

M.D. Wenger, DVM
G.E. Middleton, DVM
J.S. Jackwood, DVM
C.M. Gasser, DVM
B.A. Young, DVM
C.J. Recker, DVM
E.F. Homerosky, DVM



Veterinary
Wellness Partners
Orrville • Seville • Wadsworth • Akron • Barberton
Canal Fulton • Jackson • Medina



J.R. Fink, DVM
M.L. Hofstetter, DVM
M. Awad-Morris, DVM
C.L. Davis, DVM
M.J. Studds, DVM
M.M. Baker, DVM

NEW PUPPY GUIDE

NAME: _____



Vaccine Schedule

Age	To Do	Done
Schedule		
Initial Visit (6-8 weeks)	Physical Examination First vaccination for Distemper, Adenovirus, and Parvo (DAP) Intestinal Parasite Test (stool sample) Initial Heartworm & Flea/Tick Prevention Prevention General Dewormer	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Weeks Later (6-11 weeks)	Physical Examination Second DAP Vaccination Recheck Intestinal Parasite Test General Dewormer	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Weeks Later (12-14 weeks)	Physical Examination Third DAP Vaccination First Lepto Vaccination *1-year Intranasal Bordetella *First Lyme Vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Weeks Later (15-16 weeks)	Physical Examination Annual DAP Vaccination Annual Rabies Vaccination Annual Lepto Vaccination *Annual Lyme Vaccination	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annually	Physical Examination Vaccine Assessment - Bordetella +/- Lepto +/- Lyme Annual DAP Vaccination 3-year Rabies Vaccination Intestinal Parasite Test Heartworm/Tick Test	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Vaccine Information

Distemper, Adenovirus, Parvovirus

Distemper: contagious and serious disease caused by the canine distemper virus. The virus attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and nervous systems of dogs.

Adenovirus/Hepatitis: worldwide, infectious disease of dogs, with clinical signs that vary from a slight fever and congestion of the mucous membranes to severe depression, marked leukopenia, and coagulation disorders.

Parvovirus: virus attacks white blood cells and the gastrointestinal tract of dogs and other canids like coyotes, wolves, and foxes. In puppies, the virus also can damage the heart muscle.

Bordetella

Bordetella (Kennel Cough) vaccination is optional but highly recommended. It should be given to any dog in close proximity to other dogs. Dogs that are going to be kenneled, groomed, or attending training classes should be vaccinated to help prevent this disease.

Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis (Lepto) is a bacterial disease that is transmitted through the urine of wild animals. All mammals (including humans) are at risk. We utilize the leptospirosis vaccine as a part of our normal vaccination protocol. In small dogs (under 10 pounds), it is recommended to not vaccinate or vaccinate later to separate from other vaccines, due to an increased incidence of vaccination reactions in these small dogs.

Lyme

Lyme disease is transmitted from the bite of an infected tick. This disease can cause serious symptoms, including kidney failure. Lyme disease is preventable through vaccination. An initial two-shot series is required with yearly boosters following. Lyme Disease is now endemic in Ohio and the vaccine is highly recommended to most dogs.

Canine Influenza Vaccine

Canine Influenza has caused many outbreaks at dog shows, race tracks, and boarding facilities across the US. The virus is spread through aerosols and direct contact. Although there haven't been any outbreaks since 2018, any dog at high risk should be vaccinated.

Up-to-date vaccinations are required for spay/neuter, hospitalization and boarding.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bordetella should be given to dogs that will be in close proximity with other dogs, such as boarding, grooming and dog parks.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Timing of vaccines and age of dog are critical in ensuring immunity; vaccine schedule should be followed closely. Waiting 6 weeks between puppy boosters will cause the schedule to be restarted.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lyme vaccine is now highly recommended for many of our canine patients, as Lyme disease is spread by ticks and almost entirely preventable through vaccination and use of tick preventatives.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Spaying/Neutering



Spaying your female pet (ovariohysterectomy)

- o Removal of the ovaries and uterus. Ideal age is 6 months for most breeds.
- o Eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancer.
- o Spaying eliminates the ability to be “in heat” and the dog can no longer have puppies.
- o Eliminates unwanted pregnancy.
- o If pet is spayed before the first heat cycle, your pet has a less than 1% chance of developing breast cancer.
- o If spayed after one heat cycle, your pet has an 8% chance of developing breast cancer.
- o If spayed after two heat cycles, the risk increases to 26%. After two years, no protective benefit exists.

