

Section 1:

Planning For Your Dog



THE DOG OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Any person who owns a dog should realize the commitment he or she has taken to provide proper feeding and care for a living animal. How well you care for your dog will be reflected in his health and in his behaviour.

Owning a dog means much more than simply feeding it. Dogs must be groomed, kept clean and free of pests, protected against disease, and given veterinary care when needed. Even feeding is not so simple. Dogs should receive a nutritionally balanced diet. Keeping your dog in top health not only protects him but also other dogs he may come into contact with. Keeping your dog at home will better insure that he is not exposed to disease.

A dog must be taught good manners, must not be allowed to become a menace or a nuisance to you or your neighbours, and must obey your commands.

You are also responsible to inquire into local laws concerning dogs and to follow them. Dog laws usually place full blame for any damage a dog may do upon the owner. Therefore, it is very important that you insure your dog is given proper training. If you earnestly assume the responsibility of owning a dog, you will receive pleasure from owning it.



THE DOG IN THE FAMILY

A traditional picture of happiness is one in which the family is gathered about the fireplace at night while winter winds blow snow and cold outside. There will be a family dog in that picture, lying at length on the warm floor, his back so close to the fire you cannot imagine why he doesn't singe his fur.

This picture conveys to us a sense of shelter and warmth, of protection, and of being well fed. Perhaps it stirs us so because we can almost cast our memories back to a time 15,000 years ago when primitive hunters crouched between a cliff and a fire, striving to protect themselves from the cold, and from wild beasts that waited in the darkness beyond the fire.

The dog belongs in that picture, too. For in that time so long ago, the dog cast his lot with man. Dog and man have moved together down the centuries, until today when dogs are just as common in apartment homes as they are in the country.

Humans have taken their dogs with them wherever they went. The dogs, showing both marvelous intelligence and remarkable adaptability, have worked to help man, to earn their own share in the partnership. In the Arctic they have been sled dogs. They have chased game in the deserts and across mountain ranges. The Ainu of Japan have taught them to swim out into shallow ocean bays and to herd schools of fish to the beaches.

Dogs have pulled burdens tied to two poles, called "travois" by North American Natives. They have served as scout, messenger, and Red Cross dogs. They have fought by the side of soldiers in ancient armies as well as in our modern armies.

As far back as we can trace man's history, the dog has been the guardian of his flocks. He has protected them from wolves and hyenas, has located the lost and returned them to the flock, and has learned how to drive them to pasture or to the market.

Beyond all these things, the dog has been a companion to man, even serving as eyes for the blind and ears for the deaf. For that reason, both are happier when the dog is in the home. Not so long ago, the dog lived in the barn. He scavenged for food, and was given the leftovers.

Today the dog has his honoured place in the home. He helps get the kids off to school in the morning, naps while they study, barks at strangers, romps with the children when they come home, takes the warmest spot by the fireside, or sleeps on the heat register.

And for that, he'll get more pampering and loving than all the rest of the family put together. Any why not? He is the family dog - our dog!

WHAT A PUPPY IS NOT

A puppy is one of the most appealing creatures on earth. He's the embodiment of exuberance, humour, and affection. But there are a great many things that a puppy is not, and these negative aspects deserve some thought before you bring a puppy home.

A puppy is not a toy to be enjoyed while he is a novelty, then set aside in favour of a new diversion. He is a living thing whose physical demands must be met constantly for as long as he lives.

A young puppy needs more sleep than a human infant, even though your children may be in the mood to play with him. He needs to be fed regularly and often, even though his meals may conflict with family plans.

A young puppy is breakable. Very young children can inflict unintended tortures on a puppy, especially one of the small or fine-boned breeds. And a broken leg is much harder to fix than the broken wheel of a toy truck.

A puppy is not a teaching aid guaranteed to instill a sense of responsibility in children. If a child loves his dog, he will probably enjoy brushing him, taking him for walks, filling his water dish, and other tasks. A sense of responsibility may well grow out of the relationship, but it is unfair to the animal to put his entire well-being into the hands of children.



Even the most dog-loving youngsters tire of daily chores, and parents who try to force the regime will be asking for friction. Unfortunately, it is the puppy who is the loser in this battle. Responsibility lessons are better left to household tasks that don't involve a pet. The essentials of feeding, housebreaking, and discipline training will fall to an adult member of the household. Youngsters can help with the less essential jobs of grooming and walking.

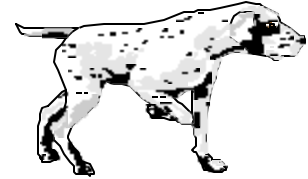
Dogs and children do give each other something very valuable - time and attention that adults are often too busy to offer in sufficient quantities. This is the main function of a child-dog partnership.

A puppy is not cheap. Whether you pay a nominal fee at the city humane shelter or what seems to be a king's ransom for a really special pup, the money paid to make the pet yours is a mere drop in the bucket compared to what it will cost you to keep him.

There will be veterinary bills to pay for both emergencies and regular vaccinations and checkups. There will be licenses to buy. And there are legal aspects of dog ownership you may never have considered - not just personal injury claims, but replacement of shrubbery or grass or neighbourhood children's clothing torn in play. And there's the wear and tear on your furniture and carpet.

A puppy is not a spur-of-the-moment purchase, or at least he shouldn't be.

The wrong dog can be an unending nuisance to a household - and it's much easier to acquire a pup than it is to get rid of a grown dog who didn't work out. Animal shelters are bulging with dogs who were acquired for the wrong reasons, or without sufficient investigation.



If your family had decided to buy a dog, by all means take the time to learn about the breed you have in mind. Every breed has characteristics of temperament, and some of these traits may not fit in with your life-style. Some breeds are prone to physical problems such as hip dysplasia, ear cankers, and eye abnormalities. If you are aware of these problems, you can do a more intelligent job of selecting your puppy.

Many towns have kennel clubs whose members are reputable, knowledgeable, and generally helpful. Most breeders will be glad to answer your questions and to help you locate the pup you want. A veterinarian can put you in touch with the nearest kennel club.

If you take the time to do some investigating before you buy, you will know what the going prices are for your breed. Pet shops are often able to sell pups of very low quality for show-dog prices simply because few buyers bother to check.

Many puppies are bought impetuously because they looked cute in the pet shop window; because it was a nice day for a drive in the country and there was a kennel with a "Visitors Welcome" sign; or because another family pet had just died. Pups bought without being genuinely wanted - and planned for - too often end up at the animal shelter.

A puppy is not a gift unless the giver is certain that this particular pup will be wanted. Not only now but a year from now, ten years from now. And even then the puppy should be selected by his new owner rather than by someone else. The pup that appeals to one might not very well appeal to the other. It's a matter of chemistry, like love at first sight.

A puppy is not self-cleaning. There will be puddles on rugs, vomiting occasionally, dog hair on clothing and furniture. There may be worms to be dealt with. If these prospects are intolerable to the housekeeper of the family; then perhaps the pleasures of owning a puppy will be overshadowed by the tension it will cause.

Long-haired breeds need to be groomed - not only while the pup is small and new, but also week in and week out, for years. The heavy, silk coats of breeds such as Cocker Spaniels, Yorkshire Terriers and Lhasa Apsos become matted in a very short time, especially in areas of friction, such as legs and flanks. If the dog's coat isn't combed thoroughly and frequently, it becomes unsightly and uncomfortable. The mats pull and irritate, and they make excellent hiding places for fleas and skin disorders.

