



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW PUPPY

We follow the most recent vaccine guidelines for your puppy and recommend:

DISTEMPER/PARVOVIRUS/ADENO2 VACCINES

At least two doses every 3 - 4 weeks until your puppy is at least 16-18 weeks old.

RABIES VACCINE

After your puppy is 3 months old

LYME VACCINE

2 boosters 2 - 4 weeks apart starting when puppy is 12 weeks old or older

LEPTOSPIROSIS VACCINE

2 boosters 2 - 4 weeks apart starting when puppy is 12 weeks old or older

BORDETELLA VACCINE

Every 6 months if your dog will be boarded, groomed, goes to dog school or competitions

INFLUENZA BIVALENT VACCINE

2 boosters 2 - 4 weeks apart if boarded, groomed, goes to dog school or competitions, travels with you on vacation, or visits dog parks

Boosters of all vaccines are due one year later except for the Bordetella vaccine

Your puppy also needs a heartworm test in one year and stool samples tested every 6 months.



All dogs need prescription heartworm preventive on the same day of the month every month year round. We can help you pick the best one for your pet.

Good training starts right away. We can help with great recommendations about housetraining, how to prevent chewing, keeping your puppy from jumping up on people and socialization as well as the best training school for your puppy.



HOW TO BE YOUR DOG'S BEST FRIEND



Play with your dog by throwing toys-both of you will have a good time

Dogs don't like their heads petted - most dogs like to be pet from their collar to their tail

Take your dog to training classes where there is never punishment and always great rewards



Dogs don't like kisses - instead, kiss your hand and pet the dog's back to share a kiss

Dogs like to practice their tricks with rewards like treats and petting-this is fun for your dog and you




People love hugs but dogs don't

Most dogs like to go for walks - make sure he is on a leash



Leave dogs alone while they eat and feed them in a private spot



 | Leave dogs alone when they are asleep



Make your pet's wellbeing a priority. See your veterinarian regularly and follow these tips to keep your pet happy and healthy.

NUTRITION

Your veterinarian will give you a recommendation for a high quality and nutritious diet for your pet, and advise you on how much and how often to feed him or her. Diets may vary by species, breed and age.

IDENTIFICATION

Microchipping is a safe and permanent identification option to ensure your pet's return should he or she get lost. Ask us about the process and get your pet protected.

SAFETY

Always keep your dog on a leash in public, and your cat indoors to protect them from common hazards such as cars and other animals.

GROOMING

Frequent brushing keeps your pet's coat clean and reduces the occurrence of shedding, matting and hairballs. Depending on the breed, your pet may also need professional groomings.

DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH

Brush your pet's teeth regularly and check with your veterinarian about professional cleanings as well as dental treats and products available to help prevent bad breath, gingivitis, periodontitis and underlying disease. Although your pet's teeth may look healthy, significant disease could be hidden below the gum line.

EXERCISE

Be sure to spend at least 15 minutes a day playing with your cat to keep him or her active and at a healthy weight. All dogs need routine exercise to stay fit, but the requirements vary by breed and age. Ask us what's best for your dog.

Doggy daycares and boarding facilities are other ways to help to burn off some energy and socialize your pets.

TRAINING

Enroll your dog in training classes to improve his or her behavior with pets and people.

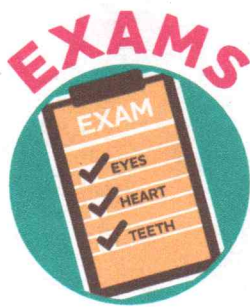
Cats need minimal training. Be sure to provide them with a litter box beginning at four weeks of age.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT

Entertain your pet's natural instincts by using toys that encourage them to jump and run. Cats especially need to fulfill their instinct to hunt – provide interactive toys that mimic prey like a laser pointer or feathers on a wand. You can also hide treats in your pet's toys or around the house to decrease boredom while you're away.

