



CANINE SUPPORT TEAMS, INC. PUPPY RAISING 101

Inspired by the
teachings and work of
Carol Roquemore

2024 Edition

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CHAPTER 1: GOING HOME WITH PUPPY

Potty Training

Command used: “Better go now”

When you first get home with your puppy you want to make sure the puppy is first introduced to a suitable potty area. The first place a puppy goes potty is the place they will likely go again so it's important to be outdoors rather than your carpet. You can tell the dog “Better go now” and wait for them to relieve themselves.

CST puppies do not use potty pads for potty training. Pee pads can confuse puppies, making it challenging for them to differentiate between an acceptable potty pad and a rug or carpet.

Before the age of 5 months, offer your puppy a potty break every hour or so. After 5 months, they can hold it a bit longer, but it's still important to take them out for a potty break every few hours. You may need to wake up once or twice during the night to take them out. The key is to take them out of the crate before they start whining and bring them outside to potty, so nightly whining doesn't become a regular occurrence.

The most important aspect of potty training is prevention. If you can prevent accidents, they will be less likely to happen.

Here are some tips for successful potty training:

- Monitor when your puppy eats and drinks water and take them out to the designated potty area afterward.
- Leash your puppy during the first few days to take them to the potty area, so they are less tempted to run and play.
- Stand in one spot and be patient, allowing your pup to go potty.
- Have a small treat ready for the pup and get excited when they go potty in the right area.

If you are not monitoring your puppy, accidents are more likely to happen in the home.

Here are some cues indicating when to take your dog out to go potty:

- If your puppy is sniffing the floor.
- After your pup is done playing or exercising.
- After your puppy has been in his crate for an extended period.
- After all mealtimes.
- When your pup wakes up from a nap.

If your pup does have an accident in home:

Do not get angry. If you find yourself getting angry, roll up a newspaper and hit yourself with it because the error is most likely with you and not the dog. Usually, accidents will happen if you are not closely paying attention to your puppy or letting them roam your home unsupervised.

The crate will be another great tool for potty training. If you are unable to watch your dog for a short period of time you can crate them in an appropriate sized crate to avoid accidents in home. Dogs typically will not potty where they sleep so a crate can come in handy this way (see crate section for appropriate use of crate)

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Feeding

Puppies from 8 weeks to 6 months of age can be fed kibble multiple times a day. At CST, we feed the puppies three times a day: breakfast, lunch, and dinner. These meals are provided until the puppy is satiated to ensure they receive adequate nutrition without overeating. Allowing them to eat until there's a small amount of kibble left behind indicates that they've had enough food for that meal and teaches them to self-regulate their food intake. You can offer one cup at a time during feedings until the pup is satisfied. This practice will help prevent resource guarding in the future by ensuring that food is consistently available and abundant. If you are also using training treats, be aware that the treats should only account for about 20% of the daily feed to prevent causing a stomach upset.

When you first bring your puppy home, it's recommended to hand feed the dog to strengthen the bond between you. This practice can eventually transition to using a bowl, but you may notice that a puppy accustomed to being hand-fed tends to engage more and become more human-centric. CST provides enough food for two weeks' worth of transitioning to a food of your choice, which should be AAFCO approved. We typically feed our dogs Purina Pro Plan Lamb and Rice All Stages dog food, which most dogs seem to thrive on. F

After reaching 6 months of age, you can transition to feeding your dog 2-3 times a day, with each meal consisting of 1-2 cups of food depending on the dog's weight, size, breed, and caloric needs. For questions regarding how many calories your dog should be consuming a day, contact the puppy raiser manager.

During each meal, water should be provided, and the dog should have access to water throughout the day. At CST, dogs are not free-fed. Mealtimes are scheduled, and food is not left out for the dog to eat leisurely. Additionally, our dogs are not permitted to have any natural bones of any kind, including but not limited to smoked bones, raw bones, cooked bones, or rawhide chews.

Allow your pup a rest period of at least an hour after each meal to prevent bloat. Some dogs gulp their food quickly, which can increase the risk of swallowing air and developing bloat. Using slow-feed bowls or puzzle feeders can help slow down eating and prevent gulping.

Crate Training

Crate training is necessary for every CST puppy. This tool helps prevent accidents or damage to your home and ensures your dog's safety when you can't supervise them. Crates are great for dogs as they create a den-like area for the dog to feel secure. Have you ever noticed that dogs love to go under tables or into dark corners to nap? This is because dogs are den animals. They like to have a closed-off place to feel safe and rest. For puppies, the crate is like a crib; we put babies in a crib to sleep and stay safe, as well as to prevent them from getting into anything they shouldn't. This concept applies to puppies as well.

Picking an appropriate size crate:

When selecting a crate for your puppy, it's important to choose one that allows enough room for the dog to enter, turn around, and lie down comfortably. If the crate is too big, the puppy might go potty on one end and sleep on the other. Conversely, if the crate is too small, it can be uncomfortable and force the puppy to lay in their own waste, potentially creating a negative association with the crate.