A puppy is not an adult dog. He has neither the physical nor the mental ability to perform as an adult dog would. He cannot go for long periods of time without relieving himself. He cannot tolerate harsh training methods, nor can he differentiate between what is chewable and what isn't. Nor will he make any distinction between food and objects that hurt if he swallows them. He will try the patience of the most devout dog lover in the household, and at times he may drive everyone mad. If he is very young, he will cry during his first night or two in his new home. He will require patience and understanding from everyone in the family.

A puppy is not a puppy for long. Before you succumb to the charms of a clumsy St. Bernard pup, or a sad-happy hound, or a limpid-eyed cocker, be very sure that you want not only the puppy he is now, but also the gangly, unattractive adolescent he is about to become, and the adult dog who may fall short of what you hoped he would be.

If you've faced all the negative aspects of puppy ownership and still want him, chances are good that your new dog will be one of the lucky ones who finds a permanent happy home. And you will enjoy the rewards of planned-parenthood dog ownership -rewards which will far overshadow the drawbacks. - Reprinted from *Better Homes and Gardens*

SELECTING THE RIGHT DOG

The decision of selecting a dog is a long lasting one. When choosing a dog there are a number of items that you need to consider. These are dealt with in detail in the following sections.

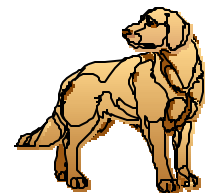
BREEDS

With over one hundred and fifty breeds of dogs to choose from, it is a good idea to learn about the different breeds before you select a dog or puppy.

In general, dog breeds can be categorized into seven main classes. These include Sporting, Hounds, Working, Terriers, Toys, Non-sporting and Herding. In each group the dogs were bred for a particular purpose. Any breed may make a good pet, however, size, coats, and other characteristics make some more desirable than others.

Sporting

Sporting breeds include those bred to hunt and retrieve game birds and small animals. Dogs included in this group are Pointers, Retrievers, Setter, and Spaniels. They generally range in size from thirty to seventy pounds.



Hounds



Hounds are bred to hunt by trailing the scent of game or by trailing by sight. These dogs are usually quiet, friendly animals, and make great pets and watch dogs. The size of Hound breeds varies from twenty-five to one hundred twenty pounds. Some examples include the Bassett, Beagle, Dashund, Greyhound and Irish Wolfhound.

Working and Herding

Working and herding breeds include those dogs bred to herd cattle or sheep, guide the blind, guard, or do police work. Examples of dogs in the group include the Collie, Boxer, Great Dane, German Shepherd, Samoyed, St. Bernard, Schnauzer, and Sheepdog. Working dogs are usually quiet, good-natured and large.



Terriers

Terrier breeds include dogs bred to dig or chase small animals from their underground dens. They are usually active and noisy, however, this also makes them good watchdogs. This group of small dogs include the Miniature Schnauzer, and Terriers.

Toy



Toy breeds are the only group bred solely as a pet and companion. These dogs are very small, generally ranging from 4 to 16 pounds, and tend to be long-lived. Some toy breeds include the Chihuahua, Pekingese, Maltese, Toy Poodles and Pomeranian.

Non-sporting

Non-sporting breeds include any dogs that were bred for a purpose not included in other groups. They vary a great deal in their historical and physical characteristics. They also vary greatly in disposition and size. Although they were developed to perform certain purposes, today they serve chiefly as pets. Some examples include: Dalmatians, Bulldogs, Chow Chows, Miniature Poodles, Standard Poodle and the Boston Terrier.



PUREBRED OR MIXED BREEDS

One of your first considerations when selecting a dog is whether to select a purebred or a mixed breed. In the 4-H dog project you are not required to choose a purebred. Any dog of one or a number of breeds is perfectly acceptable as long as you can properly care for him.

Purebred

Purebred dogs conform to type and often have special aptitudes which have been cultivated in them. The purebred dogs are not necessarily superior to a dog of mixed breeds. If you do select a purebred, you will be permitted to enter breed shows and breed specific obedience or field trials, use a male for stud service, or raise a litter of purebred puppies.

If you select a purebred you should study the pedigree. Never accept a puppy of unknown origin as a gift even though it may appear to be purebred. Many breeds look much the same when they are puppies. Don't take the chance of predicting the dog's appearance at maturity.

A four generation pedigree shows the average genetic contributions made by the ancestors. When selecting a purebred puppy or dog you should give more consideration to the sire and dam than to the grandsire and granddam. An outstanding animal far back in the pedigree cannot significantly influence the animal's type or performance. Sometimes the person selling will make a great issue about the merits of the grandsire or granddam. These remarks should be taken lightly.

Dogs have been bred for many purposes. It is unfair to ask a dog to perform a task for which he was not bred. A collie, for example, is not equipped with the nose-brain to hunt pheasant, and a Setter is not equipped with the herding instinct for driving livestock. Some breeds make better pets for children than others.

Mixed Breeds

Mixed breed, usually called mongrels, have characteristics all their own. The greatest problem with selecting a mixed breed is not knowing what the puppy will be as a mature dog. Even if the puppy's mother is available for observation, you cannot be sure of mature appearance because the sire will represent one half of the genetic makeup and therefore greatly affect the dog's appearance and personality.

For a mature mixed breed dog you can attempt to guess the ancestry by studying the dog's conformation or by observing the dog's actions. That is, you can determine the ancestry of your dog by asking, "What does he look like?" and "What does he act like?"

What does he look like?

Dogs are often grouped according to their jaw length. Long-jawed dogs are the German Shepherd, Doberman Pinscher, Greyhound and Irish Setter. The St. Bernard, Chow Chow, Chihuahua and Pomeranian are included in the group of short-muzzled dogs. The pushed-in face of the Pekingese, Bulldogs, and Boston Terrier do not usually show up in mixed breeds.

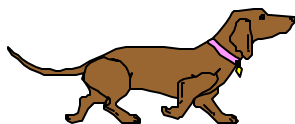
The ears are a characteristic typical of each breed. Bassetts, Spaniels, and Poodles have longer than normal ears. Erect ears usually are found on Shepherd dog breeds, the Northern Breed dogs, and Chow Chows. Drooping ears would indicate Spaniel, Poodle, or Hound blood present.

Hair type is also a clue to breed. Long, bristly guard hair is characteristic of the Chow Chow and of many Northern Breed dogs. Long bristles that lie flat indicate some of the Shepherd types. Terrier breeds have frizzy or curly hair that does not have a seasonal shed. Short, fine hair is found on the Dachshund, Whippet, Pinscher, and similar dogs. Fur like hair is indicative of Poodle ancestry.



A strong colouration may indicate Dalmatian ancestry.

A long-backed, short-legged, crop-eared dog indicates Dachshund blood. If the first two characteristics are present but the dog has erect ears, the dog may have Corgi blood. German Shepherds are also longer in body than they are tall. Terriers generally have stout body with a level back.



What does he act like?

Now consider your dog's possible ancestry by studying his actions. Chasing cars, bicycles, or running after people is indicative of dogs that were bred to herd. If a dog nips at the heels without trying to bite, the cattle-driving instinct is especially strong.

Terriers grab and shake while fighting. Dogs with Greyhound blood slash with their teeth and love to get out and run any time.



Watch your dog while in the field. If he tests wind scents instead of trailing, he may have Setter, Spaniel, or Pointer blood. Dogs that track probably have hound ancestry. Dogs that enjoy swimming are the Spaniel, Poodle, or Retriever type.