BE YOUR PET'S GUARDIAN ANGEL

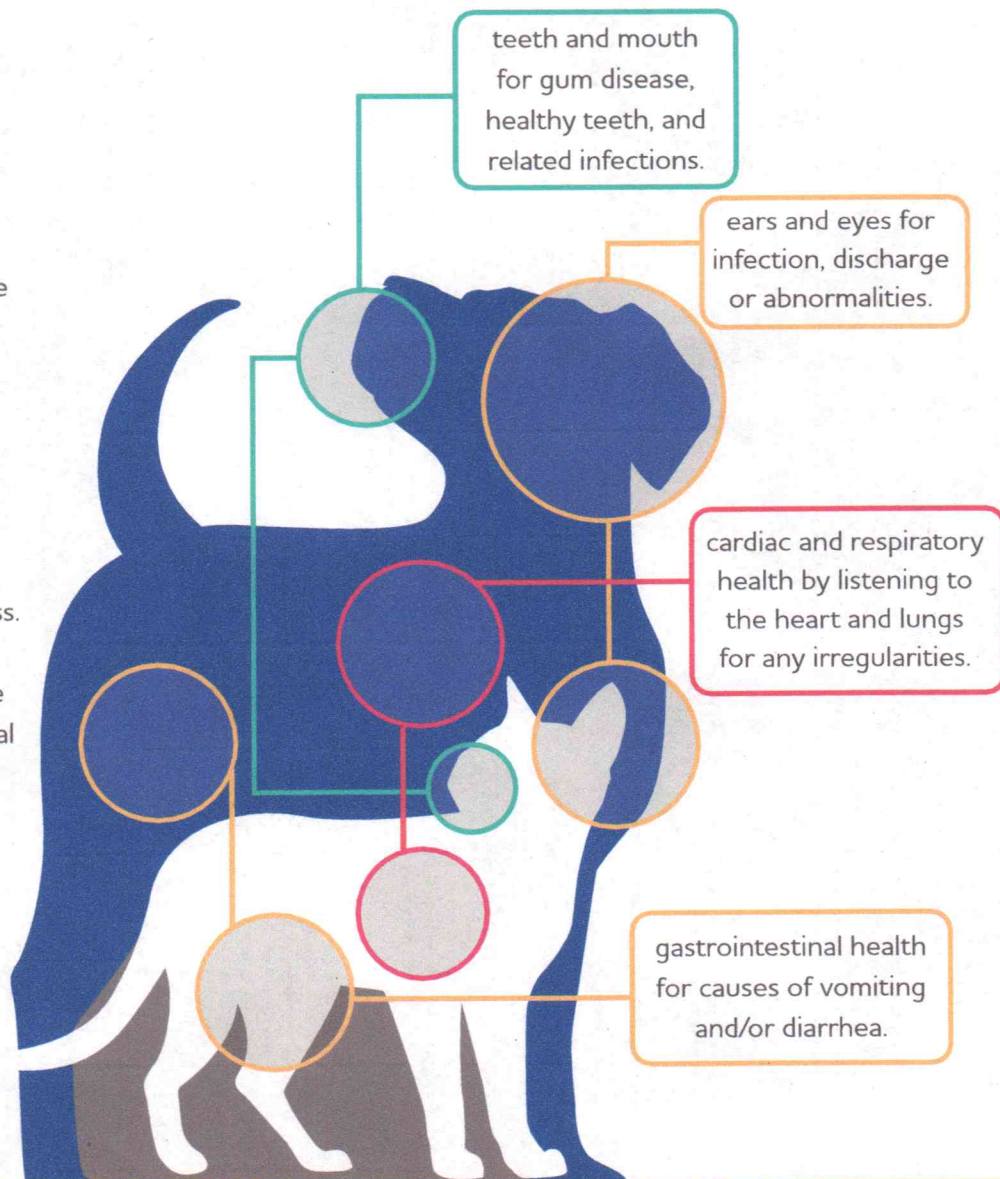
Call us if your pet experiences vomiting, diarrhea, poor appetite, lethargy, trouble breathing, excessive drinking or urinating, wheezing or coughing, pale gums, discharge from nose, swollen eye or discharge, limping, and/or difficulty passing urine or stool as these may be signs of illness.



Bringing your pets to the veterinarian for a physical exam every year is the smartest and easiest way to keep them healthy. Exams allow your veterinarian to detect any problems before they become severe or costly.

YOUR VETERINARIAN WILL CHECK...

