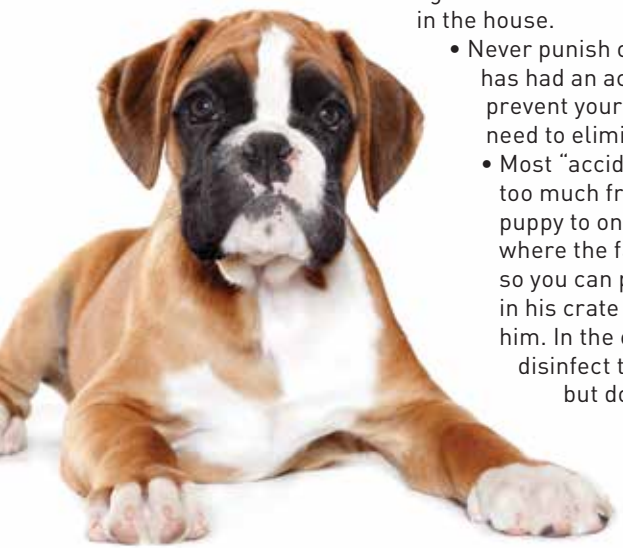
BEHAVIOR & TRAINING

Whether you decide to teach your puppy to perform entertaining tricks or not, there are some basic rules of life he must understand in order to be a welcome member of your household. Your training program should start as early as possible, while your puppy naturally has an excellent capacity for learning. Here are a few tips to get you started, but don't hesitate to call in professional help with your training. Most communities have dog clubs or "puppy schools" that can help you with your mission.

GUIDELINES

When he arrives at your house, your puppy will most likely not be house-trained.

- Take him out frequently, after every meal and nap, before bed and as soon as you get up in the morning. At the beginning, take him to the same place every time so he can recognize his own scent.
- Praise your puppy for eliminating outside. Go outside with him so that you can give immediate praise with your voice and a pat.
- If he turns round and round or sniffs the floor indoors, he needs to go. But don't wait for your puppy to signal to you that he wants to go out. Most puppies will not learn to signal their need until they first learn to "hold it" in the house.
- Never punish or reprimand a puppy who has had an accident. Instead, find ways to prevent your puppy from ever having the need to eliminate indoors.
- Most "accidents" happen by allowing too much freedom too soon. Confine the puppy to one or two rooms in the house where the family spends the most time so you can prevent accidents. Place him in his crate when you can't supervise him. In the event of an "accident," disinfect the spot to remove his smell, but don't use ammonia.



BASIC COMMANDS

OBEDIENCE ADVICE

The dog is a pack animal and needs authority. From the very beginning he needs consistency from his teacher. Don't shout when you call him - he is sensitive to variations in your voice, and will understand different tones very well, such as short and sharp for commands, happy to praise him and severe for a reprimand. Always use the same words for the same commands. Start off with three short training sessions lasting 30 seconds to one minute when young each day, and extend the sessions little by little as your puppy gets older.

TEACHING YOUR PUPPY TO SIT

1. Holding the treat slightly in front of your puppy's nose, slowly raise it in an upward to lure your puppy into the sit position.
2. The moment your puppy sits, reward him with the treat.
3. Once he understands the motion he is to perform, pair the word, "sit," with his action. Then praise and reward him immediately each time he does it.
4. Many repetitions will be necessary for your puppy to learn to associate the word "sit" with the sit action, so be patient.

TEACHING YOUR PUPPY "DOWN"

1. Once you have taught your puppy to sit, you can start teaching the "down" command.
2. With a treat in your right hand, give your puppy the "sit" command. Once he's sitting, lower the treat toward the ground slowly enough for him to follow its path. The moment he has his hindquarters and elbows on the ground, reward him with the treat.
3. Once your puppy understands the motion he is to perform, pair the word, "down," with his action, and then praise and reward him each time he does it.



ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR PUPPY



PLAYTIME AND TOYS FOR HIS WELL-BEING

Because he's full of energy and into everything, your puppy needs to play in order to help prevent unwanted behaviors from cropping up. Since many unwanted behaviors arise out of boredom, keep your puppy active, and make sure he has appropriate outlets for his energy.