TYPE OF DOG

Aside from breed distinction, selection should take into account the basic type of dog that is desired. Do you want a show type dog or a field type dog? Do you want an indoor dog or an outdoor dog? Do you want a short haired dog or a long haired dog?

Show Type or Field Type

If you intend to compete in breed shows, you should first become well acquainted with the standards on which the breed is judged. Dogs in a show are judged on their conformation. Visiting breed shows and seeking the advice of professional handlers can help considerably when making a decision on which dog to purchase.

Dogs in field and obedience trials are judged on their performance. Field trials are held for dogs bred for hunting game birds and animals. A thorough knowledge of the sport should be gained before a purchase is made. The cost for professional training, entry fees, travel, food, lodging and the time necessary for making a champion will be much more than you probably think. Talk with those who have developed a champion. After understanding bench and field trials, you may not be interested in developing a champion and decide that a good purebred meets your needs.

Indoor or Outdoor

You should give some consideration to where your dog will spend most of its time. **A pet is a member of the family. Dogs that spend a part of their time indoors usually have better manners** than those that spend all of their time outdoors. This is usually a function of the more confined environment and being included as a family member; dogs are 'pack' animals and function better when they feel they are part of a pack. However, this is not to say that dogs spending all of their life outdoors cannot have good manners. **Lack of manners is caused by the absence of attention and proper training.**

If a properly designed dog house with bedding is provided, many dogs will be able to be outside at temperatures of **-10EC (-25 EF)**. When the temperatures are predicted to go below **-10EC (-25EF)**, your animals should be brought inside. **One thing to consider is that if the temperature outside is uncomfortable for you, it is uncomfortable for your dog.**

Toy dogs and dogs with short hair, such as Dobermans, are likely to suffer from exposure in winter and should not be left outside in cold weather. Always, but especially in the summer, make sure your dog has lots of water. A properly constructed dog house should provide much needed shade from the direct sun and it is important for your dog to have shelter on hot summer days. It is also important to be consistent in housing. A dog will surely suffer if its sleeping quarters are repeatedly changed from indoors to outdoors.

Doghouse Location

When finding the **Right Spot** for the doghouse **PLEASE** consider the following.

They should be:

1. Up against the human's home, not in the middle of an area.
2. Made of wood or other similar materials.
3. Set up off the ground a few inches.
4. Away from direct wind.
5. In a shady spot in the summer.
6. Insulated and filled with a type of bedding (straw).
7. Equipped with a door flap to keep out wind and snow in winter.



MAKE SURE:

1. The dog has fresh water in a tip proof, nonmetal dish and the water does not freeze in the winter.
2. That they are fed properly.
3. That they are kept in good health.
4. The chain or rope used to restrain them cannot get tangled around objects or trees and bushes and that it is at least 10 feet long.
5. That they have a collar that fits properly.

Hair Length

When selecting a breed that will spend most of its time indoors you should consider the hair length. Dogs with long hair will collect water and mud and require more grooming to keep their coats clean and free of snarls. The hair they lose will be more conspicuous than from a dog with short hair. If you expect a long-haired dog to spend a great deal of its time indoors, you may want to select a rug to match the colour of the dog or the dog's colour to blend with the rug.



Short haired dogs can be groomed quickly with a brush and cloth. Dogs with long hair shed during spring and fall. The short haired and wire-haired breeds shed some throughout the year, but shedding may not be as visible as some long hair breeds. Many short haired, single coat breeds shed constantly, this is a sign of a healthy dog in these breeds. Furthermore, some breeds require professional trimming and plucking if they are to look like the standard of their breed.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

There are a number of other things that should be considered when selecting a dog.

Size of Home and Exercise Area

Although there are many exceptions which are obviously happy arrangements, the small to medium size breeds are recommended for small homes and exercise areas. Some of the large breeds such as Great Danes require much exercise when growing up. When mature, they may fit into small apartments very nicely and get along well with no more exercise than other breeds. Dalmatians are a large dog which needs a lot of exercise daily. A large dog may create the feeling of crowding a small apartment or house, especially if he is not well trained. The following are examples of small dogs that adapt well to city conditions and apartment living: Fox Terrier, Toy and Miniature Poodles, Dachshunds, Chihuahuas, Miniature Schnauzers, Miniature Pinschers and Boston Terriers.

Age of Dog

It is important to remember, that puppies take more time and commitment than do adult dogs. If you do not think you have the energy or patience to deal with a puppy, perhaps you should consider getting an adult dog.

Conversely, adult dogs may require a good deal of retraining. Bad habits are sometimes hard to break, but persistence should win out in the end. Some reputable breeders may have young trained adults or retired breeding dogs which make excellent pets with little or not adjustment required in a new home.

Age and Physical Stamina of Owner

A 12 year old child may have a great deal of trouble in controlling a large dog. If boys and girls 10-12 years of age are planning to train a dog in obedience and compete in 4-H obedience trials, it is important that the breed be matched with the strength of the child. A large, rough dog soon turns out to be no fun to train.

A large dog, however, can make a fine pet for a child only four or five years old if dog and child are trained by someone capable. The large breeds can absorb the rough treatment often given by small children. The dog should understand the meaning of "No", be taught not to jump on people and be corrected in any bad habits which cannot be tolerated in a household. Some breeds are nervous and snappy and do not easily tolerate youngsters. Others are warm, friendly and protective. Some of the breeds with a good reputation for getting along with children are: Golden Retriever, Labrador Retriever, St. Bernard, Boxer and Poodle.

Disposition

Each breed of dog as well as each individual dog has certain personality traits. Therefore, it is good to become well acquainted with the characteristics of your breed. The sporting dogs and the larger breeds of the working group generally have quiet dispositions, but some of these breeds are very active, difficult to train and live with. The terrier, toy and smaller breeds of the non-sporting group can be very active or too small or fragile for small children.



Gender

You will be faced with the decision of selecting a male or female puppy. Most breeds approach sexual maturity at nine to ten months of age. Large breeds are slower to mature than small breeds. As sexual maturity develops, the advantages and disadvantages of each sex become obvious.

The female dog is called a bitch and a female will come in season twice each year. Special precautions must be taken to keep a bitch from mating when you don't want her to. The season or estrus (time during which she will attract and possibly be bred by male dogs) last about 21 days. If she is allowed to urinate at her regular places outside around the home, a number of males will be attracted and there may be dog fights, damage to shrubbery from urination and a generally unpleasant situation. To prevent this, the bitch must be housed to that the odour of her urine is not available to males and so that she cannot escape and get to a male.

The disadvantage of males are that an intact male will tend to wander away from home (sometimes for several days) if there is a female in season nearby. Intact males also tend to be more aggressive than females.

If you have a purebred dog that you do not intend to show or breed, it is recommended that you have the dog sterilized by a veterinarian. This procedure is referred to as spaying in females and neutering in males. Neutering will help reduce aggression and the tendency to wander in males. Spaying will eliminate the problems associated with a bitch coming in season and potential pregnancies. Sterilized dogs may not compete in breed conformation shows but they may still compete in obedience and field trials.

Groups and Use of Dogs

One aspect of identifying breeds of dogs is to also know their group and primary use. With this information, members are able to more fully appreciate the value placed on dogs and perhaps more carefully select the family pet.

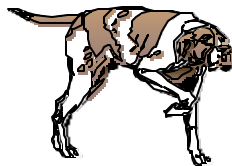


Breeds Recognized by The Canadian Kennel Club

Group 1: *SPORTING DOGS*

Bred to point, flush and retrieve game.