- muscular and skeletal health by feeling for healthy muscle mass and joint pain.
- neurologic system check - it could indicate birth defects in younger pets, and cognitive issues in older pets.
- appropriate weight and lifestyle for your pet's age.
- lymph nodes - swollen nodes can indicate a wound, virus, infection or some other illness.
- vital signs (temperature, pulse and respiration) - an abnormal reading could indicate illness.
- skin and coat condition for growths, infection wounds and overall skin health.



BRING YOUR PET TO THE VETERINARIAN EVERY YEAR FOR A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH AND PEACE OF MIND

Your pet can't tell us what's wrong. But routine physical exams can help your veterinarian detect any problems or diseases you might not have otherwise picked up on, including **heart murmurs, tumors, enlarged organs, cataracts, ear infections, ear mites, dental and gum disease, skin issues and allergies.**



Every animal is unique, and the start of each stage of life calls for different home and veterinary care. Check with your veterinarian to establish a proactive wellness plan to keep your pet happy and healthy throughout its life.

ANNUAL WELLNESS

Puppies and kittens must receive a series of properly staged vaccines and physical exams. During these exams, your veterinarian may also recommend parasite preventatives or lab tests.

Adult pets will need to continue visiting the veterinarian annually for physical exams, recommended vaccines and routine testing.

Senior pets can develop similar problems seen in older people, including heart disease, kidney disease, diabetes and arthritis. Your veterinarian may recommend biannual visits to ensure your pet's quality of life.

SPAY/NEUTER

Females spayed before their first heat cycle will be less likely to get uterine infections, ovarian cancer and breast cancer. Males neutered at any age will be less likely to get prostate disease. Spaying or neutering also helps prevent behavioral problems like marking and escaping. Talk to your veterinarian about spaying or neutering your pet.

NUTRITION

Pets require different types of food to support each life stage. Growing **puppies and kittens** need more nutrient-dense food than adults while **adult dogs and cats** need food that will keep them healthy and energetic. Your **senior dog or cat** may need fewer calories, less fat, and more fiber as he or she ages. Talk to your veterinarian to determine what's appropriate for your pet.

EXERCISE

Adult dogs should stay active with daily walks and one-on-one training. Keep your **adult cats** fit by using toys that encourage them to run and jump, and be sure to give them at least 15 minutes of playtime a day.

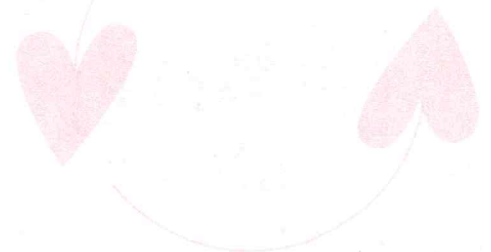
Weight management of your **senior dog or cat** is extremely important to ensure they are at an ideal body weight and able to move around comfortably.

TRAINING

Behavioral issues are a major cause of pet abandonment. Begin training your **puppy or kitten** right away to prevent bad habits and establish good ones.

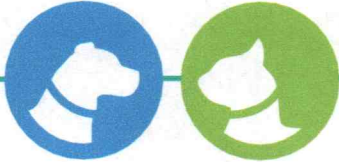
Start house training your **puppy** as soon as you get home. Keep your puppy supplied with plenty of chew toys so he or she gets used to gnawing on those and not your belongings.

All cats need a litter box, which should be in a quiet, accessible room. Place your **kitten** in the box after a meal or whenever it appears he or she needs to go. Be sure to scoop out solids daily and empty it out completely once a week. The number of boxes in your household should be the total of number of cats plus one.





Yearly lab tests are safe and non-invasive ways to diagnose and prevent sickness or injuries that a physical exam cannot detect.



BLOOD SCREENING

A blood screening checks for anemia, parasites, infections, organ function and sugar levels. It is important to get a blood test annually for your pet, to help your veterinarian establish a benchmark for normal values and easily see any changes that may point to problems.

URINALYSIS

This test has the ability to screen for diabetes, urinary tract infections, bladder/kidney stones, as well as dehydration and early kidney disease.

INTESTINAL PARASITE CHECK

Using a stool sample, your veterinarian can check to see if your pet has parasites. Many parasites can be passed on to humans, so it is important to complete this screening annually, especially if your pet has any symptoms including upset stomach, loss of appetite and weight loss.