Neutering your male pet (castration)

- o Removal of the testicles and spermatic cord.
- o Ideal age is 6 months for most pets.
- o Eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, the second most common cancer in male dogs.
- o Greatly reduces the risk of prostatic diseases and prostatic cancer.
- o Reduces the risk of perianal tumors.
- o Reduces roaming and fighting.
- o Eliminates or reduces spraying or marking in males neutered before the onset of these behaviors.
- o Eliminates unwanted litters.

Spays and castrations are performed with the pet placed under full general anesthesia. The pet sleeps painlessly through the entire operation. A freshly sterilized pack of surgical instruments is used for each individual patient. Our licensed veterinarian is sterile scrubbed, gloved, and gowned for each individual patient. They are then placed in our surgery room and are monitored with an ECG, blood pressure, and respiratory monitor.

Common myths – spaying or neutering your pet does not:

- o Cause laziness or hyperactivity
- o Reduce instinct to protect your family and home
- o Cause immature behaviors
- o Postpone or delay normal behavioral maturity
- o Alter personality in any manner
- o Reduce growth rate

Surgery Extras

Electrocautery Surgery**

***Orrville, Seville & Medina locations only*

Many people are familiar with the concept of laser surgery, due to the popularity of various cosmetic and eye surgeries now available in human medicine. A similar state-of-the-art technology, referred to as electrocautery surgery, is now available for all of our surgical procedures. Electrocautery surgery is one of the most cutting-edge approaches to surgery available in both human and animal medicine. By passing an electronic wave (similar to FM radio waves) through various metallic probes, we are able to cut, cauterize and seal nerve endings all at once. This allows us to reduce bleeding, post-operative swelling, and post-operative discomfort. Electrocautery surgery is superior to laser surgery technology in that it is easier to perform and safer to use. There is less damage to the surrounding tissue than with a laser, which results in faster healing time. We can perform any traditional surgeries (such as spay, neuter, and declaw) as well as other additional procedures using the electrocautery unit.

Microchip – Pet Identification

The Home Again microchip is one of the best permanent animal identification systems available for companion animals. The patented technology of a Home Again microchip prevents it from migrating from the original implant site, which is normally between the shoulder blades. This makes it easier to find the chip if scanning the pet is needed. Home Again has recently improved its scanning device so that the scanner is able to read microchips made by different companies, including those made in America and also European microchips. Home Again microchips now allow us to obtain your pet's body temperature at the same time as scanning their microchip. We can now avoid taking rectal temperatures in dogs that are chipped. This allows us to successfully acquire the information needed to help return lost pets to their owners. The best time to have a microchip implanted is during a procedure that requires anesthesia (such as a spay or neuter), but it can be done anytime. Please ask your friendly customer care specialists, technicians, or doctors for more information if you are interested in this technology.



Heartworm Disease



Can my dog get Heartworm Disease?

o Yes, any dog can get heartworm disease, whether it's an outside dog or a dog that stays inside most of the time. Dogs get heartworms from mosquitoes, which can easily slip through cracks around windows, doors and screens. Every dog is at risk. One bite from an infected mosquito is all it takes for your dog to become infected.

How can I prevent my dog from getting heartworm disease?

o Giving your dog heartworm preventative year-round is the best way to protect your pet.

What problems do heartworms cause?

o Adult heartworms live in the right side of the heart and lungs. They can be 6-14 inches long. Several hundred heartworms may be present in an infested dog at one time.

o Heartworms impair blood circulation, resulting in damage to the heart, lungs, liver and kidneys. Serious damage may occur even before outward clinical signs are detected by the owner.

o Advanced signs of heartworm disease include difficulty breathing, coughing, tiring easily, listlessness, weight loss and fainting.