To accommodate your growing puppy, consider purchasing a larger crate with a divider. This way, you can gradually increase the space as the dog grows, instead of needing to buy a new crate every few months.

When first introducing the crate:

Make going into the crate as enjoyable as possible for the puppy. You can do this by tossing treats into the crate and feeding one of their meals in the crate. You can give Kongs stuffed with peanut butter or wet dog food while the dog

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is in the crate. Kongs can also be frozen to prolong their use but be sure to put a straw through the center while freezing so the suction doesn't catch the dog's tongue.

A good rule of thumb is to crate the dog throughout the night. When crating during the day, do not exceed the dog's age in months plus one hour. For example, if your puppy is 2 months old, they shouldn't exceed more than 3 hours in the crate throughout the day. However, regardless of age, all CST dogs should not exceed 5 hours in the crate at a time besides overnight. If you are planning to be gone for a long period of time (more than a few hours), the dog should be confined to a larger area such as a playpen, a separate dog-proofed room, or a closed-off portion of the home like the kitchen, where things are out of reach and if an accident happens, it's easier to clean up.

The crate should never be used as a punishment and should not be used as a long-term confinement area. If you set the crate up as a positive place, the dog will love the space you've created.

Whining in the crate:

To prevent whining in the crate, make sure all your dog's needs are met before they are crated. If you know your dog doesn't need to potty and isn't thirsty, ignore the whining. Have the crate in a separate bedroom or area that can be closed off and kept quiet. When the crate is in a common area like the living room, the dog will whine more because it sees what is going on without being included. Do not take your dog out when they are whining; ignore the whining and wait for them to stop. If you need to take the dog out for any reason while it's whining, wait until the whining subsides for even a moment before you remove the dog. **If you take the pup out when they are whining, you will only reinforce the behavior, as the pup learns that whining gets them out of the crate.**

Crate training and potty training can go hand in hand. If your puppy is under 4 months old, it is likely you may have to wake up in the night and take your dog for a midnight potty run. It's better to set an alarm and take them out on your schedule rather than waiting for them to whine, as this helps to avoid reinforcing whining in the crate. When crating your dog at night, remember to remove water an hour or so before bed and take them out to toilet before putting them into the crate for the night. For younger puppies that can't hold it as long, make sure every potty opportunity has been exhausted first.

Home Safety

Before bringing a puppy home, you want to make sure your home is puppy proofed. All items on the ground that are harmful for a puppy should be put out of reach or behind a closed cabinet. Some items that should always be out of a puppy's reach include:

- Antifreeze
- Any food, especially chocolate, grapes and onions
- Rat poison
- Toxic house plants
- Garbage & recycling bins
- All household cleaning products
- Medications
- Wires and phone chargers
- Batteries
- Small kids toys or cat toys
- Sharp items such as knives or scissors

REMEMBER: "IF ITS ON THE GROUND IT BELONGS TO THE HOUND!"

Puppy Proofing Checklist

- Contain all your cords:** Move your charging cords and wires out of reach of the puppy. These can cause burns and electrical shock to the pup. Use cord protectors or hide cords behind furniture to prevent chewing.

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- **Secure household chemicals:** Store all cleaning products in locked cabinets or high shelves to prevent accidental ingestion by the puppy. Rat poisons can sometimes attract dogs because they are grain-based, like much of the food we feed our dogs. Antifreeze can also be enticing for dogs to eat because of its sweet taste, but it is highly poisonous to dogs. Ensure all hazardous chemicals are stored securely out of the puppy's reach to avoid accidental poisoning.

- **Pick up small toys or choking hazards:** Puppies tend to chew on anything they can get their paws on, and they may even swallow small objects. While it may seem harmless when they're just carrying them around, there is always a risk of ingestion. Small toys or objects left on the floor can pose a choking hazard or, if swallowed, can cause a bowel obstruction or even death. Always ensure the puppy's environment is free of small items they could ingest.

- **Identify Toxic Plants:** Check your home and yard for any plants that are toxic to dogs. Either remove these plants or place them out of reach of the puppy. The following is a list of common plants that are a danger to dogs:
 - Begonia
 - Chrysanthemum
 - Daffodil
 - Daisy
 - Foxglove
 - Geranium
 - Iris
 - Lilly
 - Tulip
 - Hyacinth
 - Aloe Vera
 - Holly
 - Hydrangea
 - Ivy
 - Oleander
 - Peony
 - Sago Palm
 - Black Walnut
 - Chinaberry
 - Fruit Trees
 - Buckeye
 - Japanese Yew
 - Nut Trees

Secure Areas:

It's essential to provide secure areas for your puppy when you're unable to give them your full attention. Crates and gates not only help establish boundaries but also ensure the puppy's safety and prevent them from getting into trouble. Remember, your dog doesn't need access to every room in the house. Some areas, like the garage where there are often paints, small tools, and chemicals, are best kept off-limits to dogs. Similarly, kids' rooms and nurseries can pose risks with small toys or items that could be harmful if ingested. Designate a secure dog-proofed room, use a crate, playpen, or dog run to confine your puppy when you can't give them 100% of your attention. This helps prevent accidents and keeps your puppy safe from potential hazards.