CANINE TESTS

Your veterinarian may check for the presence of heartworms in your dog, as well as the three common tick-borne diseases – Lyme, Anaplasma, and Ehrlichia Canis.



FELINE TESTS

A combination test checks for heartworm, Feline Leukemia Virus (FELV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV). FELV and FIV are serious diseases that weaken the immune system, making cats susceptible to a variety of infections and other diseases. FELV is spread through casual contact, and FIV is transmitted primarily through bite wounds. They can also be transferred to cats by their mothers. Any new pets, or sick/stray cats entering a household, should be tested.

BLOOD PRESSURE TESTING

Senior cats are routinely tested for high blood pressure. It may occur as a secondary disease to another illness and is commonly seen in older cats. But it can affect a cat at any age and cause damage to the eyes, heart, brain and kidneys. A new heart murmur or alterations in your cat's eyes during a routine exam may prompt your veterinarian to take a blood pressure reading.

Routine testing can add years to your pet's life.
Your veterinarian will recommend lab tests appropriate for your pet based on age and lifestyle.



Spaying or neutering can protect your pet from serious health and behavioral problems later in life. It also helps control the stray animal population.

SPAYING OR NEUTERING REDUCES THE RISK OF...

UTERINE DISEASE

Known as a pyometra, this is a potentially life-threatening condition which can be very expensive to treat. It is 100% preventable if your pet is spayed.

MAMMARY TUMORS (BREAST CANCER)

Over one-half of all mammary tumors are malignant and can spread to other areas of the body. Early spaying, prior to your pet beginning its heat cycles, significantly reduces the incidence of tumor formation.

TESTICULAR CANCER

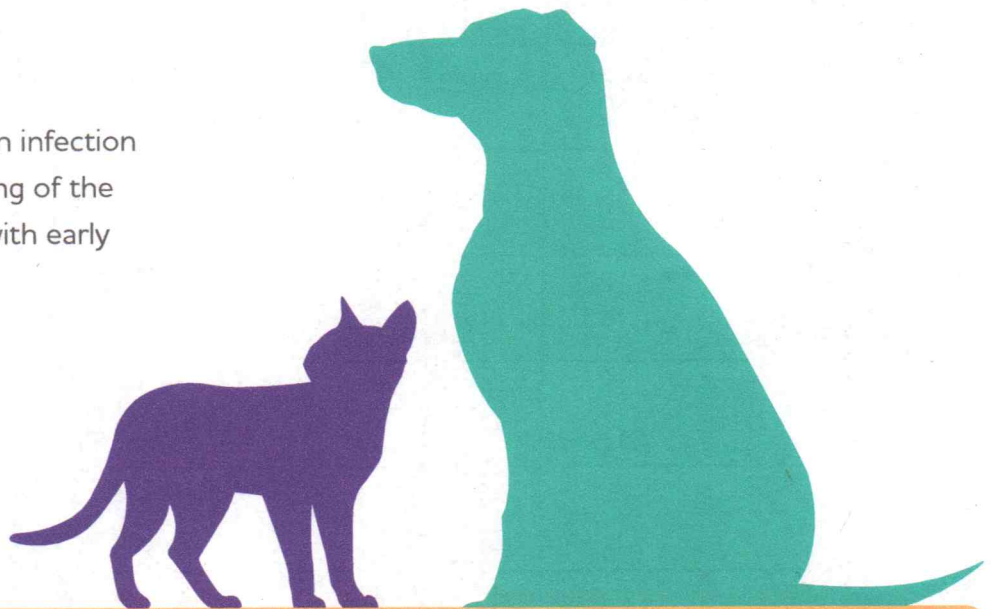
This cancer, as well as prostatitis (an infection causing malignant or benign swelling of the prostate), can be greatly reduced with early neutering.

BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS

Unwanted behaviors such as dominance aggression, marking territory and wandering can be avoided with spaying or neutering.

OVERPOPULATION

There are more puppies and kittens in shelters than there are people willing to provide them with love and care. Sadly, many are euthanized. Spaying or neutering can help reduce the number of animals in need of homes.