How do I know if my dog has heartworm disease?

o A simple blood test is used to diagnose heartworm disease. This procedure is quick and easy, and is usually performed once yearly by your veterinarian. Regular testing and prevention are important, because treatment is dangerous to your dog's health, painful and very expensive.

What products do we recommend in preventing heartworm disease?

o Interceptor Plus – once monthly oral tablet

o Simparica Trio – once monthly oral tablet (*also flea/tick prevention*)

o Proheart 12 – injection lasting 12 months

Flea & Tick Prevention

Credelio

- o Monthly oral chew
- o Safe after 8 weeks of age and must be at least 4.4 pounds.
- o Kills adult fleas, prevents flea infestations, and treats and controls tick infestations
- o Starts killing 4 types of ticks in 4 hours, and kills all fleas in 12 hours.

Bravecto

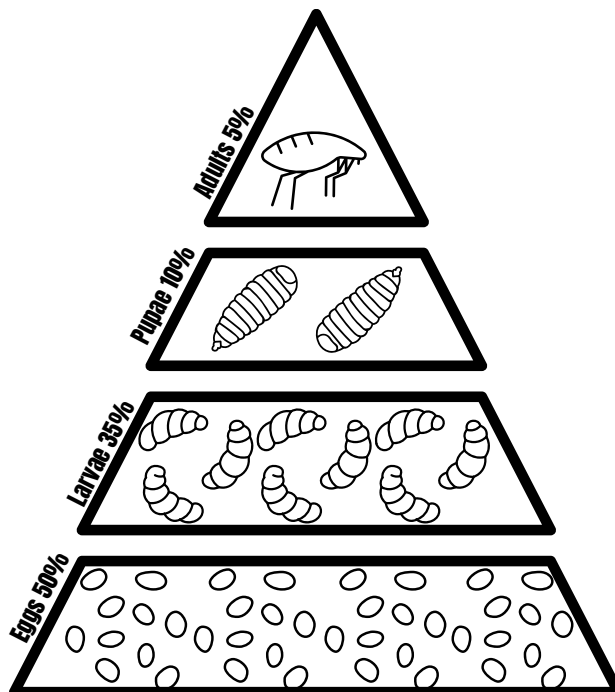
- o Oral chew
- o Lasts for 12 weeks (3 Months!)
- o Safe after 6 months of age and must be at least 4.4 pounds.
- o Starts killing fleas in 2 hours with full flea kill in 12 hours.
- o Kills 4 types of ticks within 12 hours.

Simparica Trio*

- o Monthly oral chew
- o Safe after 8 weeks of age and must be at least 2.8 pounds.
- o Starts killing fleas in 4 hours with full flea kill in 8 hours.
- o Kills 5 types of ticks within 12 hours.
- o *Also Heartworm, Roundworm and Hookworm prevention*

Flea & tick prevention is recommended year round as ticks can survive in Ohio's winter months.

The adult flea accounts for only 5% of the flea population. Once you are seeing adult fleas, there is a high chance of a flea infestation, as eggs, larvae and pupae make up 95% of the life cycle.



Deworming Puppies & Kittens

Roundworms and hookworms are common intestinal parasites in puppies and kittens. Puppies and kittens are often held and cuddled by young children, who, like our pets, seem to be oblivious to good hygiene. Children do not wash their hands when they should. They pick things up and put them in their mouths. They kiss their pets and suck their thumbs, and whatever is on their little thumb ends up in their stomach. We often share our kitchens, bathrooms, and even our beds with our pets. Veterinarians are dedicated to helping people enjoy their pets by keeping them free from parasites and diseases that may be transmitted to family members.

Dog and cat roundworms (*Toxocara*) and hookworms (*Ancylostoma* and *Uncinaria*), common intestinal worms of puppies and kittens, may be present in unborn puppies or spread to pups and kittens through milk during nursing. Infected puppies may start shedding eggs into the environment as early as 3 weeks of age. Kittens may start shedding eggs 2 to 3 weeks later. These worms can cause serious illness in people and pets. At the very least, your pet's stools should be examined by your veterinarian at least every 6 months the first year, then yearly thereafter.