Pool Safety:

Ensuring pool safety is crucial, especially when your dog is around. If you have an unfenced pool, it's essential to show your dog where the steps are located a few times, enabling them to get out if they accidentally fall in. However, the best practice is to restrict your dog's access to the pool area when unsupervised.

If your dog does end up in the pool, it's vital to ensure they are completely dry afterward. Even a small damp area on their fur can lead to discomfort, such as hotspots or skin irritation. Additionally, make sure to thoroughly rinse your dog after swimming to remove all pool chemicals, and dry your dog's ears to prevent potential ear infections, which may require veterinary treatment.

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Yard Safety:

Before allowing your dog in the yard, it's crucial to ensure the perimeter is fully secure. Check for any holes under the fence or items along the fence that the dog could potentially use to jump over. Ideally, the fence should be at least 6 feet tall if you plan on leaving your dog unattended for any period.

Additionally, yards should be free of harmful plants and brush that could harm the dog. Common hazards include goat heads, which are thorns from weeds that can embed in your dog's paws or fur, and foxtails, a type of weed that can also embed in your dog's fur and potentially cause infections.

In addition to the oral flea preventative provided, it's advisable to treat your yard and environment for fleas as an extra precaution to keep your dog safe and healthy. Regular inspections and maintenance of the yard's safety features are essential for your dog's well-being.

CHAPTER 2: KEEPING PUPPY SAFE

Health & Signs of Illness

Keeping your puppy healthy involves a combination of proper nutrition, regular veterinary care, grooming, and attention to its overall well-being. Here are some essential tips to ensure your puppy stays healthy:

Keep your puppy properly nourished by feeding balanced, high quality puppy food appropriate for its breed and size. Ensure the puppy food is AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials) certified. This certification indicates that the food meets established nutritional standards for growing puppies and provides the essential nutrients needed for healthy development.

Speak to the puppy raiser manager about keeping a regular veterinary check-up schedule. During their annual check-up, we will screen their stool for internal parasites and perform a heartworm test. To keep your puppy flea and parasite free, be sure to keep them on track with oral monthly flea, tick, and heartworm medication given on the first of every month. Regular veterinary visits and preventive care are crucial for maintaining your puppy's overall health and well-being.

Regular grooming is also an important part of your puppy's health. Be sure to brush your puppy's coat to prevent matting and reduce shedding. Bathe your puppy as needed, using a gentle, puppy-specific shampoo. Keep their ears clean and dry, trim their nails, and brush their teeth regularly. Consistent grooming helps maintain your puppy's overall hygiene and can prevent potential health issues.

Recognizing signs of ill health in a puppy is crucial for ensuring timely veterinary care. Here are some common indicators that a puppy might be unwell:

Behavioral Changes:

- Lethargy or decreased activity level
- Excessive sleeping
- Unusual aggression or fearfulness
- **Appetite and Thirst:**
 - Loss of appetite or refusal to eat
 - Increased or decreased water intake
- **Gastrointestinal Issues:**
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea or constipation
 - Abdominal bloating or pain
- **Respiratory Symptoms:**
 - Coughing, sneezing, or wheezing
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Nasal discharge
- **Urinary Issues:**
 - Straining to urinate
 - Blood in urine
 - Increased frequency of urination

● **Skin and Coat:**

- Dull or rough coat
- Excessive scratching or licking
- Hair loss or bald patches
- Redness, swelling, or sores on the skin

● **Eyes and Ears:**

- Discharge from eyes or ears
- Redness or swelling
- Cloudy or sunken eyes

● **Weight and Growth:**

- Failure to gain weight or grow
- Sudden weight loss

● **Oral Health:**

- Bad breath
- Swollen or bleeding gums
- Drooling

● **Mobility Issues:**

- Limping or reluctance to move
- Stiffness or difficulty standing up

If you observe any of these signs, it's important to consult the puppy raiser manager immediately. Early detection and treatment can prevent more serious health issues and ensure the puppy's well-being.

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Vaccinations

Canine Support Teams follows the advice of the American Animal Hospital Association for all vaccine protocols. All puppies should have the following vaccines:

- **DA2PP** (combination vaccine for Distemper, Adenovirus Type 2 (Hepatitis), Parvovirus, Parainfluenza)
 - 3 doses of this combination vaccine between 6 and 16 weeks, 2-4 weeks apart)
- **Rabies**
 - 1 dose given at 16 weeks
- **Leptospirosis**
 - 2 doses 2-4 weeks apart, starting at 12 weeks old.
- **Bordetella** (aka kennel cough)
 - 1 dose at 6 to 8 weeks old.