Spayed and neutered pets live healthier and longer lives!
Consider the benefits to your pet and the community, and ask us
when is the best time to spay or neuter your pet.



how cold is too cold?

°C	°F				
15°	60°	1	1	1	1 No evidence of risk: Have fun outside!
12°	55°	1	1	1	2 Risk is unlikely: Have fun outside, but be careful!
10°	50°	2	1	1	3 Unsafe potential, depending on breed. Keep an eye on your pet outdoors.
7°	45°	2	2	1	4 Dangerous weather developing. Use caution.
4°	40°	3	3	2	5 Potentially life-threatening cold. Avoid prolonged outdoor activity.
1°	35°	3	3	3	
-1°	30°	3	3	3	+2 if wet weather is present
-4°	25°	4	4	3	-1 if Northern breed or heavy coat
-6°	20°	5	4	3	-1 if dog is acclimated to cold
-9°	15°	5	4	4	
-12°	10°	5	5	5	
-15°	5°	5	5	5	
-17°	0°	5	5	5	

source: adapted from The Feline Animal Conditions and Care (FACC)

Petplan

www.petplan.com



how hot is too hot?

°C	°F					KEY	OTHER FACTORS
15°	60°	1	1	1	1. No evidence of risk: Have fun outside!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> +1 If obese +1 if brachycephalic breed +1 if less than 6 months old or elderly 	
18°	65°	1	1	2			
21°	70°	2	2	3	2. Risk is unlikely: Have fun outside, but be careful!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1 If area is shaded from sun -1 If water is available 	
23°	75°	3	3	3			
26°	80°	3	3	4	3. Unsafe potential, depending on breed. Keep an eye on your pet outdoors.		
29°	85°	4	4	5			
32°	90°	5	5	5			
35°	95°	5	5	5	4. Dangerous weather developing. Use caution.		
37°	100°	5	5	5			
40°	105°	5	5	5	5. Potentially life-threatening heat. Avoid prolonged outdoor activity.		
43°	110°	5	5	5			

source: adapted from The Feline Animal Conditions and Care (FACC)

Petplan pet insurance



Potty Training

When to Begin House Training Your Puppy

Experts recommend that you begin house training your puppy when he is between 12 weeks and 16 weeks old. At that point, he has enough control of his bladder and bowel movements to learn to hold it.

If your puppy is older than 12 weeks when you bring him home and he's been eliminating in a cage (and possibly eating his waste), house training may take longer. You will have to reshape the dog's behavior -- with encouragement and reward.

Steps for Houstraining Your Puppy

Experts recommend confining the puppy to a defined space, whether that means in a crate, in a room, or on a leash. As your puppy learns that he needs to go outside to do his business, you can gradually give him more freedom to roam about the house.

When you start to house train, follow these steps:

- Keep the puppy on a regular feeding schedule and take away his food between meals.
- Take puppy out to eliminate first thing in the morning and then once every 30 minutes to an hour. Also, always take him outside after meals or when he wakes from a nap. Make sure he goes out last thing at night and before he's left alone.
- Take puppy to the same spot each time to do his business. His scent will prompt him to go.
- Stay with him outside, at least until he's house trained.
- When your puppy eliminates outside, praise him or give him a treat. A walk around the neighborhood is a nice reward.
- Don't use a crate if puppy is eliminating in it. Eliminating in the crate could have several meanings: he may have brought bad habits from the shelter or pet store where he lived before; he may not be getting outside enough; the crate may be too big; or he may be too young to hold it in.



Crate Training

Why should you use a crate?

- A crate can be an invaluable tool for teaching a dog to eliminate outside of the house, and is one of the quickest ways to help housetrain a dog.
- A crate can provide a safe haven for your dog when you need to be away from the house, or are too busy to supervise your dog.

When should you not use a crate?

- If you are trying to punish your dog - the dog will learn to avoid the crate and refuse to go inside, or he will become extremely agitated in an attempt to be let out of the crate.
- If you are looking for a long-term place to "store" your dog for hours and hours on end. Ideally, an adult dog should not be left in a crate for more than four to five hours at a time. For puppies, you cannot leave them in the crate longer than their physical bladder capacity, which depending on their age and breed can be no more than an hour or so.



