



CHECK LIST FOR THE NEW PET OWNER

The first 2 weeks your new dog comes in your home will define your future. You and your friend may spend up to 15 years together. It's best to get educated and prepare yourself to do the right things. It's much easier to set the rules from day one than correct bad behavior later on. Your dog will love and trust you for giving them structure. Here are some basic guidelines and a do's and don'ts checklist for the well-trained pet owner.

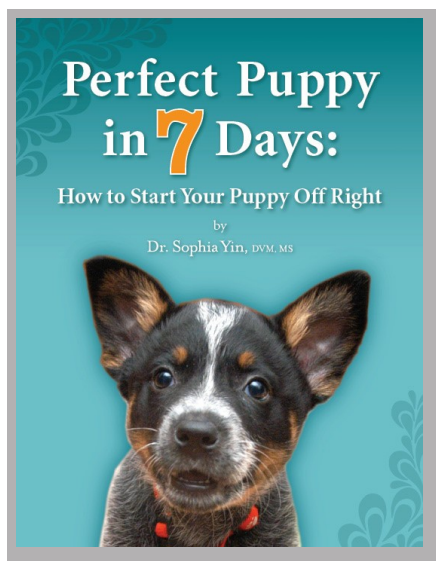
- Plans and decisions about the dog's needs should be addressed, especially in a family environment. Who is going to feed the dog? Who is going to scoop poop? Who is going to walk the dog? Who's going to train?
- Do you have a training class or looked at Wags & Wiggles Training Schedule? What about a veterinarian?
- Have you puppy proofed (or dog proofed) your home? Loose electrical cords should be hidden, poisonous plants removed, fragile items on low coffee tables put away, possibly put child locks on cabinets for the smart dogs, find a hide-a-way place up high or in a cabinet for the cat food and cat box (a spare bathroom is perfect), fence in backyard is in good shape and at least 5 feet for big dogs.
- Are you going to leave the dog alone at any time? Loose in house would not be a good idea until you know more about your friend. Puppies obviously need potty training first. Adult dogs new to your home may be a bit confused about when/where to potty too, even if previously potty trained. Baby gates, x-pens, dog runs, crates are all good solutions. See crate training pamphlet.
- Did you buy a collar and leash? Martingale style collars will prevent escape and no choke chains since they can give a dog tracheal damage. Using a leash in the house can help teach right from wrong.
- Hand feed your dog to develop a tight bond. Consider a waist leash and tie down. See tie-down pamphlet.

DO'S AND DON'TS CHECKLIST FOR THE WELL TRAINED PET OWNER

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do set rules for the dog. Teach him to sit for the things he wants.• Do be nice to your dog every time he comes to you and teach him his name means look at you.• Do be consistent with your actions and expectations. Set family rules that all can follow.• Do provide an outlet for your dog's energies through physical exercise.• Do keep your dog mentally fit through training on a regular basis.• Do understand that your dog is a social animal and needs to get outside of the home.• Do become your dog's leader.• Do reward good behavior.• Do make learning fun for your dog.• Do use positive commands that teach your dog how to behave.• Do spend lots of time with your dog.• Do keep trying because every dog wants to be right.• Do get outside help when you get stuck.• Don't try to make up for other people's wrong doings by overindulging your dog. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Don't do anything unpleasant when your dog comes to you.• Don't expect the dog to understand that sometimes he can do it and other times he can't.• Don't expect your dog to lie around all day and be happy.• Don't think your dog can't learn. All dogs can think and shouldn't be left to stagnate mentally.• Don't lock up your dog because you haven't taken the time to train him.• Don't expect the dog to obey if you aren't the leader.• Don't give demand behavior attention or it will repeat.• Don't yell commands at your dog or expect perfection.• Don't use "NO". It's not a command or a fix. It's just an interrupter of the situation.• Don't ruin your dog through loneliness.• Don't give up when the going gets tough.• Don't blame the dog. |
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Checklist for Socialization

from *Perfect Puppy in 7 Days* by Dr. Sophia Yin



The goal is that the puppy has positive experiences, not neutral or bad ones. It's important to watch the puppy's response and note what it is and to also give treats to help ensure the exposure is a success. Here's a checklist that can help you. Download a copy of this puppy socialization checklist at www.drsophiayin.com.