Roundworms have a life cycle that includes a migrating larval stage. When people ingest the worm's eggs, the eggs hatch into larvae (microscopic worm stage). The larvae then migrate through the intestinal wall and into the liver, lungs, eyes, and other tissues. There the larvae may cause physical damage and/or produce allergic-type reactions. They may travel to the eye(s) and cause partial or complete blindness or may travel to the brain and cause serious permanent nerve damage. Infected people cannot transmit these worms to other people.

Hookworm larvae may be in the soil where children play. The larvae may penetrate the skin and cause skin rashes. They may also migrate deeper into tissue and invade the intestinal wall, causing a serious allergic intestinal disease called eosinophilic enteritis.

Important Points in Treatment

Below are recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, the National Center for Infectious Disease, and the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists:

Puppies should be dewormed at 2 to 3 weeks of age and again every 2 weeks for up to 4 dewormings. Because prenatal infections do not occur in kittens, they can be wormed at 6 weeks of age, and again at 8 and 10 weeks of age.

Stools less than a day old should be collected and submitted to your veterinarian for laboratory examination. Early deworming prevents heavy environmental contamination by the eggs and larvae. The soil and environment serve as an important source of infection for your pet and family members.

Medication: Be certain to give young puppies or kittens the deworming medication that is prescribed by your veterinarian. Some medications cannot be given to young pets.

Signs Your Pet Needs to See the Vet

If your pet shows any of these symptoms, please call us for an appointment:

Vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unintended weight loss or gain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limping	<input type="checkbox"/>
Change in normal activity level (lethargy, hyperactivity, or restlessness)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in appetite (increase or decrease) or increased drinking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crying in pain when touched	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sudden inability to move legs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clumsy or disoriented behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seizures	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any loss of consciousness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coughing, especially at night	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any blue, purple, or pale hue to the tongue and gums	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any difficulty breathing or labored breathing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sudden collapse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive drooling	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bloated abdomen	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sneezing excessively	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nose-bleed or bruising anywhere on the body	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in urination (location, frequency, amount, color, smell)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uncontrolled bleeding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pain while urinating	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any unusual odor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hair loss	<input type="checkbox"/>
Runny/crusty eyes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Runny nose or nosebleed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Squinting	<input type="checkbox"/>	New or painful lumps	<input type="checkbox"/>

“Pet-Proofing” your Home

Kittens and puppies are lively and curious, which can get them into serious trouble. Remember that your young pet sees everything from a much lower vantage point than you-like a baby who has begun to crawl and may be attracted to things you do not see while standing up.

It's impossible to completely “pet-proof” your home against accidents, but here are some recommendations.

- o Secure all windows to help prevent falls, and keep your pet off balconies, upper porches, and high decks.
- o Securely store cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, bleach, paint, paint thinner, pesticides, fertilizer, disinfectants, mothballs, roach and rat poisons, medications, and antifreeze. Make sure you keep these in tightly closed areas to which your pet cannot gain access. Keep all cabinet doors closed securely.
- o Remove poisonous house plants or place them in hanging baskets completely out of reach of all pets. Some plants that are poisonous include amaryllis, English ivy, narcissus, dieffenbachia, mistletoe, poinsettia, holly, philodendron, azalea, rhododendron, daffodil daphne, foxglove, bleeding heart, potato, iris, ivy, oleander, rubber plant, tobacco, tulip, clematis, morning glory, and weeping fig.
- o Keep toilet lids down. Young pets may decide to play in the water, and the lid could close and trap them. Also, toilet bowl cleaners are harmful if swallowed.
- o Store plastic bags where the young pet cannot get inside them and suffocate or chew/tear them and swallow bits of plastic. Plastic six-pack holders used for packaging beverages should be cut apart.
- o Keep exposed electrical cords as short as possible or tack them against a baseboard so the pet cannot play with or chew on them.
- o Keep all dresser drawers, trunks, and closets closed. Always check to see where the pet is before closing refrigerator doors, the oven, washer, or dryer.
- o Always be sure your pet is secure before leaving the pet alone. We strongly recommend the pet be confined in a plastic travel crate for at least the first few months.
- o If the pet is allowed outdoors, always be sure to blow your horn and bang on the hood before starting and moving your vehicle. Kittens especially like to crawl up under the hood to keep warm.
- o Keep sewing supplies out of your pet's reach. Buttons, needles, pins, and thread can hurt your pet's mouth or cause intestinal obstruction if swallowed. The same goes for nails, staples, screws, brads, ear plugs, and aluminum can tabs.
- o Do not use electric blankets for the pet's bedding. Never put anything other than the appropriate collar around a pet's neck. Ribbons can easily choke the pet if they should get caught on anything.