Using crates to housetrain your dog:

You can expect to teach an adult dog housetraining within three to five days using a crate. Puppies, of course, will take longer due to their smaller bladder capability. The more consistent you are, the more you will see a difference.

Your dog or puppy should be kept in the crate any time that you cannot watch it 100%. This means that you are able to watch the dog at ALL times and move him quickly outside if he starts to eliminate. If your attention will be divided by tasks like cooking, talking on the phone, watching TV, etc, then do not crate the dog. Rather, use the "umbilical cord" method. Use the dog's leash to tie the dog to you, either by looping the leash around your waist, or through your belt or a belt holder on your pants.

For puppies, release them from the crate approximately once every hour or so. You can go for longer but the more opportunities you give the puppy to be reinforced for going outside, the quicker they will learn. Take them IMMEDIATELY outside by running with them on-leash to your door and outside. Have some especially good treats on hand when you do this. When you are outside, try to stand in one general area and give your dog the cue (Go Potty!). Most puppies will eliminate within five minutes of taking them outside.

If the puppy eliminates, give him some of the treats, praise him calmly and happily, and take him back inside. It is ok to let the puppy run loose in the house, as long as he is supervised by you 100%. After about an hour, you can put him back in the crate, and restart the whole process again within the hour.

If the puppy does not eliminate, take him back inside and put him in the crate for another 10 min. Say nothing to him and do not give him treats. Then take him back outside to the same place and try again.

If you are consistent with this pattern, your puppy will quickly learn that if he holds his urine and feces until you take him outside, not only will he get relief and be able to eliminate, but he will get a treat as well. As your puppy or dog starts to demonstrate that he has learned the "rules" you can begin to phase out the food treats and replace with praise and petting, or play time with you or with a toy.

Using the Crate to "train" your dog to the house:

Always make the crate a pleasant place for your dog to be. If your dog is already housetrained and your dog is not a chewer, you can add some soft bedding, such as towels, blankets, or a dog bed inside the crate. Items that are soft that smell like you are particularly good for dogs that are newly adopted, as it will create a pleasant association for the dog with your scent, and this actually is helpful for dogs that are anxious when left alone. However, be sure to monitor this to make sure that the dog doesn't chew on these items or kick them to the side and eliminate on them. If the dog does this you may need to not leave any bedding in the crate. Give the dog something to chew on, such as a toy. Make sure that the toy is a sturdy one that will not break or be digested by the dog while he is in the crate with it and you are unable to supervise him.

If you are consistent, the dog should quickly learn that the crate is a nice place to be—he gets to lie down in a soft spot and gets to chew on something he enjoys. Dogs who are “housetrained” with the crate tend to be less destructive with your household items when left out of the crate because they associate chewing with being in the crate. Puppies under 12 months of age should still be supervised in the house however because the teething stage is a powerful stimulant for chewing. You can also feed the dog in the crate. Many dogs will eat their dinner and cuddle up and fall asleep in the crate. With puppies, you will need to wake them up to take them out to eliminate, and then you can bring them back to the crate to go back to sleep.

If your dog shows anxiety about being in the crate, crate him for very tiny increments. Let him in the crate for 5 seconds and let him out. Repeat. When he appears calm for the 5 seconds, increase to 10 seconds. Repeat. When he has learned to be calm with 10 seconds, increase to 20 seconds, and so on. Do not lock him in the crate and leave if he is anxious. You can also feed an anxious dog in the crate -split his meals up into ten portions, and feed him each portion stretched out during the day to increase the positive association with the crate. Let him out immediately after eating. For his last meal of the day, make it a particularly good meal by adding some sprinkled cheese, or a dab of peanut butter, or some beef or chicken broth to his kibble, and then put it inside the crate and shut the door with out letting him in. Wait a minute or two to get him eager to enter the crate and then open the door to let him have his reward. It won't take long before most dogs will be begging to be let in their crate!