Note: It is important that these vaccines do not become overdue, as the vaccine protocol will have to be re-started.

Vaccines can be acquired with your personal vet, or an appointment can be made with CST to take the puppy to the vet on your behalf. Please turn in any vaccine related paperwork to the Puppy Raiser Manager ASAP, so we can include it in their medical records.

Preventing Disease

Before a full round of vaccines, your puppy will not be fully protected against various viruses and bacteria. During this time, they are vulnerable to many different life-threatening diseases. This means avoiding taking the puppy out to places where other dogs congregate. However, the socialization clock is ticking. When it comes to experiences, it is quality over quantity. If the exposures are of high-quality you do not have to over-expose in order to achieve an adequate level of socialization.

Before taking a puppy out in public, consider the safety of the outing. A grocery store is generally safer than a pet store, as pets are not allowed in grocery stores, reducing the risk of exposure to other animals. This doesn't mean you can't take your puppy to riskier places; it just means more precautions should be taken. Consider using a dog stroller, carrying the puppy in your arms, or laying a blanket on the ground in areas where dogs congregate to ensure their safety.

Below is a list of places to avoid before your puppy has been fully vaccinated, and a list of safe socialization ideas.

Places to Avoid:

- Grooming Salons (use a mobile groomer instead, or bring them to our facility for their grooming needs)
- Dog Parks, Doggy Day Care (these are never allowed for CST dogs)
- Common dog walking paths
- Beaches
- Pet Stores
- Any public spaces with a high chance of other animals' presence.

Safe Place Ideas:

- Local Car wash
- Friends' houses who have fully vaccinated pets, or no pets.
- In public, in a stroller, or other dog carrier.
- Your local park (you can place your pup on a blanket and watch the world go by.)
- Shopping center parking lots (keep your pup in the back of your car and encourage people to meet them.)
- Starbucks Drive-Thru for a pup cup, or other drive-thrus.

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Public Safety

When we talk about keeping your dog safe in public, there are a few key points to consider.

- **Properly fitted collar:** This is essential because it ensures that your dog doesn't slip out of their collar while you're out and about. A collar that's too loose can easily slide off, potentially putting your dog in danger if they run off unexpectedly.
- **Keeping your dog close:** We use the term "bubble" to describe the space around us and our dogs. By keeping your dog within your bubble, which is just a couple of feet around you, you maintain control over them and reduce the risk of them getting into trouble. It also helps prevent them from bothering other people or dogs.
- **Being cautious around other dogs:** While most dogs are friendly, we can't predict how every dog will react in a public setting. Even dogs labeled as service dogs may behave unpredictably. So, it's important to approach other dogs with caution and be prepared to move away if necessary to avoid any potential conflicts.
- **Politely declining petting:** Not all dogs enjoy being petted by strangers, and some may feel anxious or uncomfortable in certain situations. As responsible pet owners, it's okay to politely decline if someone asks to pet your dog. This helps protect your dog's well-being and ensures they have positive interactions with people.
- **Carrying a clean-up kit:** Accidents happen, and it's essential to be prepared. Having a clean-up kit with wipes, sanitizer, and poop bags allows you to quickly and discreetly clean up any mess your dog may make while you're out and about.

By following these guidelines, you can help keep your dog safe, happy, and well-behaved when venturing out into public spaces.

Do's & Don'ts

The following guide outlines essential do's and don'ts to help you navigate the early stages of puppy parenthood.

Do's

- Nyla bones
- Supervise puzzle games or snuffle mats
- High quality single ingredient treats
- Appropriately Sized Crate
- Get puppy care by an approved puppy sitter
- Get grooming by a CST approved groomer
- Contact us to board your puppy
- Attend puppy classes, or get approval for non-CST training classes

Don'ts

- Natural Bones or Rawhide chews
- Dairy Products
- Rope toys
- Balls under 3 inches in size
- Dog Parks
- Doggy Day Care
- Use Flea Shampoo
- Use topical flea medicines
- Crate for more than a few hours at a time

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Children & Puppies

Introducing small children to puppies requires careful supervision, as puppies have sharp teeth and toddlers may inadvertently grab and pull on them. A negative experience during these interactions can cause a puppy to develop a lasting dislike for children, while a bite from a puppy can instill fear of dogs in a child.

It's essential to always supervise interactions between puppies and small children closely. Teach both the child and the puppy how to interact safely with each other. Ensure children understand not to approach puppies while they are eating or sleeping and encourage gentle handling and respectful behavior towards the puppy. By providing guidance and supervision, you can help foster positive interactions between children and puppies while ensuring everyone's safety and well-being.

Create safe spaces.