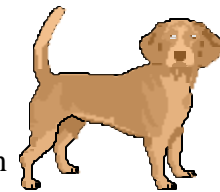
- Braque Francais (Gascogne)
- Braque Francais (Pyrenees)
- Griffon (Wire-haired Pointing)
- Pointer
- Pointer (German Long-haired)
- Pointer (German Short-haired)
- Pointer (German Wire-haired)
- Pudelpointer
- Retriever (Chesapeake Bay)
- Retriever (Curly-coated)
- Retriever (Flat-coated)
- Retriever (Golden)
- Retriever (Labrador)
- Retriever (Nova Scotia Duck Tolling)
- Setter (English)
- Setter (Gordon)
- Setter (Irish)
- Spaniel (American Cocker)
- Spaniel (American Water)
- Spaniel (Brittany)
- Spaniel (Clumber)
- Spaniel (English Cocker)
- Spaniel (English Springer)
- Spaniel (Field)
- Spaniel (French)
- Spaniel (Irish Water)
- Spaniel (Sussex)
- Spaniel (Welsh Springer)
- Vizsla (Smooth)
- Vizsla (Wire-haired)
- Weimaraner



Group 2: *HOUNDS*

Bred to hunt game by sight or smell.

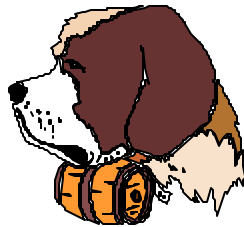
- < Afghan Hound
- < Basenji
- < Basset Hound
- < Beagle
- < Bloodhound
- < Borzoi
- < Coonhound (Black and Tan)
- < Dachshund (Miniature Long-haired)
- < Dachshund (Miniature Smooth)
- < Dachshund (Miniature Wire-haired)
- < Dachshund (Standard Long-haired)
- < Dachshund (Standard Wire-haired)
- < Dachshund (Standard Smooth)
- < Deerhound (Scottish)
- < Drever
- < Finnish Spitz
- < Foxhound (American)
- < Foxhound (English)
- < Greyhound
- < Harrier
- < Ibizan Hound
- < Irish Wolfhound
- < Norrbottenspets
- < Norwegian Elkhound
- < Otterhound
- < Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen
- < Pharaoh Hound
- < Rhodesian Ridgeback
- < Saluki
- < Whippet



Group 3: WORKING DOGS

Bred for guard and draft work.

- Akita
- Alaskan Malamute
- Bernese Mountain Dog
- Boxer
- Bull Mastiff
- Canaan Dog
- Canadian Eskimo Dog
- Doberman Pinscher
- Entlebucher Mountain Dog
- Great Dane
- Great Pyrenees
- Greenland Dog
- Karelian Bear Dog
- Komondor
- Kuvasz
- Leonberger
- Mastiff
- Newfoundland
- Portuguese Water Dog
- Rottweiler
- St. Bernard
- Samoyed
- Schnauzer (Giant)
- Schnauzer (Standard)
- Siberian Husky



Group 4: WORKING DOGS

Bred to go to ground after vermin.

- < Airedale Terrier
- < American Staffordshire Terrier
- < Australian Terrier
- < Bedlington Terrier
- < Border Terrier
- < Bull Terrier
- < Cairn Terrier
- < Dandie Dinmont Terrier
- < Fox Terrier (Smooth)
- < Fox Terrier (Wire)
- < Irish Terrier
- < Kerry Blue Terrier
- < Lakeland Terrier
- < Manchester Terrier
- < Norfolk Terrier
- < Norwich Terrier
- < Schnauzer (Miniature)
- < Scottish Terrier
- < Sealyham Terrier
- < Skye Terrier
- < Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier
- < Staffordshire Bull Terrier
- < Welsh Terrier
- < West Highland White Terrier



Group 5: TOYS

Bred to be pets and lap dogs.

- , Affenpinscher
- , Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- , Chihuahua (Long Coat)
- , Chihuahua (Short Coat)
- , Chinese Crested Dog
- , English Toy Spaniel
- , Griffon (Brussels)
- , Italian Greyhound
- , Japanese Spaniel
- , Maltese
- , Mexican Hairless
- , Papillon
- , Pekingese
- , Pinscher (Miniature)
- , Pomeranian
- , Poodle (Toy)
- , Pug
- , Silky Terrier
- , Toy Manchester Terrier
- , Yorkshire Terrier



Group 7: HERDING DOGS

Bred to herd sheep, cattle and other livestock.

- < Australian Cattle Dog
- < Australian Shepherd
- < Bearded Collie
- < Belgian Sheepdog (Groenendael)
- < Belgian Sheepdog (Laeken)
- < Belgian Sheepdog (Malinois)
- < Belgian Sheepdog (Tevuren)
- < Berger des Pyrenees
- < Berger Picard
- < Bouvier des Flandres
- < Briard
- < Collie (Rough)
- < Collie (Smooth)
- < German Shepherd Dog
- < Norwegian Buhund
- < Old English Sheepdog
- < Puli
- < Shetland Sheepdog
- < Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)
- < Welsh Corgi (Pembroke)

Group 6: NON-SPORTING DOGS

A variety of breeds not easily categorized

- < Bichon Frise
- < Boston Terrier
- < Bulldog
- < Chinese Shar-Pei
- < Chow Chow
- < Dalmation
- < French Bulldog
- < Japanese Spitz
- < Keeshond
- < Lhasa Apso
- < Poodle (Miniature)
- < Poodle (Standard)
- < Schipperke
- < Shiba Inu
- < Shih Tzu
- < Tibetan Spaniel
- < Tibetan Terrier



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PREPARING FOR YOUR DOG OR PUPPY

Just as you would not like to move into a home without furniture, electricity, or other comforts, your puppy will not like to move into a household that has not prepared for his arrival.

Decide first where you would like your dog to stay. Will he have a place in your home, your garage, a farm building, or a house all of his own? All dogs do better if they are kept in a house. They learn better manners, are happier, and learn faster. If possible, do plan to keep your dog in your home. If you must keep your dog outside, consider the problems of building a doghouse and fenced area before obtaining a dog.

Decide where you wish your dog to relieve himself as the habits he develops now will be continued throughout his lifetime or will be difficult to break. If you wish to take the dog out, start doing so right away. If not, provide newspapers and a special place for him.

The only special equipment you will need for your puppy is a leash, a collar, a feeding bowl, grooming equipment, dog crate and a safe area.

Find out exactly what kind of diet your pup or dog has been on and have the same kind of food available for him upon his arrival. A change of diet would upset him so make any dietary change gradual.

Before getting a pup or dog, enquire as to whether he has been wormed, how long ago it was, whether worms were present, and what kind they were. Check also whether the dog or puppy has had all the necessary shots. Make sure you get a copy of the vaccination record and continue the appropriate vaccination regime once you take ownership of the dog or puppy.

Finally, if you are purchasing a purebred, check the registration papers. The breeder must supply papers within six months after full payment is received for the dog. While registration papers may not appear to be important to you at the time, you will need them should you decide to show your dog or have him compete in obedience trails. If you ever decide to breed your dog, the pups may not be registered unless both parents possess "papers".

A HOME FOR YOUR DOG OR PUPPY

The Outside Dog

If you plan to keep your dog outside, then you must consider the construction of a dog house. You may wish to tie the dog most of the time or have a run attached to the house.