Another method for helping a dog to enjoy the crate is through the use of toys that you can stuff with food such as the Kong, Busy Buddy or Buster Cube, among others. You can stuff the hollow rubber toys with food treats and then give the toy to your dog when he goes in the crate. Most dogs will become very fixated on getting the food out of the toy and will forget about the fact that they are in the crate. You can stuff these toys with a little bit of peanut butter; cream cheese, cheese wiz, cottage cheese, applesauce, plain yogurt, dog biscuits, etc. Be creative! You may even try to freeze it, as this makes it harder for the dog to get the food out and increases the time his attention will be occupied.

Another method for acclimating your dog to the crate is to set him up in the crate with some toys and then set the crate near where you will be. For example, if you are sitting down to read the newspaper in the kitchen, set the crate in the kitchen where the dog can see you, and then sit down and read. If you planning on watching a TV show, set the crate up near the couch and proceed to watch your show. Intermittently talk to your dog in a calm, happy tone of voice to let him know he's being a good boy for calming lying in the crate.

Once you have successfully trained your dog to accept the crate, you can leave the crate open in your house. You may find that your dog will go into the crate and lie down there on his own with the door open, as dogs are “den” animals and instinctively enjoy a nice cozy place they can snuggle into and retire from the world.

Other Don'ts:

- Don't leave your dog's collar on when he is crated. A collar can catch on the metal grating and accidentally injure the dog.
- Don't put the crate in a high traffic area of your house. Find a nice, quiet area for your dog so he will not be overly stimulated by noise and activity passing by him.
- Don't let children, adults or other animals in the home tease the dog in the crate.

Size of Crate:

The crate should be big enough for the dog to stretch on his side, and get up and turn around without his head hitting the top. A crate that is too big is better than one that is too small.

For an adult dog, measure from the tip of the dog's nose to the base of his tail for the proper crate length, and from the ground to the top of his skull for height. For puppies, do the same, and add about 12” for his anticipated adult height. With puppies, you may want to block out the extra area of the crate so that he does not eliminate in the far corner. You can buy a smaller crate and buy a new, larger one when he becomes an adult, but many crates can be bought with “dividers” so that you do not have to buy a brand new one when your dog grows older.

Crates come in wire mesh or in plastic “Varikennels” that have a wire grating on the door and along the sides. The wire mesh crates are usually collapsible which makes for easier storage, and you can easily place a blanket or towel on top of them to provide more privacy for the dog. Either crate works fine, although we prefer the wire mesh crates.

For more information on the Association of Professional Dog Trainers, visit our Web site at www.apdt.com or call 1-800-PET-DOGS (738-3647) or email information@apdt.com.

Need to Switch Your Pet's Food? Here Are Key Steps to Take

By Dr. Amy Farcas DVM, DACVN | January 6, 2016



Thinkstock

If you need to change your pet's diet, make sure the switch to his new food is gradual.

Your veterinarian has recommended a diet change for your pet. Easy, right? Maybe not. It may seem daunting, but here are a few steps you can take to successfully switch over to a new food or way of feeding.

1. Go Slow

Any two diets will have differences between them — even if these differences are subtle. These differences are probably why your veterinarian recommended the diet change in the first place. This change may affect your pet's response to the new diet, as well as the response of his or her digestive system. Just like people, the digestive systems of pets contain a number of normal intestinal bacteria that help with the digestive process. When a diet change is made, your pet's system is receiving a new formulation of nutrients that could cause a shift in the numbers and types of beneficial intestinal bacteria. These shifts are usually subtle but may be noticeable if they happen quickly. For example, a new diet that is higher in fat or has a different amount of dietary fiber could contribute to soft stools or gas if the change is not made slowly. This doesn't mean the diet won't work, only that a more gradual change may be needed to allow the bacteria time to adjust. For this reason, diet changes should usually be made over a period of at least a week. And if your pet vomits, has persistent diarrhea or gas, refuses to eat or seems lethargic, call your veterinarian.

2. Choose the Right Time and Place

Pets rely heavily on their sense of smell and connect the scent of a diet with how they feel when they smell the food. For that reason, sick pets may associate feeling poorly with the diet offered at the time, causing a food aversion (reluctance or refusal to eat the food). If this happens, the pet may be unlikely to eat that diet later. For this reason, it's best to make diet changes once pets are discharged from the hospital and feeling better. If a diet change absolutely has to be made before your pet has recovered, check with your veterinarian on how to achieve this for long-term success.