TOYS

Providing interactive toys for your puppy will keep him occupied and active even when you're not home. Interactive toys are hollow inside so you can insert food or treats. Your puppy will have to figure out how to extract the food, keeping him busy for longer than traditional chew toys. Choose toys that are durable enough for your puppy's level of chewing and that are twice the size of his mouth to prevent choke hazards. Regularly check toys' conditions for damage and wear, and wash them frequently.

EXERCISE

Exercise should also be a part of your puppy's daily routine to keep him in top physical condition and to allow for exertion of energy. Consider your puppy's age, stamina, and overall physical capabilities and choose an exercise routine accordingly. For example, a walk around the block may meet one puppy's exercise needs, but another dog may require more activity than that.

SPORTS

Doing outdoor activities together is one of the wonderful things about having a puppy. Not only will this help him feel good, but it will also strengthen his bond with you. Certain sports, however, should only be practiced by dogs once they have finished growing. Dog training clubs are an excellent way to teach him a few simple exercises that will be useful when playing these sports in the future. Before beginning a sport with your puppy, ask for your vet's advice.

TRAVELING WITH YOUR PUPPY



Get your puppy used to riding in the car from an early age so that it doesn't worry him. Here are a few tips on how to make car travel more comfortable for both of you.

- Sit in the car with the dog, playing with him and giving him a treat.
- Take a few short rides before any long trips.
- Taking your dog for a walk or playing in the yard can help to calm your dog before a trip.
- Always keep current tags and proper identification on your dog, including your cell phone number so you may be reached when you are traveling.
- Always keep your dog on a leash, even if he normally responds to voice commands, because he could easily get startled in a new environment.
- Ask your veterinarian about medications to counter your dog's travel-sickness, if that is a concern.
- Take along an adequate supply of your dog's regular food and medication, as well as bowls, waste pick-up bags and a plastic bottle of cold water.
- Dogs should not be allowed to ride with their heads outside car windows. Particles of dirt can enter the eyes, ears and nose, causing injury or infection.
- If you're not taking your dog with you, ask your vet for a referral for a good boarding kennel or pet sitter.





HEALTHY LIVING

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PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE

Good health starts with good hygiene. It is much easier to prevent an infection than to treat one that has already started. Here are some tips for managing common concerns that can lead to long-term health problems if ignored.



CARING FOR YOUR PUPPY'S EARS

Ear care should be part of your regular grooming routine. By checking your puppy's ears often you will notice signs of irritation earlier and prevent painful and hard-to-treat infections. Puppies' ears are either long and floppy or erect. Their ear canals are not well ventilated and need to be checked frequently. The type of hair growing on the ear (long, curly, short, etc.) is also an important factor. Weekly ear inspections and prompt veterinary treatment at the first sign of infection are important. To clean the ears, use a solution specifically formulated for a puppy's ears. Most ear cleaners work by breaking up and liquefying wax in the ear canal so it can be safely removed. Follow package instructions carefully to avoid injuring your puppy's ears.

CARING FOR YOUR PUPPY'S EYES

Eye care is important for every breed of puppy. It's important to clean your puppy's eyes of any discharge, but there will always be some amount of tear-staining whenever hair rests around the eyes. Tear-staining results from the hair absorbing moisture produced by the eyes. The preferred method to clean your puppy's eye discharge is to use saline solution or eyewash designed specifically for puppies.

PREVENTING LOSS

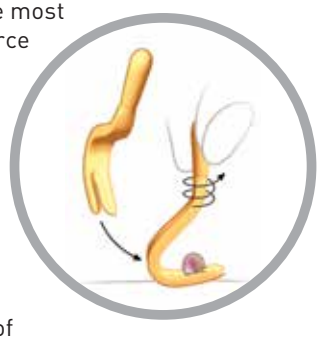
Consider micro-chipping your dog. Your veterinarian will use a syringe to insert a tiny microchip beneath the skin, containing information to connect the dog with the owner.