Poison-Proof Your Home

Pet Poison Hotline
(855) 764-7661

Living Room

- o Check out your plants – both inside and outside your home. Lilies can be especially poisonous to cats, so eliminate them from any bouquets.
- o Keep home fragrance products out of reach. This includes open dishes of liquid potpourri and simmer pots.
- o Don't spray aerosols or any heavily-fragranced products around caged birds or other caged pets.
- o Keep ashtrays and nicotine replacement products out of reach.

Kitchen

- o Know what foods are poisonous to pets. Watch out for sugar-free chewing gum with xylitol, raisins, grapes, macadamia nuts, onions, garlic, unbaked yeast bread dough, fatty foods and chocolate.
- o Keep garbage cans behind closed doors. Trash and compost bins can contain many pet toxins, such as cigarette butts, coffee grounds, moldy dairy products and chicken bones.
- o Keep alcoholic beverages out of reach.

Bathroom

- o Keep medications safely locked up in secure cupboards – don't leave them on countertops or tables. Do not store them in plastic zippered bags, which are easily chewed through. This includes inhalers, dietary aides and nutraceuticals.
- o Never medicate your pets with human products without first contacting your veterinarian.
- o Always check the container before giving medication to your pet to make sure it's the correct medication. In addition, store your own medications separately from your pets.
- o Pet Poison Helpline 1-800-213-6680 receives many calls from people who accidentally gave their own medication to a pet.
- o Keep pets away from cleaning products. Shut them out of the room while spraying bathroom cleansers or other products.
- o Close toilet lids to keep pets from drinking water, especially if you use automatic chemical tank or bowl treatments.

Utility Room

- o Keep rodenticides far away from pets. Keep in mind that rodents can transfer the toxins to accessible locations. Certain rodenticide products do not have treatment antidotes. Check products to learn their ingredients and possible toxicity to pets.
- o Do not use insecticides around your pet without knowing their toxicity profile. Read labels and use products only as recommended. Never use dog flea and tick products on cats.
- o Don't leave batteries lying around. Dogs enjoy chewing on them, and they can cause serious harm if ingested.
- o Keep glues out of reach – they can be tasty but some may cause serious harm. In fact, certain glues expand greatly in the stomach, leading to bowel obstructions. Keep pets out of the room when using glue on a home improvement project.

Garage

- o Ethylene Glycol (antifreeze) products are extremely toxic to pets. Choose propylene glycol products as a safer alternative, or keep pets far away from any ethylene glycol product. If you spill any on a driveway, clean it up immediately, or dilute it with several gallons of water. Keep all automotive products – like windshield washer fluid – away from pets and immediately clean up any spills.

Outside

- o Dogs like to eat certain fertilizers such as bone meal or blood meal. Keep bags tightly sealed and use products according to label instructions.
- o Grub or snail killers – especially those that include metaldehyde – can be harmful to pets. Avoid them if possible.
- o Yard insecticides that contain organophosphates or carbamates can be very dangerous if ingested in high concentrations.
- o Keep pets off lawns until commercially-sprayed herbicides are completely dry.

Housetraining Your Dog



You can easily teach your dog to eliminate in an appropriate location by watching closely to recognize signals, understanding instincts, and rewarding appropriate behavior.