Create a space where a small child can be where the puppy isn't allowed, such as a kid's room. Likewise, provide a space where the dog can retreat to and not be bothered, like a crate. Having separate safe spaces for both the child and the puppy ensures that both parties have areas where they can feel secure and have a break from each other when needed.

CHAPTER 3: PUPPY MANNERS

Socialization

Your puppy is going to one day be a service dog! At 18 months, your puppy will begin advanced training, which will take approximately 6 months to complete. Around their 2nd birthday, they will be teamed up with their disabled partner. You have the most important part of this process: socialization.

What is socialization and why is it so important for prospective service dogs?

Socialization is the process of exposing your pup to a variety of people, animals, environments, and experiences in a positive and controlled manner. The goal is to help the pup develop confidence and reduce fear in new situations. For a potential service dog, proper early socialization is crucial to their success and development. It helps them become well-adjusted, adaptable, and confident adult dogs capable of handling various environments and situations they will encounter as service dogs. If a puppy isn't well socialized by the time they are 6 months old, they are likely to be fearful, anxious, and unable to tolerate new environments.

Socialization at 8 to 11 weeks

This is a very vulnerable time for your pup in training. At 8 weeks old, your pup will leave their mom and siblings to join your household. During this period, the pup will be adjusting to human family life and experiencing many changes, which can take up to two weeks. Most puppies at this age are adaptable and do very well, but they will experience some distress from leaving their dog family. The first three weeks at home are critical to their success, so it's important to keep their experiences positive.

Traumatic experiences during this time can have a lasting impact.

While keeping things positive, this is the perfect time to introduce your pup to family members, other pets, children, household noises, smells, your backyard, routines, guests, different surfaces, short car rides, and more. Try to create positive associations.

As their leader and new family, your reactions will significantly impact how they feel about new experiences. When they appear nervous or uncertain, try to "jolly" them up by acting happy and excited to counter their fear.

You want to make sure that every socialization experience is positive. It is important to remember that puppies are babies and get tired easily. Ensure that you are not allowing any overhandling or excessive socialization to the point where your pup is not enjoying it. At this age, keep interactions short, sweet, enjoyable, and fun. Only expose the pup to new experiences when they are well-rested and better able to happily cope. Puppies are growing and need plenty of naps and rest.

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Socialization at 11 to 16 weeks

If you receive your puppy at 8 weeks, your puppy will be acclimated to your family and household by 11 weeks. Now is the time to start exposing them to other environments.

Your pup will not be fully vaccinated until they are 16 weeks, so be cautious about the places you take them. Dog parks are off-limits for all CST dogs. At this age, avoid places where other dogs go. You can carry them into shopping centers or malls or use a wagon or a stroller designed for dogs. Keep your outings short the first few times.

There will be many sights, sounds, and smells they have not been exposed to. Pups are very adaptable at this age; the more they experience, the more accepting they will be in new environments when they are older. This would be a great time to take them to Starbucks and have them watch all the people coming and going. Watch your pup's reactions. Do they seem curious and happy? Do they look fearful? Do they look tired?

Take them with you on short outings but be mindful that the pup does not get too overwhelmed. We want to increase their tolerance to all the sights and sounds in public, but too much too fast can set your pup back.

Socialization at 16 weeks and beyond

At 16 weeks, your pup will be fully vaccinated and have more energy, allowing them to tolerate 1-2 hours out in public. Once your pup can walk on a leash, you can walk them around stores. A lap or two around a grocery store, Costco, a ride in an elevator, or a visit to Starbucks are great ways to increase your pup's exposure to various environments.

It's okay to let a few friendly people greet your pup and give them a treat during outings. However, don't let too many people pet your pup, as it could cause them to dislike people approaching. Ensure the dogs they meet are social and friendly with other dogs.

During outings, focus on letting the pup experience and explore. Try to get your pup out at least three times a week. By the time they are 4 months old, they will have the ability to focus more in public spaces. They will be fully vaccinated, and you can start puppy classes. Our puppy raiser manager will be able to guide you in training and provide great socialization experiences!