PARASITE PREVENTION

WORMS

Your vet will provide you with a schedule for deworming. Stool analysis can reveal worm eggs, and the worms can then be more specifically targeted by choosing the appropriate medication. The puppy's characteristics should be taken into account when deciding how to administer the deworming medication, whether as pills, paste or liquid. Consult your veterinarian for advice.

TICKS



Ticks attach to a puppy's skin, preferring the most delicate areas. They use their mouths to pierce the skin and inject a special saliva, which solidifies into a very strong attachment point. The tick then consumes its meal of blood. Once the tick has finished its meal, it uses another type of saliva to dissolve the attachment point so the tick can drop off. The best way to remove a tick from your puppy is to use a special tick hook, rather than pulling it off with your fingers or tweezers. Because ticks can be carriers of diseases, consult your veterinarian if you see ticks on your puppy.

FLEAS



Fleas are a parasite that can live on a wide variety of mammals and are found in the natural environment. The flea can infest both household pets and wild animals. They rely on a host for feeding, mating, and egg laying. When dogs have fleas they scratch and bite themselves, especially in areas such as the head, neck and around the tail. The biting and scratching can bring hair loss, discomfort and other more serious concerns.

Flea prevention is key to controlling this parasite. There are a variety of products available and not all products are suited for all situations. Talk with your veterinarian to determine which is most appropriate for your pet.

GROWTH RATES AND WEIGHT GAIN

HEALTHY WEIGHT

Throughout growth, the puppy must be given a nutritional answer formulated to meet his specific needs. His requirements differ from those of an adult dog and depend on his rate of growth, which in turn depends on his future size at adult age. For example, at ten months, a MINI dog has reached adult weight and has multiplied his birth weight by 20. A GIANT dog will continue to grow until 18 to 24 months and will multiply his birth weight by 100.

Thus, in a larger dog with a lengthy growth period, rapid and excessive weight gain must be avoided in order to reduce excessive strain on his still immature joints, as this may cause him to develop bone and joint disorders as an adult. In a small puppy with a short growth period, the allowances must be regularly adjusted to help maintain a healthy weight.

DISEASE PREVENTION

VACCINATIONS



Vaccinations help prevent contagious and sometimes fatal diseases. Some are required, while others are simply recommended. They are most effective when they are given at fixed dates with booster vaccinations. Puppies usually begin a vaccination program at the age of six to eight weeks.

Your vet will recommend the vaccination program best suited for your puppy, depending on the risks he faces from lifestyle and environment.

Tell your veterinarian where your puppy will spend time (visiting doggie day care or kennels, in the woods, traveling outside the country, etc.), as special vaccinations may be required.

SPAYING & NEUTERING

AN IMPORTANT DECISION

Deciding whether to spay or neuter is an important choice that must be carefully considered. It is important to weigh the benefits of spaying or neutering against the possibility of being able to breed your dog in the future.

Spaying and neutering will prevent unwanted litters

Spaying or neutering is an importan choice that you should consider carefully

In males, neutering eliminiates or reduces the risk of certain kinds of tumors

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF SPAYING OR NEUTERING YOUR PUPPY

Females

- Eliminates or reduces the occurrence of certain kinds of tumors, including mammary, ovarian and uterine tumors.
- Eliminates “heat” bleeding that would otherwise last three weeks every six months.
- Reduces the risk of pyometra, a potentially life-threatening uterine disease
- Prevents unwanted litters.

Males

- Helps reduce roaming behavior and fighting with other dogs.
- Eliminates or reduces the risk of certain kinds of tumors.
- Reduces or eliminates marking from other males.
- Eliminates unwanted litters.

Sterilization produces metabolic changes, so to maintain a healthy weight, it is recommended to carefully monitor your puppy’s weight after surgery.





FIRST AID

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FIRST AID FOR DOGS

Even if you provide your dog with everything he needs, accidents can still happen. Knowing what to do may save your dog's life. Study this guide and be prepared in the event of a pet emergency.



CHECKING VITAL SIGNS

Use rectal thermometers for puppies. Newer human digital thermometers are best. Heartbeat can be checked by placing a hand over the dog's chest. Respiration can be measured by observing the flanks or holding a wet finger in front of the nostrils. Measure both rates for 15 seconds, then multiply by four to get the rate per minute. Make sure the puppy is in a calm, resting state to ensure normal rates.

