

PETVET
12186 CLARKSVILLE PIKE
CLARKSVILLE, MD 21029
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Congratulations on the new addition to your family! Here is a list of suggestions that Doctor Hall and Doctor Caplan feel will help you keep your dog happy, healthy, well-behaved and thus an enjoyable member of your family. If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask our staff and/or Doctors Hall or Caplan.

1. Training – **The most important aspect in training your dog is to establish rules and to be consistent in enforcing them.** We recommend that you take your dog to a basic training class. It is much easier to teach your dog good habits instead of breaking bad habits.
2. Handling - Touch your dog all over (face, teeth, ears, toes, tail, belly, etc.) to get him/her used to being handled.
3. House Training – Your dog should be crate trained.
4. Feeding- Feed dry food (Leave the food out for no longer then 10 minutes at each feeding). Feed the manufacturer’s recommended amount and then adjust the amount according to your dog’s metabolism/activity level. **Your dog’s optimum weight is when there is some flesh over his/her backbone and ribs, but you can still feel the indentations between the backbone and ribs.**
5. Dental care – Brush his/her teeth daily to weekly. Tartar control treats will also help to keep the teeth clean so that we will have to do a dental scaling and polishing less frequently.
6. Ear care – Clean the ears on a weekly basis.
7. Vaccinations – Puppies should get their vaccinations every 3-4 weeks until they are 16 weeks old. They should then have their vaccines boosted 1 year later.
8. Heartworm Disease – We recommend that all dogs be given a monthly heartworm preventative all year.
9. Flea and tick control – All dogs should be on a flea and tick preventative (topical or collar) in the spring, summer, and fall.
10. Identification – All dogs should have some form of identification (microchip, I.D. tag).
11. Neutering – All dogs should be spayed/castrated by six months of age.
12. Chewing – Your dog should chew on dog toys only. Discourage your dog from chewing on people, clothing, socks, shoes, etc. While your dog is teething you can give him/her ice cubes to chew on.