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Socialization List

Dog's Name: _____

Dog Age (in weeks): _____

People/Animals	Objects/Equipment	Places/Smells	Sounds/Handling
Total:	Total:	Total:	Total:
People	Surfaces/Textures	Places	Sounds
<input type="checkbox"/> Babies	<input type="checkbox"/> Dirt	<input type="checkbox"/> Fear Free Vet	<input type="checkbox"/> Sirens
<input type="checkbox"/> Toddlers	<input type="checkbox"/> Grass	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Groomer	<input type="checkbox"/> Cars/Honking
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-teens	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravel, Loose	<input type="checkbox"/> Car Ride	<input type="checkbox"/> TV
<input type="checkbox"/> Teens	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravel, Packed	<input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant	<input type="checkbox"/> Gunshots
<input type="checkbox"/> Young adults	<input type="checkbox"/> Sand	<input type="checkbox"/> Doctor's Office	<input type="checkbox"/> Fireworks
<input type="checkbox"/> Men of all sizes	<input type="checkbox"/> Tile	<input type="checkbox"/> School	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum
<input type="checkbox"/> Women of all sizes	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Floors	<input type="checkbox"/> Friend's Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher
<input type="checkbox"/> Seniors	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Barking Dogs
<input type="checkbox"/> Different ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Granite/Marble	<input type="checkbox"/> Movies	<input type="checkbox"/> Music
<input type="checkbox"/> People in hats	<input type="checkbox"/> Slippery Surfaces	<input type="checkbox"/> Shopping Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawnmower
<input type="checkbox"/> Police officers	<input type="checkbox"/> Puddles/Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Puppy Class	<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm Clock
<input type="checkbox"/> EMTs	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpet	<input type="checkbox"/> Busy Street	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorbike
<input type="checkbox"/> Firemen	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Shows	<input type="checkbox"/> Thunder
<input type="checkbox"/> Postman	<input type="checkbox"/> Grates	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoo	<input type="checkbox"/> Barking Dogs
People With...	<input type="checkbox"/> Snow	<input type="checkbox"/> Bowling Alley	<input type="checkbox"/> Burning Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> An odd gait	Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Skating Rink	<input type="checkbox"/> Crying Babies
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Collar	<input type="checkbox"/> Movie Theater	<input type="checkbox"/> Engines Starting
<input type="checkbox"/> Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Leash	<input type="checkbox"/> Farms	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting Calls
<input type="checkbox"/> A wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/> Crate	<input type="checkbox"/> Woods	<input type="checkbox"/> Banging Pans
<input type="checkbox"/> Varying hair length	<input type="checkbox"/> Harness	<input type="checkbox"/> Boats	Handling
<input type="checkbox"/> Head scarf	<input type="checkbox"/> Vest	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Transport	<input type="checkbox"/> Paws
<input type="checkbox"/> Face coverings	<input type="checkbox"/> Boots	<input type="checkbox"/> Grocery Store	<input type="checkbox"/> Nails
<input type="checkbox"/> In a costume	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling coat	Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside Mouth
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Sweater	<input type="checkbox"/> Sporting Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Outside Mouth
<input type="checkbox"/> Wearing a Hat	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Halter	<input type="checkbox"/> Birthday Party	a
Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Basket Muzzle	<input type="checkbox"/> Holidays	<input type="checkbox"/> Ears
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Floating Device	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Functions	<input type="checkbox"/> Nose
<input type="checkbox"/> Rodents	<input type="checkbox"/> Goggles	<input type="checkbox"/> School Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyes
<input type="checkbox"/> Birds	Things	<input type="checkbox"/> Seminars	<input type="checkbox"/> Holding
<input type="checkbox"/> Cats	<input type="checkbox"/> Elevator	<input type="checkbox"/> Street Fairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Brush Coat
<input type="checkbox"/> Farm Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Bouncy Houses	<input type="checkbox"/> County Fair/Rodeo	<input type="checkbox"/> Scissor Coat
<input type="checkbox"/> Cows	<input type="checkbox"/> Nerf/Water Guns	<input type="checkbox"/> Music Event	<input type="checkbox"/> Buzz Coat
<input type="checkbox"/> Rabbits	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Doors	<input type="checkbox"/> Airplane Travel	<input type="checkbox"/> Bathe Coat
<input type="checkbox"/> Horses	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum	Smells	<input type="checkbox"/> Airdry Coat
<input type="checkbox"/> Reptiles	<input type="checkbox"/> Roomba/Robots	<input type="checkbox"/> Pizza	<input type="checkbox"/> Wiping with towel
<input type="checkbox"/> Massive Dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> Balloons	<input type="checkbox"/> BBQ/Grilling	<input type="checkbox"/> Brush Teeth
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> Umbrellas	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Courts	<input type="checkbox"/> Clip Nails
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> Hula Hoops	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaust	<input type="checkbox"/> Dremel Nails
Animals With...	<input type="checkbox"/> Gym Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas Fumes	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Flat faces	<input type="checkbox"/> Vending Machines	<input type="checkbox"/> Paint	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Dif. temperaments	<input type="checkbox"/> Benches	<input type="checkbox"/> Rubbing Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Different breeds	<input type="checkbox"/> Mirrors (reflection)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dif. Dog Food	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pots & Pans	<input type="checkbox"/> Something Rotting	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Brooms	<input type="checkbox"/> Job Site Scents	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Garbage Cans		<input type="checkbox"/>

CANINE SUPPORT TEAMS PUPPY RAISING 101

Introduction to Gear

Introducing your dog to their vest

Your pup will likely be playful and may try to bite at the vest when it is first introduced. When they are puppies, it's best to put the vest on them as if it's no big deal. As soon as your dog is comfortable in their new home, put their vest on and distract them with a toy to prevent them from biting or pulling at the vest.