HANDLING AND TRANSPORTING

- Don't assume a puppy won't bite or scratch when he's sick or injured. Don't put your face near his head. Muzzle him, if necessary, with gauze or soft towel strips.
- Wrap a small puppy in a towel and perform any examinations slowly and gently. Stop if he becomes agitated.
- Don't attempt to lift or drag a large injured dog. Improvise a stretcher out of a board, throw rug, child's sled, etc. Try to stabilize injuries. Rolled magazines or newspapers can serve as impromptu splints. Pad the limb and splint generously with rolled cotton and gauze if available, or improvise with suitable pillows, pieces of blanket, towels, etc.
- Make sure the splint immobilizes joints above and below the site of the injury.

Call your veterinarian immediately for any medical emergency.

PUPPY FIRST AID KIT

While there is no substitute for veterinary care if your puppy is injured, there are a few items you should have on hand to save precious time and give your puppy immediate relief.

Store your Puppy First Aid Kit in a sealed container in your home or car, and don't forget to pack it when you're traveling with your puppy.

Remember, if your puppy is injured, the most important thing to do is call your veterinarian.

SUPPLIES FOR A PUPPY FIRST AID KIT

- ☐ Alcohol-based disinfectant
- ☐ Antibiotic cream
- ☐ Antiseptic solution
- ☐ Bandaging materials: gauze pads and rolls, rolled cotton & self-adhesive elastic wraps
- ☐ Cotton balls
- ☐ Hydrogen peroxide
- ☐ Rectal thermometer
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Blankets and Towels
- ☐ Tweezers

NORMAL VITAL SIGNS

Heart Rage: 70–160 beats/min
Respiration: 10–20 breaths/min
Temperature: 101–102.5°F
Abnormal Temperature:
Below 100°F Above 103°F



EMERGENCY ACTION STEPS

The following situations generally require veterinary attention. These action steps are designed to help you stabilize your pet while veterinary help is being obtained. Call your veterinarian immediately for any medical emergency.

BLEEDING

1. Apply a clean cloth or sterile gauze to the wound.
2. If the bleeding doesn't stop call your veterinarian.

Don't apply a tourniquet unless instructed by your veterinarian.

HEAT STROKE

1. Place in cool shaded area with a fan. Take rectal temperature. If over 104° immediately call your veterinarian.
2. Transport to a pet hospital. Continue to monitor temperature.

Possible causes:
Excessive heat and/or lack of shade; overexertion; lack of water; locked in car with no ventilation



Call your veterinarian immediately for any medical emergency.

LIMPING

1. Observe your pet and attempt to localize injury.
2. Call your veterinarian.
3. Cover any wounds with a clean cloth. **See bleeding.**

Possible causes:
Broken limb or digit; acute arthritis; injury to footpad; dislocation; sprain; muscle soreness

VOMITING

1. Examine vomit for blood or other clues as to cause.
2. If poisoning is suspected, bring a sample of the suspected poison, preferably in its original packaging, to the veterinarian.
3. Abdominal pain, enlarged stomach and unproductive vomiting are serious signs. Call your veterinarian immediately.

Possible causes:
Poisoning; abdominal injury; motion sickness; disease; overeating; fear; brain injury; parasites



POISONOUS SUBSTANCES

There are many items that are known poisons to dogs. Just as with children, make sure these items are locked up so your puppy can't get into them. For more information on poisonous substances, or to research an item that isn't listed here, please consult the Pet Poison Helpline at 1-800-213-6680 or visit them at www.petpoisonhelpline.com.

Symptoms of poisoning can vary depending on the poison ingested. Some possible signs are:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty breathing
- Abnormal urine (color, aroma, odor or frequency)
- Salivation
- Weakness

If your pet exhibits any of these signs, contact your veterinarian. If you think your dog has ingested something harmful, having the container, package or label in hand will save valuable time and may save the life of your pet.