- o Prevent undesirable elimination by keeping your dog confined to a small area, like a crate, when you can't observe him constantly. Do not let your pet wander the house without constant supervision.
- o When your dog sniffs the ground or circles around, quickly but calmly take him to the desired elimination area. Ideally, don't wait for these behaviors; take your dog outside regularly as described below.
- o Feed your dog a measured amount of food at the same time every day, ideally, 2-3 times daily. When your dog walks away, or after about 10-15 minutes, pick up the bowl.
- o Be aware that puppies instinctively want to eliminate after eating, drinking, playing, resting, sleeping or being confined. These rules apply to most adult dogs as well.
- o 5 to 30 minutes after any of the above activities, take your dog to the selected place for elimination
- o Use specific verbal cues that you want your dog to associate with the desirable elimination, such as 'Go potty' or 'Do your business.'
- o When your dog begins to eliminate, quietly praise him.
- o When your dog is done, praise him enthusiastically, pet him and reward him with food immediately. Don't wait until he heads for the house. If he doesn't eliminate, return him to his confinement area, and take him outside again in about 15 minutes.
- o Reward each time with praise, but as your dog learns, give food rewards intermittently.
- o Remember, it is your responsibility to prevent accidents. Prevention is the key to success, but if someone fails to prevent your dog from having an accident, don't scold the dog, and quietly clean up and deodorize the soiled area. Preventing accidents requires that you become aware of how often your puppy needs to eliminate. Young puppies (8-10 weeks of age) may need to be taken outside every 30-60 minutes.

Teach Your Dog To Ring A Bell



Purchase a small bell, and set it near the door through which you usually take your dog for elimination. Ring the bell immediately before opening the door to go outside with the dog. Your dog should already be leashed so that you can step outside with her as soon as you ring the bell. Do this every time you take your dog outside for several days. Allow your dog to only explore the designated elimination area; otherwise your dog may associate the ringing bell with playtime instead.

- o Next, suspend the bell at the height of your dog's nose right next to the door. Gently touch the bell to your dog's nose, causing it to ring every time you take her outside. Repeat this step for several days.
- o At this point, depending on how quickly your dog makes associations, she may begin approaching the bell on her own when she needs to eliminate. If she doesn't, smear a little bit of cheese or peanut butter on the bell each time you prepare to go outside, and use this to lure your dog toward the bell. Allow your dog to lick the bell, causing it to ring, and then praise your dog as you take her outside.
- o Once your dog begins ringing the bell on her own, you must take her outside every time so that she learns that making the bell ring reliably predicts being allowed outside.

Brushing Your Dog's Teeth



Dental care plays a vital role in maintaining your pet's overall health and helping them enjoy a longer, happier life with you. Dental disease is the most common health issue seen in pets today—affecting over 85% of dogs and cats examined by veterinarians. The main culprit is periodontal disease, which causes bad breath and can eventually lead to tooth loss.

We recommend daily dental care at home for your pets, just as you do for the rest of the family. The ideal time to start is early, between 8 to 12 weeks of age, during puppy or kitten-hood. However, it's never too late to begin! Be especially gentle when brushing during the teething stage (around 4 to 6 months), as their gums may be more sensitive. If your pet has visible tartar buildup, it should be professionally removed through ultrasonic scaling and polishing—similar to a dental cleaning for humans. This professional care makes your at-home routine more effective and manageable.

Keep the process enjoyable for both you and your pet! Here's what you'll need: a washcloth, a toothbrush or finger brush, pet-safe toothpaste (poultry or mint flavors are usually preferred)

Week 1 – Slowly acquainting your pet with mouth care

Using your hand, gently open the pet's mouth and run your finger around his or her lips, lifting the lips, etc. This should begin for just about 30 seconds on day one, progressing to a couple minutes by the end of the week. Reward your pet with a small treat at the end of each session (no “people food” please).

Week 2 – Introducing toothbrush or washcloth (without toothpaste)

This week, use either a wet washcloth wrapped around your index finger or wet toothbrush on the teeth. Lift lips. Massage the outer surfaces only of upper and lower teeth using a circular motion. Do this for 30 seconds on day one, progressing up to three minutes by the end of the week.

Week 3 – Add toothpaste, extend brushing time

This week use your dental cleaning instrument and now add $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of toothpaste to brush the outer surfaces only of upper and lower teeth in a circular motion.