To create a positive association with the vest, try putting it on right before a meal. The meal will distract them from messing with the vest, and the vest will soon signal to the pup that something good is about to happen.

Introducing your dog to their collar

Introducing a collar is usually straightforward. Put it on your pup as if it's no big deal. While the pup may try to bite at it, a properly fitted collar (with enough space for two fingers to slip between the collar and neck) will minimize this behavior.

Never leave the collar on your pup while they are in a crate or pen, as it can easily get caught and pose a strangulation hazard. Since puppies grow quickly, it is important to check the collar's fit daily and adjust it as needed. Collars are provided to you, so be sure to let the puppy raiser manager know if a larger size is needed. Regularly checking and adjusting the collar ensures your puppy's safety and comfort.

Introduction to Loose Leash Walking

Introduce your pup to walking on a leash with a 4-6ft leash and a handful of treats. Clip the leash onto the pup's collar and be prepared for them to bite at it or try to run to the end. Encourage your pup to follow you with a treat, practicing indoors where there are fewer distractions.

From the very first lesson, be clear that you don't want to follow your pup. If they get ahead, lure them back into position with a treat, positioning them a little behind you or at your side before moving forward. If they move ahead, stand still ("be a tree") and lure them back into position. Consistency is key; your pup will quickly learn that to move forward, they must be beside you or a little behind.

Once they have mastered this indoors, take them on short leash training walks outside. Never let your pup move forward with tension on the leash, as this will teach them it's okay to pull, which can become a bigger problem as they grow. Pulling on the leash is a common issue that leads people to hire trainers around 6-8 months old, as the behavior worsens with the pup's size and strength. By being conscious of leash tension and never allowing your pup to pull, you can eliminate this problem early on.

Body Handling & Grooming

Spend time getting your pup used to being handled and touched. When they are winding down and sleepy, gently touch every part of their body, including their ears, gums, paws, nails, tail, and coat. Use a soft brush and go slow to avoid overstimulating the pup. Make it a relaxing experience and try to do this daily. This will help your pup accept handling as an adult.

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Let your puppy sniff and explore grooming tools like brushes, combs, nail clippers, and clippers. Turn on electric grooming tools near the puppy to familiarize them with the sound without using them initially. Make the experience exciting and rewarding.

To get your puppy used to the grooming process, start with gentle brushing sessions, using a soft brush appropriate for your puppy's coat type. Next, touch and handle your puppy's paws regularly to get them used to the sensation. Gradually introduce the nail clippers by touching them to the puppy's nails without clipping. Reward calm behavior and progress to clipping one nail at a time. Consistently use treats, praise, and affection to reward your puppy for calm and cooperative behavior during grooming sessions. This helps them associate grooming with positive experiences. Avoid forcing any grooming procedure. If your puppy shows signs of stress or discomfort, stop and try again later. Make grooming a regular part of your puppy's routine to maintain their comfort and familiarity with the process.

CHAPTER 4: PROBLEM SOLVING WITH PUPPY

My puppy jumps up on people

One of the most common complaints people have about their dogs is jumping up on people to greet. Unfortunately, people often unknowingly reinforce this behavior from a young age. When puppies are 8 weeks old, they naturally run up to family members and jump on them to greet them. It's common for people to bend over and pet or pick up the puppy, inadvertently rewarding the jumping behavior. However, as the puppy grows, they're reprimanded for the same behavior they were once rewarded for. This inconsistency isn't fair to the pup!

To prevent this behavior, when your pup jumps up on you to greet, immediately turn your back and move away. Avoid petting, pushing down, or kneeling the pup; simply turn away. Once the pup stops jumping and has all four feet on the floor, you can greet them. Consistency is key, so ensure everyone in your household follows this rule. With consistent reinforcement, your pup will learn not to jump up in just a day or two.

You can also teach your pup to sit to greet. When the pup runs to greet, have a treat ready and lure them into a sitting position by placing the treat in front of their nose and raising your hand up until they sit. Once they sit, say "yes" and release the treat. Practice this until the puppy understands that they must sit to greet.

My puppy steals my stuff and starts running around with it

This is another common issue that people inadvertently encourage. Puppies naturally explore their environment with their mouths; it's part of their innate curiosity. Prevention is key to curbing this behavior and preventing it from becoming a habit. Creating a puppy-safe environment by removing potential hazards and providing safe toys for chewing and playing can help redirect their chewing instincts.

But what if your puppy grabs something they shouldn't have? Instead of chasing them, which can turn into an exciting game for the pup, try a different approach. Get your pup's attention and move in the opposite direction, away from them. Then, grab a high-value treat or toy, call your pup in a cheerful tone, and move backward. Once your pup comes to you, offer the treat or toy in exchange for the item they have. This teaches your pup that bringing items to you results in a reward, rather than engaging in a chase game.