TOXIC FOODS

- Alcohol
- Almonds
- Apricots
- Avocados
- Balsam Pears
- Candy & Chocolate
- Coffee Grounds
- Fatty Foods
- Garlic
- Grapes
- Gum with Xylitol
- Japanese Plums
- Macadamia Nuts
- Moldy or Spoiled Food
- Mushrooms (if also toxic to humans)
- Onions & Onion Powder
- Pear and Peach Pits
- Raisins
- Yeast Dough

TOXIC PLANTS

- Autumn Crocus
- Azaleas
- Cyclamen
- Daffodil
- Diffenbachia
- Kalanchoe
- Lilies
- Mistletoe
- Oleander
- Rhododendrons
- Rhubarb
- Sago Palm
- Tomato and Potato leaves and stems
- Tulips & Hyacinths
- Wild Cherry

Call your veterinarian immediately for any medical emergency.

COMMON POISONOUS HOUSEHOLD SUBSTANCES

- Alcohol
- Acetaminophen
- Antifreeze and other car fluids
- Bleach
- Boric Acid
- Cleaning Products
- Compost Piles
- Deodorants
- De-icing Salts
- Detergents
- Disinfectants
- Drain Cleaners
- Flea Products (Used incorrectly or due to individual hypersensitivity)
- Fertilizers
- Furniture Polish
- Gasoline
- Hair Colorings
- Insecticides
- Kerosene
- Matches
- Mothballs
- Nail Polish and Remover
- Paint
- Pennies, post 1982 (due to the high concentration of zinc)
- Prescription and Non-Prescription Medicine
- Potpourri (liquid)
- Rat Poison
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Shoe Polish
- Sleeping Pills
- Snail or Slug Bait
- Turpentine
- Vitamins (human or overdose of pet vitamins)
- Weed Killers
- Windshield-Wiper Fluid
- Xylitol-Sweetened Products



MY PET'S INFORMATION

Pet's Name: .....

Owner: .....

Address: .....

City: ..... State: ..... Zip: .....

Phone: ..... Email: .....

License number: .....

Pedigree number: .....

Breed: ..... Color: .....

Date of birth: ..... Gender: ..... Date Acquired: .....

Where Acquired: .....

Veterinarian:..... Phone: .....

FEEDING INFORMATION

Diet Name: .....

Change to Adult Food At .....Months

Food Portions: ..... cups/grams.....times per day

Provide clean, fresh water at all times. Refer to bags for specific feeding guidelines.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Allergies: .....

Special Medications: .....

.....

Special Conditions: .....

.....

MEDICAL/SURGICAL HISTORY

.....

.....

.....

ROYAL CANIN®

ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT ALL

At Royal Canin we believe that every dog is unique. That's why we've developed individualized formulas for age, size, lifestyle or breed, designed to provide the exact nutritional requirements for each and every dog.

X-SMALL Formulated for sensitive digestive systems and small bodies, the nutrition in our X-SMALL line is a big deal for tiny dogs. Plus, our kibble is specifically engineered for extra-small dogs' compact jaws.

MINI With special smaller kibble and formulas made to deliver key nutrients and energy, our complete line of MINI formulas can keep your small dog healthy and beautiful no matter what its age.

MEDIUM Our medium line is designed to support a healthy body from the beginning stages of growth all the way through adulthood and aging.

MAXI Big dogs don't just look different from other dogs—they have unique physiological traits that make them different both inside and out. That's why we've built a highly specialized line of formulas made just for them.

BREED From the small, flat-faced Pug to the large, powerful German Shepherd, the world's most unique dogs can enjoy a food tailor-made for their specific needs and distinctive physiology. Only Royal Canin offers 27 formulas precisely designed for pure breed dogs.

WET for SMALL DOGS Formulated for the unique needs of small dogs up to 22 lbs, from puppyhood through maturity. Whether fed as a complement to dry kibble or as a complete meal, Royal Canin® wet canine formulas help keep a small dog healthy from the inside out.

ROYAL CANIN®

At Royal Canin, we specially formulated food for each dog at every stage of their life. And we do it by selecting ingredients that deliver a nutrient profile that is right for your puppy. We wouldn't have it any other way, and neither should you.

STAY CONNECTED

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