A Few Pointers

- Do not rush the process or else the pet may become resistant.
- Always give a treat at the end of each session, making it enjoyable. Praise highly!
- If your pet shows any indication of aggression (growling, bearing teeth, biting, scratching, etc.) stop immediately. Call the hospital for further professional advice.
- Human toothpaste is not safe for pets.
- Brushing at home will reduce the frequency of professional care needed.
- Won't a milkbone a day take care of it? NO! If you ate a milkbone a day, would you never have to brush your teeth? Of course you would still need to brush. Milkbones help, but they alone cannot do it.
- Options for dental care at home include:
 - o CET Chews - a rawhide treat with enzymes to help clean the teeth.
 - o Dental diets – kibbles are large and extra crunchy to break down tartar.
 - o Water additive – reduces plaque
 - o VOHC approved treats

The Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC) has recommendations on safe toys and treats for dogs. A good rule of thumb is that toys should not be so hard they cannot be indented with your fingernail. This leads to fractured teeth.

Seven Steps to Proper Exercise

Provide plenty of exercise

- o New puppies are bundles of energy, so give them productive ways to expend that energy, such as going on walks or playing 'Monkey in the Middle.' Doggy daycare is a great option for working pet parents.

Provide mental stimulation

- o Rubber toys that can be filled with treats, such as Kong or Busy Buddy puzzle toys offer puppies a chance to chase and bite the toys and obtain a food reward.

Play with your pup

- o Playing fetch or throwing a soccer ball for your pet to push around will sap some of your pup's energy.

Teach and review basic obedience commands

- o A well-trained dog is more likely to follow orders when behaving inappropriately.

Conduct leadership exercises

Follow three rules to maintain overall order:

- o Nothing in life is free. Ask your puppy to respond to a command such as 'sit' before it receives anything it wants or needs.
- o Don't tell me what to do. It's OK to give your puppy the love and attention it needs, but if it becomes too pushy about getting attention, such as by nudging, whining, barking or leaning, pull your hands in, lean away and look away. Walk away if your puppy is too difficult to ignore. Once the puppy stops soliciting attention for 10 seconds, ask it to sit and give it attention.
- o Don't move without permission. Anytime you begin to move from one area of the home to another, ask your puppy to sit and stay for a second or two before you give it a release command to follow you.

Don't sit on the floor with your pup

- o This tends to get puppies excited, puts family members in a vulnerable position, and makes it more difficult to control the puppy.

Promote socialization

- o Puppies must have frequent, positive social experiences with all types of animals and people during the first three or four months of life to prevent asocial behavior, fear and biting. Continued exposure to a variety of people and other animals as the puppy grows and develops is an essential part of maintaining good social skills.



Pet Safety Tips

- o Not all pets can swim – carefully monitor your pet near water until you are sure that he or she can swim without sinking.
- o Xylitol is a sugar substitute commonly found in chewing gum and can be deadly to pets. This chemical is especially dangerous because it is sweet-smelling and tasting. Be sure to keep pets away from purses or contents of pockets, candy baskets, etc.
- o Know your pet's normal temperature, pulse and breathing rate; gum and inner eyelid membrane color should normally be a healthy pink hue.
- o Take a picture of yourself with your pet for purposes of identification. This way, if your pet is lost or stolen, you can prove that the pet is yours.
- o Never feed your pet chocolate, moldy cheese, onions, raisins, or grapes, as these are poisonous.
- o Many common houseplants (poinsettia, varieties of philodendron) are poisonous to your pet.
- o Keep a pet emergency first aid kit handy, complete with emergency phone numbers for your veterinarian and local 24 hour emergency facility.
- o Think ahead and have an evacuation plan in case of emergency. Do you know which local hotels accept pets?
- o Make sure your pet has an ID tag or microchip – especially when travelling.
- o Never give your pet human medication unless it is prescribed specifically by your veterinarian.
- o Carry an extra leash in your car to use as a collar/lead or muzzle.
- o Watch your pet closely when mulching or gardening, as cocoa-scented mulch can be harmful to dogs if ingested.
- o Never leave your pet in a parked car.