Your dog will readily accept either. A run is usually the more preferable method to confine your dog, because it is safer and provides more freedom, but runs require more expense.

Runs

If you do choose to construct a run, do not make it too big. Runs are not an exercise area but rather a safe place for your dog or puppy to stay. A large run will only mean more upkeep and expense for you. In general a kennel run 3.0 metres (9.8 feet) wide and 6 metres (19.7 feet) long is bigger than average and will serve for most dogs. A hard surface of some type must be added to the run or the dog will live in a mud hole. Concrete is probably best as it is easy to clean and disinfect. It can also be graded for

good drainage. Medium size “pea” gravel is also suitable, although cleaning and disinfecting are more difficult. The best fencing is chain link fencing. Larger mesh is unsatisfactory. Most kennel fencing should be 1.8 metres (6 feet) high since it usually will prevent the dog from climbing over it. Problem climbers can be stopped by tipping the top of the fence inwards, stringing an electric wire along the fence or covering the run.

Sometimes it will be too expensive to have a fenced pen. In such cases, and for house dogs as well, you can put up a wire run. This done by stringing wire from, say the back porch to a tree in the yard.

A ring is put on the wire, and a light chain is fastened to this. One end of the chain is fastened to the dog’s collar. When these are all hooked together, the dog can run from one end of the wire to the other. He can be taught to relieve himself at one end of the run. Similarly, a heavy wire or cable may be on the ground stretched between two posts. Make sure the tie chain is not too long. The dog should be able to put his nose to the ground. Chains longer than that will tangle.

A light cable stretched from a tree to a post is inexpensive and handy. The wire stops located several feet from the post and tree will prevent the dog from becoming tangled. Your dog must have shade and shelter if tied outside.

Houses

An outdoor house should keep the dog comfortable and draft free in all weather. Several rules to achieve this are:

- The dog house should be off the ground sufficiently to prevent water from leaking in.
- It should not be too big or the dog will be unable to keep it warm in winter. The house should be large enough to allow the dog to turn around while inside.
- An overhang at the door and sides will prevent rain from beating in. The roof should be sloped.
- The kennel should have two compartments. This would allow the dog to enter, turn, and enter the second compartment. This keeps the wind directly off him..
- The roof should be hinged for easy cleaning of the doghouse.



Outdoor house - size regulated by breed of your dog. Top should be hinged or removable for cleaning. All of these boxes should be set 8.0 or 10 cm (3.1 - 4.0 cm) off the ground and should be built with a partition and door which can be removed.

Inside Dog

If you plan to have your dog live in your home, he will require a special place to sleep. If you wish you may purchase a dog bed. They are quite attractive and come in different styles. Alternatively, you could construct your own box bed.

A box bed not only provides a place to sleep but is an important aid in housebreaking your pup. The box may be constructed of wood and should have a lid with adequate ventilation holes. A lid provides a sense of security and serves to keep the puppy inside while young. The lid may be removed once the puppy has learned to stay in it.

The box should be large enough to allow the dog, when full grown, to lie flat on his side. The box should also be high enough to allow the pup to stand with the lid closed. A removable divider will confine the puppy to one end at first, and prevent him from using one end as a toilet. This divider may be removed once the dog is housebroken and has grown to need more room.



Bedding at first should be old towels or sheets that can be washed or discarded if damaged. Puppies tend to scratch up blankets. Later a blanket, soft rug or other textile may be fitted into the bed to make it warmer and more comfortable. Preferably, choose bedding that is washable and easy to care for.

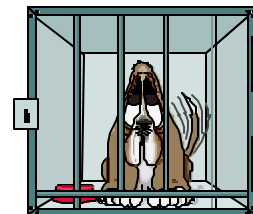
In the house, a dog's bed should be placed in an area away from drafts, air vents or heat registers (excess heat will dry out the dog's skin). The dog or puppy will want to be close to you and your family so don't put his bed where no one ever goes. The kitchen is a good choice.

Crates

A dog crate should be the right size for your dog, that is, one in which you dog can stand up, lie down and stretch out in his crate in comfort. Crates come in sizes suitable for every breed of dog. Invest in one that will be comfortable when your puppy matures into an adult dog.

Next consider material and construction. A crate should be virtually indestructible and smoothly finished inside so as not to snag the coat. You will find crates made of high impact plastic, wood and galvanized wire. For obvious reasons, wire crates are the most popular and the most readily available at pet supply outlets. These permit maximum ventilation during hot weather and can be fitted with a snug, vented cover and warm bedding for cooler days.

Most wire crates are lightweight, collapsible and easily cleaned. You should also check the closure to make sure that it is "child proof" and as well as dog proof.



A crate makes an ideal dog bed. If you start your puppy sleeping in a crate from "day one" it becomes a haven to which he can retire whenever he wants to have a nap.

Should your puppy fret a bit at bedtime you can safely take care of his loneliness by placing his crate alongside your bed during the night. Do not yield to the temptation to take the puppy into bed with you unless you plan on having a bedmate for the rest of his life. Once the puppy becomes secure in his new routine you can move the crate by degrees out to the place which will be his permanent sleeping area.

A dog crate should always be used when your dog is travelling in the car with you. The crate offers protection to your dog in case of an accident. Keeps your dog in its proper place while travelling; not on the driver's lap, investigating things on the floor or hanging their head out the window.

WHEN PUPPY OR DOG ARRIVES

The best time to bring a new puppy or dog into your home is in the morning. This allows the two of you a full day to adjust to each other. It also gives the pup or dog one day to forget its old home, mother and litter mates.

Most puppies get car sick so be sure to take an old towel or soft cloth with you. The pup will find it comforting to be held in your lap during the ride.

Allow the dog or pup to investigate a little on his own when he arrives but do not allow him the run of the house. He will want to investigate the strange, new environment.

Do not exhaust him with play. Small puppies tire quickly and want to rest. Put him in his box for naps. Since pups require a lot of naps, by the end of the day he should have the idea that the box is his bed.

The dog or puppy will be excited so feed him a small ration after an hour in his new environment. A dish of clean water is all that is needed for now. Be careful not to frighten him with swinging doors, stairs, or other unfamiliar things.

Give your puppy ample opportunity to get to know your particular odour. Dogs have "nose-brains" and your pup will come to know you by your scent. To help your pup distinguish your scent, put a piece of your worn clothing in his bed.

When the puppy must be picked up, do not lift by the front legs. Instead, lift by placing a hand under the rump between the back legs and a hand under the chest between the front legs. Lift into your arms and cradle so that his body lies along your arm.



The puppy will be very lonely for his litter mates during his first nights in your home. Place a clock in his bed - the ticking will remind him of home and comfort him. A hot water bottle or a sheepskin in the box will make him feel he is sleeping with his family. Your clothing or a toy he is familiar with will also comfort him. If your pup still howls, ignore it and do not give in to him. If the howling becomes unbearable, roll a newspaper and slap it against the wall or counter a distance away from the box. He will soon learn that howling does not pay. An alternative is to have the puppy box in the bedroom and when the puppy wakes up and whines he can wake you up and be taken outside immediately.

THE NAME

One of the things you will want to do before you receive your dog is to give it a name. The name is your preference but should be a simple one or two syllable word that does not sound like any of the command words you will use later. Use only one name for your dog. Do not give him nicknames such as "boy" or "fellow" since two or more names will confuse him. If you use one name every time you speak to your dog, he will soon realize that word means "him".

