



## **NEW PUPPY INFORMATION AND TRAINING TIPS AND CARE**

We are so proud to be able to share our family with yours. We appreciate your purchasing a Brittany from us. It is such a delight to give you a part of our fun with this breed.

Just as an overview we want to touch on the near future days to come for you and your new companion. Remember that your puppy cannot talk to you and tell you how important it is to do certain things for him or her, so we are just giving you a few notes to help you remember how important the new part of your family is.

### **SHOTS/WORMS**

The most important Booster shots need to be given at 6, 9, 12, and 16 weeks old to provide the puppy protection they need against all canine diseases. Parvo is a deadly disease that can take your baby in a matter of hours without each of these Booster shots. They are not fully protected if each scheduled vet visit is not completed in a timely manner. Have your vet perform a fecal for worm check. If your puppy has no worms, then it is not necessary to worm him/her every time.

### **FEEDING**

We feed "The Pride" puppy food. I'll send enough for you to do a food transition with the puppy. You do not have to do this. In the future let your vet help determine the nutrition aspects that your little one may need such as vitamins, etc. Never change their food drastically. Mix and change slowly to avoid digestive upset. We feed at will and have plenty of fresh water available. Watch their pooping. If they poop more than 3 or 4 times a day they may be eating too much. Your Brittany will be lean for the first year. They have lots of puppy energy.

### **FLEAS/PARASITES**

Asses your puppy daily for fleas, because fleas cause worms that will take away your puppy's nutrition by feeding on his/her blood. Flea treatment cannot begin until your Brittany is older, generally, 12 weeks of age. Take your veterinarian's advice. Right now, fleas are controlled by you. We bathe the puppies in Dawn dish washing liquid to remove fleas if we see them. Dawn is used by several pet professionals in the care of their companions. Your vet may recommend something else.

### **TEMPERATURES**

Overheating or getting too cold is detrimental to a puppy just like a newborn child. Do not expose your puppy to excessive elements. They depend on you for their care. They cannot tell you that they are too hot or too cold. Once they get sick from this it can be too late. Heat exhaustion or freezing can kill your pet.

### **TOYS**

Your puppy will love to explore and will put anything and everything in his/her mouth. Developing their teeth and chewing everything is normal for puppies. This will need to be monitored by you. Be careful of any that have eyes or removable parts like

squeakers. Your Brittany is a very inquisitive pup they will work very hard to achieve removing the insides of toys. Challenge them with toys that are built for them to learn on not just tear apart. Once they have eaten something they should not have, it can be lodged in their intestinal tract and must be removed surgically. This includes socks, towels, any materials that can be shredded. Rubber Kong toys are great toys for puppies. I put a bit of natural peanut butter inside of mine and freeze them. This will keep them entertained for some time. I like tennis balls too. Tug ropes are good for puppies. Solid rubber teething toys are good too. They love stuffed animals but watch them with these. They'll make a mess quickly.

### **EXERCISE**

These dogs are active. Make sure they get some walking outside. I do fetching with each one of my dogs every day. The earlier you start on the interest in retrieving the better they will do hunting. Be patient, if at first, they don't retrieve, they will with a 15-minute session nightly. Just let them have fun, fun becomes habits. Do not overexert your puppy early in age. So, no 5 mile runs till at least 1 year old. No jumping in and out of the back of your truck. No jumping for frisbees too early. Growth plates are maturing in their joints. Too much too soon can cause problems. Make sure not to overdo it.

### **TRAINING**

Training your puppy will be easy. Start with basic commands now. Brittany's are friendly and eager to please because of their high intelligence. They pick up on the sit command within just a few days of repetitive training. What we highly and extremely want our new families to know is that the most important items to learn are the basic commands. The words come, no, stay, in, and out will become part of their daily routine. We stress to you the importance of teaching them these because it is very hard if your training is not in place to make the pup come back to you. Their natural instinct is born in them to hunt and explore things that move, butterflies, birds, deer, rabbits, and such. Once they are gone, chasing after these, it is very hard to get them to come back, if your training is not in place. We use a very long check cord, praise and lots of treats to instill this come command before we ever let them lose at a park, field or even your yard. Work on this daily for 15 minutes at a time until they get it. I have worked with them on come, puppies come and they mind this command for us.

### **CRATE**

Your puppy is being separated from his/her mom, littermates, and normal environment. It is quite normal for him/her to be very whiny and noisy for the next few days. Please have patience. It's just like bringing home a newborn baby. We start crate train starting at six weeks. We believe this is invaluable. Most breeders make no effort in this area. You can find books and online resources to help you with this. The puppy should love the crate. It really should be their happy safe place.

### **NIPPING**

Puppies are not aggressive when they chew your fingers, they are teething. Do not start this habit, because it may not hurt now, but it soon will. When they nip you or the kids, scream "ouch" real loud and act sad. They want to please. They will be sad too. The momma dog weans them from her tits. The way she keeps them from biting is a bark, a growl or a nip. Respond to a bite in the way mom would with a shrill screech or ouch, or heck, growl if you want. Just don't let them start gnawing your hand teething. Redirect with a teething toy. Pack and dog behavior is the best way to think like your dog. They respond to this best.

### **LEASH**

Put on a fanny pack or a coat or shirt with a big pocket on your left. Teach the puppy to

walk on the left, use your right hand to get a treat and give to puppy as you walk. Find something, they really like for a treat, a little bacon bit or a good tasting treat. Small, because you will give them a lot to keep them interested in staying by your side. When they learn they learn you have a treat in your pocket they'll want to stay with you. Use

the heel command or walk or something, just make it consistent. The more short training sessions you have with your pup now, the easier his/her training will be.

## **REGISTRATION**

Registering your puppy with AKC not only lets you know that you have an important breed and the generational background of your puppy, but it also helps other less fortunate animals too by keeping bad breeders from over populating our communities. It develops respectable animals and breeders with well managed kennels and members of their animal family. If you are going to register your pup, do it now. It'll cost more later. If you are going to have your pup sterilized, there is no real need to register your pup.

We are very happy to be finding such wonderful homes for our babies. We love each one of them. Please understand that if something in your life comes about that you can no longer take care of your puppy, we will take his/her back, as per the contract you signed. Please, there are so many unwanted animals in shelters, do not let that become a place that your ever take one of our Brittany's. I personally will text, call, or email you to check on the progress of your puppy and hope we can stay in touch for years to come. Congratulations on your new friend for life. We love what we do. It never gets old.

## **RECOMMENDED:**

Facebook Brittany groups, there are lots of them. You can learn from others. Make sure to post pics of your baby and tag McGillicuddy Kennels, LLC.

Facebook dog training group.

Facebook veterinary group.

Make yourself an AKC log in. They have lots of information for you.

Gun Dog Breeders groups, if you plan to hunt.

## **BOOKS:**

Anything by Delmar or Ronnie Smith for hunting dogs. They have YouTube videos too.

The Art of Raising a Puppy – The Monks of New Skete

Zak George's Dog Training Revolution

Training the Best Dog Ever, Dawn Sylvia Stasiewicz

How to Raise the Perfect Dog, Cesar Milan

The Power of Positive Dog Training, Jean Donaldson

Fire Up, Frantic and Freaked Out, Laura VanArendonk

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