Care Tips

<h2>How to Bathe Your Pet</h2>	<p>Your pet's skin is quite different than human skin. It is thinner, has no sweat glands, and has a different pH. Therefore, MOST human shampoos are not satisfactory. Neither are many over-the-counter pet shampoo products, especially if your pet has any type of skin abnormality or disease.</p> <p>Bathe the pet whenever it is dirty or smells bad. You can routinely bathe the pet every 30 days using safe recommended products.</p>	Steps	
		Brush and comb out mats before bathing.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Pack cotton in ears. Avoid getting water in the eyes.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Lubricate the eyes with artificial tear eye ointment to prevent burning or irritating the eyes with the soap.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Wet thoroughly before applying soap. Use lukewarm water for pet's comfort. Use cool water if the pet is "itchy."	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Thoroughly lather. Add more water (instead of soap) to increase the lather.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Allow the soap lather to stand on the pet's body for 3-5 minutes. (Medicated soaps – 5-10 minutes).	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Use a sponge to wash the face. Using the fingers is better than any brush for lathering and scrubbing the skin.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Rinse thoroughly to prevent skin irritation. When you think all the soap is out, rinse one more time. Not rinsing well will result in dry, flaky skin.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Repeat the soap procedure if the pet is extremely dirty.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		If using a hair dryer, avoid the face and ears.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Toenail Trimming	<p>Toenail trimming is an important part of keeping your pet healthy. Allowing the toenails to grow excessively can cause the following problems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° Foot deformities ° Nail bed infections ° Pain when walking ° Injury to pet – such as scratching the eye ° Scratching the owner and the house 	<p>Quality toenail cutters- Don't make the mistake of buying cheap toenail trimmers. The steel in the blades of cheap cutters is not strong enough to cut toenails smoothly, but rather “crushes” the nails which can be very harmful to the interior parts of the toenail. You may purchase a quality pair of nail trimmers through our clinic.</p>	
		<p>Bleeding- Cutting the toenails too short will result in bleeding. Although it looks like a lot of blood, it really is not. It is impossible for a pet to “bleed to death” from a toenail trimmed too short. Commercial preparations are available to stop the bleeding. A simple home remedy is to apply ice or corn starch to the nail, blot, then push the bleeding nail down into a bar of soap. The soap will pack up into the nail putting pressure to stop the bleeding.</p>	
Prevention of Ear Infections	<p>Many animals, especially those with floppy ears or allergies will require ear care on a regular basis to reduce the number and severity of ear infections.</p> <p>Untreated ear infections are very painful and may cause permanent damage to the ear.</p>	Steps	
		Clean the ears once or twice weekly with a prescribed ear cleanser. The cleanser helps dry the ear and changes the acidity of the ear so bacteria and yeast can't grow as well.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Place cotton in ears before bathing; remove when finished.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Use an ear cleanser after swimming.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Keep hair plucked from ears if instructed by your vet. An ear powder is a helpful aid in plucking.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Seek prompt medical care for flare-ups of ear infections. Watch for redness, swelling, shaking of head, pawing or rubbing of ears, and a bad odor.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Helpful Puppy Tips

Play with your puppy's paws. When at home and relaxing, rub the paws and look in between them. This will help with toenail trims and if you ever need to treat or soak the feet for a medical reason.

Rub your puppy's ears and stick your finger in his/her ears. A lot of dogs get ear infections. This will help you in the long-run if you ever have to treat your puppy's ears for an infection.

Stick your finger in your puppy's mouth, rub the gums, and open and close the mouth. This will be helpful if you ever have to give your puppy oral medication and will also be helpful when you brush his/her teeth.

How Old Is Your Dog



Age	1-20 lbs	20-50 lbs	50-90 lbs	>90 lbs
1	7	7	8	8
2	13	14	16	18
3	20	21	24	28
4	26	27	31	34
5	33	34	38	41
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	68	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123
17	84	92	104	131
18	88	96	109	139
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	
21	100	109	126	
22	104	113	130	
23	108	117		
24	112	120		
25	116	124		