How, when and where your pet is fed can also affect your pet's willingness to eat a new diet. It is best to feed your pet in a quiet area without other pets around so that he or she will not be distracted or feel the need to compete for food. If pets need to be fed different diets, it's best to keep them separated during meal times.

3.Strategize

Diet change works better as a deliberate process. Several strategies can be effective.

Some pets need time to accept a new diet as "not new anymore" before they try it. At mealtime, offer the new and the old diets in separate bowls. When meals are done, throw out the uneaten portion of the new diet. This seems wasteful, but it's important. The food's smell and texture changes as it is exposed to air, so offering fresh food at each meal is more attractive than offering leftovers. After a week, gradually decrease the amount of the old diet and increase the amount of the new diet, until your pet is fully transitioned to the new diet. You may also make the new diet more attractive by adding a bit of something extra-tasty — although check with your veterinarian first before adding anything to make sure it is safe for your pet and whatever his or her medical condition is. Once the transition is done, decrease the amount of the extra item until it is eliminated.

Another strategy is mixing the two diets together, starting with 90 percent of the old diet and 10 percent of the new diet, with a gradual shift in proportions each day until your pet is fully transitioned to the new diet. Again, adding a bit of something extra-tasty (check with your veterinarian) may make the transition easier. This item can be withdrawn gradually once the transition is complete.

4.Monitor Your Pet's Weight

Your veterinarian should let you know how much of the new diet your pet should be eating each day and whether he or she should stay at the same weight, gain or lose weight. If weight gain or loss is the plan, guidelines for how much your pet's weight should change per week or month and how to adjust the amount to feed each day to achieve these goals, are also needed. Sometimes pets eat less during the diet transition, which is usually not cause for alarm. If you notice this, discuss it with your veterinarian and be able to describe how much of each diet your pet is actually eating. This helps your veterinarian to decide if changes to your pet's feeding plan need to be made.

5.Prepare yourself

Now you've seen that making a diet change isn't necessarily simple. To help make it successful, make a plan. Decide how you will monitor your pet's intake of the new diet, how much of the new diet you will need to purchase at a time, where you will purchase the new diet (some therapeutic diets are available only through veterinary hospitals or with a prescription) and when you will have to re-order it. Also, think about how feeding will change for your other pets. Free-feeding is common in multi-pet households, so changing one pet's diet generally means that either all pets will change or that pets can't be allowed to eat each other's food.

Keep in mind that the change is important for your pet's health, so continuing to feed your pet's old diet may not be recommended.

If you foresee or have difficulties with making a diet change, such as a pet who absolutely refuses to eat the new diet, discuss your concerns with your veterinarian.

Certain foods and household products can be dangerous to dogs !!

It's only natural for dogs to be curious. But their curiosity can get them into trouble when they get into areas where you store household items such as medicine and detergents. Many common household items that you use everyday can be harmful, and sometimes even lethal, to your dog.

Foods that are harmful to your dog:

May cause vomiting, abdominal pain and/or diarrhea:

Wild Cherry

Almond

Apricot

Balsam Pear

Japanese Plum

May cause varied reactions:

Yeast Dough

Coffee Grounds

Macadamia Nuts

Tomato and potato leaves and stems

Avocados

Onions and onion powder

Grapes and raisins

Chocolate

Pear and Peach Kernels

Mushrooms (if also toxic to humans)

Rhubarb

Spinach

Alcohol

Symptoms of possible poisoning are: vomiting, diarrhea, difficult breathing, abnormal urine (color, aroma or odor, frequency, etc...), salivation, weakness. If your dog should ingest harmful chemicals, contact a veterinarian or poison control center immediately.

Common household items that are harmful to your dog:

Acetaminophen
Antifreeze and other car fluids
Bleach and cleaning fluids
Boric Acid
Deodorants
Detergents
De-icing salts
Disinfectants
Drain cleaners
Furniture polish
Gasoline
Hair colorings
Weed killers
Insecticides
Kerosene
Matches
Mothballs
Nail polish and remover
Paint
Prescription and non-prescription medicine
Rat poison
Rubbing Alcohol
Shoe polish
Sleeping pills
Snail or slug bait
Turpentine
Windshield -wiper fluid