ELEMENTARY TRAINING AND SOCIALIZATION

If your dog is to grow into a well-adjusted member of your family, it must learn to adapt to your daily schedule. A dog that has learned this lesson is a pleasure to live with and requires less fuss.

Your pup must also learn not to be afraid of strange things, yet to respect anything that may be dangerous to him.

Elementary training begins on the day you first bring your puppy home. If you don't start then, your dog will start training you. Early experience will set patterns of habit. Your dog's character will be determined to a large extent by his training during the first weeks in your home, so it is probably the most important training he will receive.

How does a dog learn ?

A dog learns through association. This association is known as positive reinforcement.

Positive reinforcement happens when the dog does something and receives a reward for it. He will likely repeat his act if he discovers that he will receive a reward whenever the action is made. In this way, the action becomes a habit.

Positive reinforcement should also take place when the dog displays an unwanted behaviour. Firm but gently positive reinforcement should always be used for an action immediately after the act was committed or the dog will associate the positive reinforcement with something else and the value will be lost. Examples of positive reinforcement are if a puppy is too rambunctious or not responding, the owner could use quiet time in the crate or play time outside in the run.

Many children and adults do not know how to do 'punishment' without physical abuse which is very detrimental for your dog or puppy.

It is easy to understand now, why a dog becomes confused by a master that allows him to do "something some of the time". Confusing a dog results in an undisciplined dog that does as he pleases. It is essential that you decide what your dog can and cannot do beforehand and stick to it. Be consistent in your rewards and punishment.

Housebreaking

Housebreaking is simply preventative training. The dog or pup is given every opportunity to make a mistake.



Since a young puppy will not be housetrained, it will be necessary to take him out every hour - before play, after eating, when he awakens from a nap and before anything exciting happens. The weather is never too cold, too wet or too bad to take your dog out. He has a thick coat of fur by the time he is weaned to protect him. Bad weather may only make him more likely to hurry so he can go back in the house.

Let him know as soon as possible where his toilet spot will be. It helps to prepare this spot by mopping up his first “accident” with a rag and placing this rag in the desired location. The puppy thinks he smells the same place he used before and is likely to use it again. This way the puppy gets the idea immediately. As soon as the puppy is finished, praise and pet him. This lets him know he did what he should do and that was the purpose of the trip.

If the puppy has an “accident” it will be necessary to completely destroy the odour as he would be likely to use the same spot again if he smells it. Wash the floor with soap and water and then clean it with vinegar.

If you catch your dog having an accident say his name loudly and quickly pick him up and take him to his toilet spot. Praise him when he finished in the right spot. Do not scold! Never scold him should you discover a mistake after a period of time for he will not understand why he is being punished.

A puppy should have water available at all times, therefore a dog crate is the best bed, as a dog will not spoil where they sleep. Take the puppy out for his final opportunity to relieve himself when you are going to go to bed. Make sure you take him out and not just put him out. This way you will always be sure.

By having your puppy in a dog crate by your bed, if the puppy has to go out in the night, he will wake you up. This is the best way to house train your puppy. Many puppies can not go through the night until they are three or four months old.

The age of the dog, skill of the trainer, the amount of time the trainer spends training, and the size of the dog will vary the length of time required to housebreak a puppy. **If all factors are right, the puppy should be housetrained in a week to ten days.**

GOOD MANNERS FOR YOUR DOG

Training in good manners may be started as early as two or three months of age. To correct bad behaviour first make sure all your dog’s needs are being met such as physical, activity and play and companionship. These are some things your dog should learn.

Staying Alone Quietly - Puppies are confused and easily become lonely when you leave them alone. Most puppies will howl and make a fuss. To stop him from doing this, pretend you are leaving and after you close the door on him, stand quietly outside. When the pup starts to howl, make a loud noise or throw something noisy at the door. If the pup stops, praise him. If the howling or scratching begins again, repeat the throw. Do this until the lesson is learned. Be sure to praise your dog when you take him out of the area where he has been left alone. Do not remove him when he is making a lot of noise. Time it so that you can get him when he is being good and not making any noise. In this way, he will learn when he is being quiet. When he is making noise, he gets the loud noise and no one comes to let him out.

Begging for Food - Never feed your dog while you are preparing food and especially never feed you dog while you are eating at the table. Establish a regular mealtime for the pup and stay with it. A good time would be before you eat, as a full dog is less likely to beg.

To avoid picky food habits, take the food dish away after twenty to thirty minutes. He'll soon learn to eat as much as he needs at one time because the dish won't be there to come back to.

Keeping off the Furniture - Never allow your dog to sit or lie on the furniture. If you should catch him in the act, order him off and send him to his own bed.

Chasing, Growling, or Biting - Puppies love to chew. They chew on everything - clothes, shoes, rugs, furniture - whatever they can get at. Give your pup things that he may chew on because chewing serves the purpose of loosening the first set of teeth and exercising the jaws. Pet shops sell leather and rubber toys that are safe and enjoyable for the dog.

Even though the pup has his own toys to chew on, he will still attempt to chew other things. Whenever you catch him in the act, order "Off" and praise him. Then give him one of his own chewing toys.

Teaching your dog not to growl or bite is of vital importance. When you play with him, be sure to reprimand him instantly for any growling or hard use of his teeth.

Puppies in a litter naturally have to compete for available food. They may, therefore, growl and watch over their food jealously. If your pup begins to growl or snap when you approach him while eating, lift him by the scruff of the neck, give a stern "No", and then return him to the food dish. After a few repetitions, he will learn not to growl over his food.

Jumping on People - Because dogs are so affectionate and crave your attention, they often develop the habit of jumping up in greeting.

When a puppy jumps up on you, you may choose one of the following methods to correct him:

- Step on his hind toes gently while he has his front paws on you;
- Grab his front paws and put him back on all four feet;
- Bend your knee as he jumps and bump him in the chest.

In all cases, use a firm "Off" and when the dog is on the ground praise him.

Barking - Barking is one way in which a dog may communicate. Teach the "quiet" or "enough" command. Let him bark once or twice then say "quiet" or "enough" and put a hand over the muzzle. Praise him when he stops. If he's running around, let him bark twice, say "enough", squirt him with a spray bottle of water, then praise him for being quiet.

Chasing Cars - Dogs that chase cars often cause accidents, are badly injured, or even killed. You owe it to your pet to teach him he is not to chase cars. A dog should never be in a situation where he is loose and unsupervised to chase cars. Teach off and recall on lead, then long line using cars as distractions once dog knows commands. Keep this dog under control at all times as prey drive is very strong until well advanced in obedience training.

Obeying Commands - The command “NO”, if used to get the dog’s attention, in a stern tone of voice can be used to help him obey commands. He will soon learn this command means to stop his actions because they displeas e you. Remember that your dog is anxiously trying to please you and win you affection. If you correct him, also show him the right thing to do and praise him when he does it.

Staying at Home - If you teach your dog to stay within the confines of your yard, you won’t have the problem of a loose dog that may pick up diseases and pests from other dogs, that will chase cars, dig up neighbours’ lawn, and frighten children.

Dogs should never be left unsupervised unless in a fenced yard or run; no dog is 100 per cent safe, even a well trained one. It takes seconds to be hit by a car. Responsible dog ownership is to supply your dog with a fenced yard and or exercise area.

Train the dog not to leave the yard. Start to walk out of the yard. When the puppy reaches the edge, jerk on the leash and tell him “No”. Repeat this several times and then ask for someone’s help.