You can grade the response if you want or just check off each exposure.

PROGRESS	SCORE	RESPONSE TO THE PERSON, OBJECT, ENVIRONMENT OR HANDLING
Needs Work	1	Overarousal or try to get at: Growl, nip, bark, struggle (for handling), or lunge
	2	Avoid: Struggle, hide, try to get away, won't approach, or hesitant to approach
	3	Freeze: Holds still (but not eating), non-exploratory, moving slowly or acting sleepy when they shouldn't be tired
Going well	4	Calm, relaxed, explores the object or environment, playful, focused on the food
	5	Calm, relaxed, explores the object or environment, playful, even without food

Additionally a + can be used to denote better progress and a – denotes not as well (e.g. 2+, 2, 2-) such that for each score there are three levels of responses.

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Week Start Date _____

		DAY & SCORE (or checkmark)						
CLASS OF SOCIALIZATION	SPECIFIC SOCIALIZATION	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Sun
Handling 	Checking the ears							
	Examining mouth and gums							
	Opening the eyelids							
	Squeezing the feet							
	Handling and trimming the toenails							
	Pinching skin							
	Poking the skin with a capped pen							
	Touching and squeezing the nose							
	Poking the nose with a capped pen							
	Cradling puppy in your arms on its back							
	Holding him in your lap							
	Holding puppy upside down							
	Holding puppy on its back while giving a belly rub							
	Hugging your puppy							
	Pulling the collar (gotcha)							
	Grabbing puppy by other part of body							
	Wiping body with a towel							
	Putting on a head halter							
	Putting on a harness							

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CLASS OF SOCIALIZATION	SPECIFIC SOCIALIZATION	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Sun
Unfamiliar People 	Women							
	People of many ethnicities							
	Tall men							
	Men with deep voices							
	Men with beards							
	Elderly							
	People wearing hats, helmets							
	People wearing Ugg® boots							
	People wearing hoodies							
	People wearing backpacks							
	People wearing sunglasses							
	People with canes, walking sticks or walkers							
	Teenagers							
	Children standing as well as playing							
	Toddlers (walking and squealing)							
	Infants (crawling)							
	People running by							
	Indigent or homeless people							
Unfamiliar Dogs 	Dogs who play well							
	A dog who will reprimand puppies with appropriate force and restraint for getting into his personal space							
	With puppies who play well and do not get overly aroused							

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CLASS OF SOCIALIZATION	SPECIFIC SOCIALIZATION	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Sun
Other animal species 	Cats							
	Horses and livestock							
	Any types of pets you may have							
New surfaces 	Concrete							
	Slippery floors such as hardwood, linoleum or marble							
	Metal surfaces-such as manhole covers, vet hospital scales							
	Wobbly surfaces such as BOSU® ball, a board on top of a book or unbalanced thick tree branch, a wobble board							
	Stairs							
	Wet grass							
	Mud							
	Ice, frost, or snow if you will live in such areas							
Scary sounds  <p>If you do not have the ability to expose the puppy to these sounds frequently enough or at a level where she can have a positive experience, use sound CDs. Some sounds may be more realistic when surround sound is used.</p>	Thunder							
	Fireworks							
	Babies and kids							
	Alarms							
	Dogs barking							
	Doorbell wringing							
	Traffic (like downtown in a city)							
	Jack hammers							
	Vacuum cleaner							
	Sirens							

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CLASS OF SOCIALIZATION	SPECIFIC SOCIALIZATION	M	T	W	Th	F	S	Sun
Objects with wheels 	Skateboards							
	Rollerblades							
	Garbage cans outside							
	Shopping carts							
	Baby strollers							
	Wheel chairs							
	Bikes							
	Cars							
	Buses							
	Motorcycles							
Man-made objects 	Pots and pans							
	Blankets or rugs being shaken							
	Brooms							
	Balloons							
	Umbrellas							
	Bags blowing in the wind							
	Sidewalk signs							
	Garbage cans in the house							
	Garbage cans outside							
	Plastic bags blowing the wind							
	Large plastic garbage bags							
	Metal pans or other metal surfaces							
	Metal-pens							