My puppy is being mouthy

Puppies naturally use their mouths to explore and play, but it's important to teach them to be gentle with human skin. If your puppy bites you during play, respond by yelling "ouch" in a high-pitched tone and immediately withdraw from the interaction. This abrupt response will startle your puppy and make them pause. By removing yourself from the play, you communicate to your puppy that biting results in the end of the fun.

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After giving your puppy a few minutes to calm down, you can engage with them again. Repeat this process consistently each time your puppy bites, and most pups learn quickly that biting leads to the end of playtime. It's crucial to start teaching this lesson as soon as you bring your puppy home.

My puppy is chewing things they shouldn't

Puppies have a natural inclination to chew as part of their teething process, which is essential for their development and relaxation. However, it's crucial to teach them what is and isn't acceptable to chew on. Ensure you have plenty of age-appropriate chew toys available and easily accessible for your puppy.

When you're unable to supervise your puppy, confine them to a crate, kennel, or x-pen to prevent access to items they shouldn't chew on. Leaving a puppy unattended with access to furniture may result in unwanted chewing behavior. By establishing clear boundaries and providing appropriate chew toys, you can help prevent the habit of chewing on furniture from forming.

When you catch your puppy chewing on anything other than their chew toys, interrupt the behavior with a firm "Leave it" command, and then redirect their attention to one of their appropriate chew toys. Consistency is key in reinforcing this behavior and preventing future chewing issues.

Important Contacts

For general info and questions during regular business hours including Saturday's contact:

Helena Strickland
Puppy Raiser Manager
(951)-553-0856 *text or call*
Caninetrainer@caninesupportteams.org

Main Office Phone number
951-301-3625

For after hour questions or non life threatening emergencies contact:

Shara Butterworth
Training Director
(951) -526-4167 *After hours availability*
(951)-290-9979 *Work phone*

Joy Fields
Director of Canine Care
(714) 326-4267 *After hours availability*
(951)-970-7638 *Work Phone – text or call*

Kate Brochu
Finance Manager
(951)-401-9070 *After Hours availability*

Carol Roquemore
CEO/Founder
(951)-743-8341 *After Hours availability*

For any life threatening emergencies please contact your local emergency vet or call 911:

Poison Control: **1-800-222-1222**
ASPCA 24 hour vet hotline: **(888) 426-4435**

CANINE SUPPORT TEAMS PUPPY RAISING 101

Puppy Raiser Quiz

Complete the quiz and sign the acknowledgement form to confirm your understanding and agreement to follow the guidelines provided in this manual. Return the signed form to the Puppy Raiser Manager.

1. When taking your puppy to the potty area, use the command " _____ " to encourage them to relieve themselves.
2. Puppies from 8 weeks to 6 months should be fed _____ times a day.
3. If your puppy has an accident in the home, what should you NOT do?
 - a. Get angry at the puppy
 - b. Use a crate to prevent future accidents
 - c. Clean the accident immediately
 - d. Monitor the puppy closely to prevent future accidents
 - d. Ignore it and continue with regular activities
4. What is the primary purpose of crate training a puppy?
 - a. To confine the puppy as punishment
 - b. To help with potty training and create a safe space for puppy
 - c.
 - d. To keep the puppy entertained
 - e. To avoid socialization
5. What should you do if you notice signs of illness in your puppy?
 - a. Wait and see if it gets better on its own
 - b. Consult the puppy raiser manager immediately
 - c. Give the puppy over-the-counter medication
6. What is the purpose of the socialization list?
 - a. To track vaccinations
 - b. To monitor feeding schedules
 - c. To track exposure to various stimuli
 - d. To list crate training sessions
7. How should you react if your puppy jumps up on people?
 - a. Encourage the behavior
 - b. Turn away and ignore the pup, rewarding them when all four paws are on the ground
 - c. Chase the puppy
 - d. Use a bitter apple spray
8. If your puppy is chewing on something they shouldn't, what should you NOT do?
 - a. Supervise the puppy closely
 - b. Use a deterrent like bitter apple spray
 - c. Redirect the puppy to appropriate chew toys
 - d. Yell at the puppy to stop
9. Your puppy should receive their rabies vaccination at 12 weeks. **TRUE** **FALSE**
10. You can start exposing your puppy to public places using a stroller or carrier at 8 to 11 weeks. **TRUE** **FALSE**

SCORE: _____

Puppy Raiser Manual Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the puppy raiser manual. I understand and recognize that there may be changes to the information in the manual. I understand that Canine Support Teams, Inc. may add new information to the manual as well as replace, change, or remove existing information. I understand that I will be told about any changes, and I understand that manual changes can only be authorized by Canine Support Teams, Inc. management.

I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with all information included within the puppy raiser manual. I further understand that I should consult the puppy raiser manager regarding any questions I may have.

Volunteer Signature

Volunteer Signature

Date

Printed Name