Now ask a helper to hold your puppy’s leash. When you start to walk out of the yard, it is likely your dog will try to follow. When the puppy reaches the edge, his leash is jerked and he is told “No”. You continue to walk away.

The lesson is repeated on all sides of your yard. Next, have someone call him or lure him with another dog. Each time jerk him back to the edge of the yard. The person who called him may reprimand him if he leaves the yard.

***Remember, when correcting all bad habits be consistent and firm.
Never fail to let your dog know that he is doing something he should not do
and remember to praise him as soon as he is right.***

Socialization

Socialization will give your dog poise in all kinds of situations.

The first week the new puppy is in your home you should allow him to become familiar with his surroundings. After that, the puppy’s experience may be gradually extended. Introduce the puppy to new objects and situations gently, and show him he need not be frightened. Praise and encourage him to accept new things, but do not expect to show him everything at once. This will also frighten him.

Your dog should have the experience of meeting other animals and people and be exposed to loud noises, pedestrian and vehicle traffic, buildings, stairs, elevators, rides in vehicles, and other aspects of everyday living.

Socialization training is carried out much the same way as any other kind of training. You will need to determine first what kinds of experience your dog may encounter and then train him how to approach them.



Example:

Teach your dog how to climb up and down stairs. Start your puppy on a very short flight of stairs. Encourage him to climb one step up to you and help him up physically if he needs to be helped. It will probably help if you offer the puppy dog treats while encouraging him to climb a step up to you. Gradually increase the number of stairs until he can climb a longer flight on his own.

To teach him to climb down, make sure you never allow him to fall. Place your hand on his shoulders to steady him and call him down first one, then two stairs, etc., until he has reached the bottom.

How much time this training will take depends upon your dog. If he is never frightened of stairs during training, he will likely learn more quickly.

Example:

Teach your dog how to greet postal delivery people, metre readers, delivery people, garbage collectors, etc.

Many people who should be welcomed by dogs are bitten instead. Your job is to teach your dog that these people are not meaning harm by entering your property. Introduce your dog to these people and let them give him a friendly pat and call him by name. Urge the dog to be friends and assure him that nothing is wrong. Your dog will soon realize that these people have a place in your life and should be treated well.

Litter Scooping

Litter scooping or poop scooping is a very responsible part of dog ownership. Litter scooping should be done daily in your fenced yard or run and helps you check if your dog is properly digesting food or if your dog has signs of an illness; diarrhea, worms. Commercial litter scoops can be purchased at pet supply stores or plastic bags can be used. While walking your dog, a plastic bag such as a sandwich bag should always be carried to pick up after your dog.



FEED AND NUTRITION

Proper nutrition is probably the most important factor in keeping your dog healthy. Dogs require balanced diets just as people do except the food rules you are familiar with were written for people, not for dogs.

Nutrition for dogs requires knowledge of how food is utilized and what is needed to maintain health and growth. The nutrients necessary to a canine diet are protein (meat), cereals (carbohydrates), fats, vitamins, minerals and water. Proteins are needed for the formation of new body cells and the repair of body tissues. Carbohydrates and fats provide energy. Some fats also contain vitamins such as A and D, because these vitamins are fat-soluble. Minerals are vital components of body cells and biological functions. Vitamins are organic compounds that are necessary for health maintenance. Vitamins A, D and E are fat soluble while the B-complex vitamins and vitamin C are water soluble.

Dogs require a diet high in meat protein. They are a carnivorous (flesh-eating) animal. Carnivorous animals have an intestinal tract that is small in diameter. This is why they need food that is concentrated rather than bulky, and meat is this type of food. The dog requires fifty to sixty percent meat in a diet. The remaining forty percent will be carbohydrates, fats, vitamins and minerals.

Feed the dog as well as you can with a minimum of trouble for yourself. Home diets are generally not properly balanced, and take longer to prepare. Feed specially prepared commercial dog foods instead, as these have been specially formulated for dogs.

TYPES OF DOG FOOD

There are three types of commercial dog foods. These are:

1. **Dry dog food** - This is generally the least expensive type of commercial dog food. The nutritional value (on an "as-is" basis) of dry has been dehydrated (i.e., Nutrients are more concentrated). The food may be fed dry or it may be moistened with water or juices from cooking vegetables. Some dogs may refuse to eat moistened dry dog food if too much moisture has been added. Dry dog food is formulated to meet the dogs nutritional requirements.
2. **Canned dog food** - This dog food generally contains up to 75 percent moisture and as a result the nutrients are less concentrated than in dry dog food. Leftover food in cans should be refrigerated. Moist-packed and canned food alone is not recommended and is usually intended to be added with dry dog food.
3. **Moist-packed foods** - These foods usually have a nutritional content similar to canned foods and are fed in much the same way.



Biscuits are generally fed as "treats" or as the basis for the dogs diet to which meat, fat and a few vegetables may be added. Biscuits alone do not meet the nutritional requirements for dogs.

VITAMINS AND MINERALS

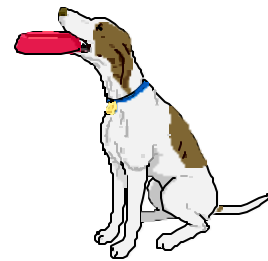
In some instances dogs require additional vitamins and minerals. Under veterinary advice, these can be added to a particular diet or a specially formulated commercial dog food that is enriched with particular minerals and vitamins can be purchased. Overuse of some vitamins and minerals can lead to toxicity problems in some instances, therefore any supplementation should be made under the guidance of a veterinarian.

MILK

Milk should be avoided in adult dogs as it generally causes digestive upsets (e.g., diarrhea). Goat's milk, if available is preferable for young puppies, as the fat globules are smaller than in cow's milk.

FATS AND OILS

Fat is the most concentrated source of energy. A small amount added to the ration will sometimes increase both feed intake and palatability, improve staying power, and improve palatability, improve staying power, and improve the skin and coat condition. Most commercial rations have ample added fat. If a dog is to be worked harder than usual (e.g., hunting dog, cattle dog) it may be necessary to add some fat to the ration. The total amount should not exceed 10 percent of the ration and may be in the form of lard, bacon fat, fish oil (e.g., Cod liver oil), or cooking oil (e.g., Corn or vegetable oil).



GROOMING

Daily grooming is as important to you as it is to your dog. In doing this for your dog, you will get to know and trust each other better. Grooming will also alert you to your dog's general health condition and any symptoms of illness that may otherwise be overlooked. Most dogs enjoy being groomed since they like the attention. Some breeds will require greater attention to be paid because of the differences in coat lengths and type. Every dog needs periodic checks on his nails, ears, teeth, feet and eyes. The skin should be inspected often for the presence of parasites.

Depending on the breed, very little extra equipment is necessary for grooming. You will need a table for your dog to stand on, a dog shampoo or dry bath spray or powder, comb, brush, scissors, dog nail clippers and soft clean cloths. The use of this equipment will be explained in the following sections. The reason a table is recommended is that it makes the job easier for you. It also accustoms the dog to having an examination on a table. A dog accustomed to being on a table is less likely to be afraid of seeing a veterinarian.

To prepare for a session on grooming you should collect the essential equipment required to groom dogs, such as brushes, combs, nail clippers, clipping shears, KwikStop, cottonswabs, towels, dryer, shampoo. You may also wish to ask a professional groomer, senior member, or breeder to come in and give a grooming demonstration.

BASICS

Brushes - For small breeds, use a fine wire slicker brush for mat removal. The wires should be embedded in soft rubber, so they flex easily. Use a curved, wire slicker for deeper coats. A pin brush is needed for longer, flowing coats on breeds such as the Lhasa Apso or Shih Tzu. Check the tips of the pins to make sure they are not scratchy.

Combs - A good comb for dematting and general brushing is a chrome-plated comb with fine and medium tooth spacing. If your puppy has a deep coat, look for a comb with teeth that are spaced wider apart and can easily get through a thick coat

Nail Clipper - Use a scissor/ plier or guillotine-type nail clipper.

Ear Powder - May be needed to remove hair from the ears of breeds noted for more inside ear hair growth.

Ear Wash - Use to keep inside of ears clean on a weekly basis. Also to remove accumulated ear wax or ear powder.

Electric Clippers - These are only used for certain breeds. If your dog requires clippers for grooming consider the amount of clipping that will have to be done and purchase a clipper that will do the job correctly. The quality of the clipper will be reflected in its price.

Portable Grooming Table - An option if you have no comfortable table to work on. You can attach a grooming post to it.

Clamp-on Grooming Post and Loop - Use to restrain the dog on the table for general grooming. (Never leave the dog attached to the arm unsupervised).

Rubber Bath Mat - Use in the tub and on your grooming surface.

Scissors - Various types and sizes of scissors are available from pet supply stores. Follow the recommendations of your breeder or groomer, and test various scissor sized to find those that feel comfortable in your hand.

Shampoos and Conditioners - There are many types of shampoo or dish detergents. The shampoo must have a proper pH balance to prevent skin irritation. Depend on the advice of professionals to guide your purchase.

BATHING

Depending on the breed and coat type of your dog, bathing should be done only when necessary. Too frequent bathing removes the natural oils from the hair and skin and results in a harsh, dry coat. If a dog is brushed and combed daily, he should not require baths any more than once every several months.

Use a good shampoo. Some have ingredients that will clean and remove fleas or ticks. Be sure the water is not too hot. Water just warmer than lukewarm is best.

Some dogs become afraid of bathing because they are afraid they will slip in a smooth bottom tub or because they got soap and water in their eyes and ears. To prevent this, place a rubber mat in the bottom of the tub so the dog won't slide around. Plug the ears with cotton and rub mineral oil or Vaseline around the eyelids. Wash the face using a dampened cloth.

The dog's coat acts as insulation against cold and heat. When you bathe your dog, this insulation is lost. The dog will shiver and may catch cold easily. To protect him from this, be sure that once wet, he is dried thoroughly before going out or that he is washed outside when the weather is warm.



DRY BATHS

Several dry bath powders or self rinsing spray shampoos and foams are now on the market. These may be sprinkled onto the coat, rubbed in, and then brushed out. They will remove dirt and excess oil from the coat and skin without the use of water. Dogs with very dense or woolly coats will require wet baths or self rinsing shampoos sprayed on and brushed.

CARE OF THE EARS

Check the ears periodically for the presence of ear mites, louse eggs, or ear inflammations. If the ear channel is red, inflamed, hot, or even has a bad odour, check with your veterinarian.

If your dog has long hair around the ear, trim the excess away carefully to prevent the blockage of air into the ear.

To clean the ear, use a cotton swab or soft cloth dipped in hydrogen peroxide, olive oil or a commercial ear cleaner. Do not probe into the ear.

CARE OF THE EYES

Hunting dogs and country dogs that run through high grass and weeds usually get pollen or seeds under the eyelids. These cause irritation and inflammation of the eyes. Use water or a specially-prepared eyewash from your veterinarian to rise the eye.

CARE OF THE NAILS AND FEET

Dogs that do not receive sufficient exercise will have to have their nails trimmed to permit natural walking. You will know the nails are too long if they cause the foot to flatten out. While the dog is still a puppy, start trimming his nails so that he will learn to accept the procedure. The nail needs to be cut just back to the quick (sensitive part of the nail). Nail clippers that do a good, clean job can be purchased from your pet shop. The rough edges can be smoothed down after with a nail file.

If you happen to cut past the quick and the wound bleeds, it may be stopped with a styptic pencil, a silver nitrate swab or Kwik Stop powder. On light-coloured nails the quick is seen as a pinkish area. On dark nails the quick may not be seen. A good guide is to clip just under the hook of the nail.

Check the feet for burrs or any foreign particles periodically or if you notice your dog limping.

CARE OF TEETH

In a lifetime, dogs have two sets of teeth. They are born with a set of small, sharp “milk” teeth. These are lost at four to five months. The permanent set is completed by six to seven months of age.

The greatest problem with teeth lies in the formation of deposits of tartar. If your dog should have such deposits on his teeth, take him to your veterinarian to have it removed. To prevent tartar build-up, you can brush your dogs teeth, using a special tartar fighting toothpaste available from your veterinarian or pet shop.

Check teeth also to be sure that no teeth are loose and need to be removed.

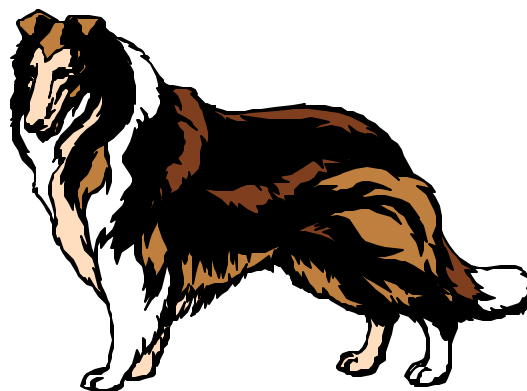
CARE OF THE COAT

Daily brushing of the coat will do much to make your pet clean, clean-smelling and free of pests. Use a soft bristle brush on puppies. A stiff brush or comb may be used on mature dogs.

Short-haired dogs may be rubbed with a soft, clean cloth and brushed. Long-haired dogs require more care. Brush with the grain of the hair to clean the surface. Brush against the grain to clean the undercoat and to massage the skin. When finished, brush all the hair back to the original position. Comb ear fringes, beards and tails.

Shedding usually causes problems, however, much of the trouble may be alleviated by a little extra attention. Remove shedding hair by standing with the dog between your legs and massaging the coat and skin with your hands. This will loosen the hair. Stroke the dog from head to foot to remove all loosened hair.

If your dog’s hair mats or burrs get caught in the coat care should be taken when cutting them out to prevent causing pain to your dog. If it is done incorrectly there is a chance of cutting the dog’s skin. If it seems really matted perhaps a professional groomer would be better for the job.



Activity Ideas

- L Give your senior members the opportunity to give presentations to 4-H clubs in areas of interest such as breeds of dogs.
- L Visit a kennel or animal shelter.
- L Ask members to bring samples of feed that they use for their own dogs. These samples can be discussed amongst the group as to the content, nutritional value, palatability and cost of the product.
- L Visit a professional dog grooming studio.
- L Do one-on-one grooming exercises with dogs in your group.
- L Observe a dog show or grooming and handling competition.
- L Visit a feed company or feed manufacturing plant, preferably one that produces dog food.
- L Have a senior member(s) give a demonstration on the diet of his or her dog.

What are the six main nutrients and what is the function of each?
What are the three main types of commercially available dog food?
What is the approximate nutrient content of your dog food?
How often should you feed your dog or puppy?
What foods should you NOT feed your dog?
How should you introduce new foods into your dog's diet?
How much should you feed your dog?



- L Make dog treats with the 4-H members. Several recipes are at the back of the manual.