



## New Puppy Packet

Information include:

Vaccines

Deworming

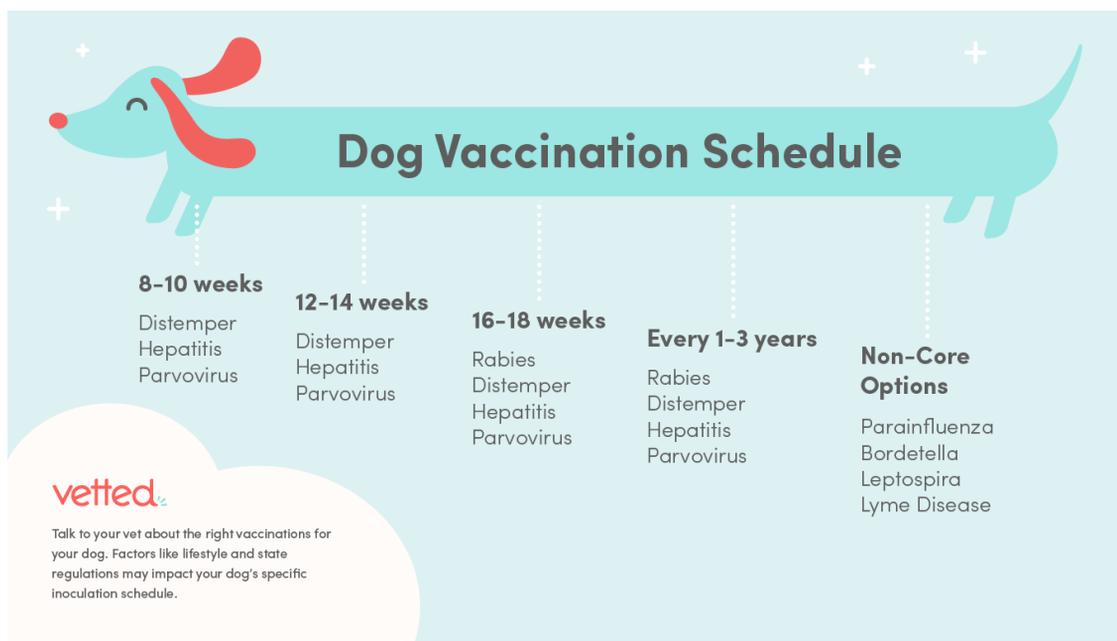
Heartworm Prevention

Crate Training

Socialization

Flea, Tick, and Heartworm Medications





### CORE VACCINES- REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED:

- DAP- Distemper, Adenovirus-2 (Hepatitis), Parvovirus
- Rabies- 1 year or 3 year (ONLY VACCINE REQUIRED BY LAW)
- (The 3-year vaccine is only available AFTER a one-year vaccine & in 1 year post vaccination period)

### NON –CORE VACCINES- OPTIONAL?BASED ON RISK:

- Bordatella (Kennel Cough)
- Parainfluenza
- Leptospirosis
- Lyme
- Canine Influenza



## Indian Ridge Vaccine Protocol:

### Puppies under 6 months of age:

- Three sets of puppy vaccines (DAP)  
**OR**
- Four Sets of puppy vaccines (DAP) for those breeds at higher risk  
(Rottweilers, Pitt Bulls, Mastiffs)
- AND Rabies 1 year, Bordatella, and other non-core vaccines at appropriate ages  
**Rabies vaccine only given after 16 weeks of age**  
Then, start once yearly vaccine schedule from date of last booster vaccine

### Puppies older than 6 months of age with no prior vaccine history:

- 2 sets of puppy vaccines (DAP)
- Rabies vaccines, and other non-core vaccines
- Then, go to once yearly vaccination from date of last vaccine

### Dogs 1 year or older, ONCE YEARLY:

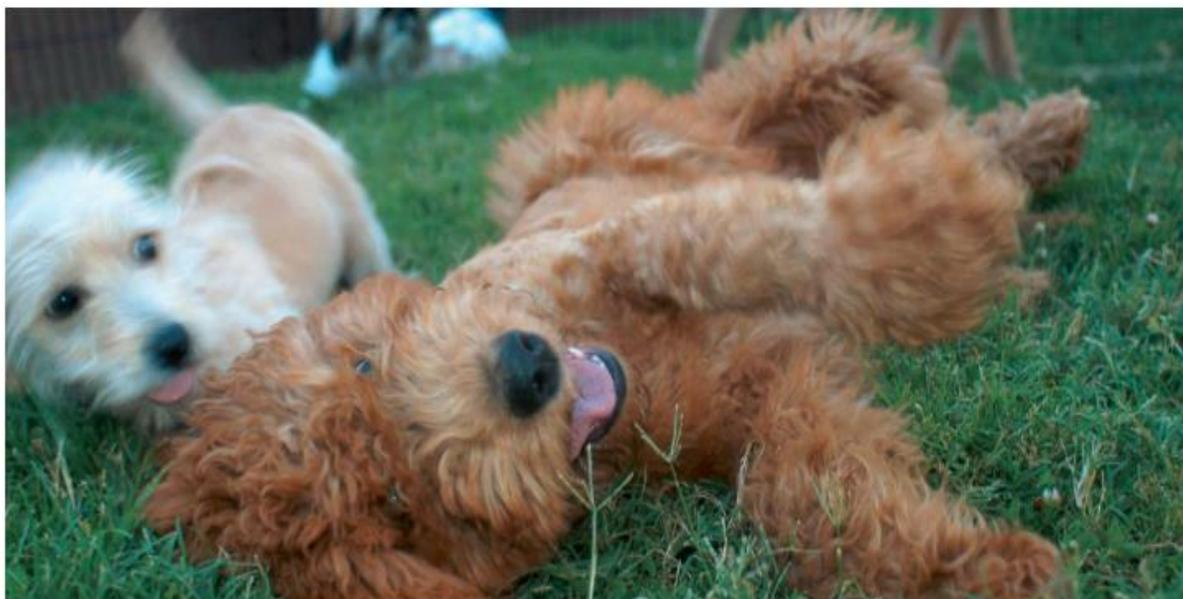
- DAP
- Rabies (1 year or 3 year)
- Other non-core vaccines based on risk



## AVSAB Position Statement On Puppy Socialization

# AVSAB

American Veterinary Society  
of Animal Behavior  
[www.AVSABonline.org](http://www.AVSABonline.org)



### THE PRIMARY AND MOST IMPORTANT

time for puppy socialization is the first three months of life.<sup>1,2</sup> During this time puppies should be exposed to as many new people, animals, stimuli and environments as can be achieved safely and without causing over-stimulation manifested as excessive fear, withdrawal or avoidance behavior. For this reason, the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior believes that it should be the standard of care for puppies to receive such socialization before they are fully vaccinated.

Because the first three months are the period when sociability outweighs fear, this is the primary window of opportunity for puppies to adapt to new people,

animals, and experiences. Incomplete or improper socialization during this important time can increase the risk of behavioral problems later in life including fear, avoidance, and/or aggression. Behavioral problems are the greatest

threat to the owner-dog bond. In fact, behavioral problems are the number one cause of relinquishment to shelters.<sup>3</sup> Behavioral issues, not infectious diseases, are the number one cause of death for dogs under three years of age.

While puppies' immune systems are still developing during these early months, the combination of maternal immunity, primary vaccination, and appropriate care makes the risk

of infection relatively small compared to the chance of death from a behavior problem.

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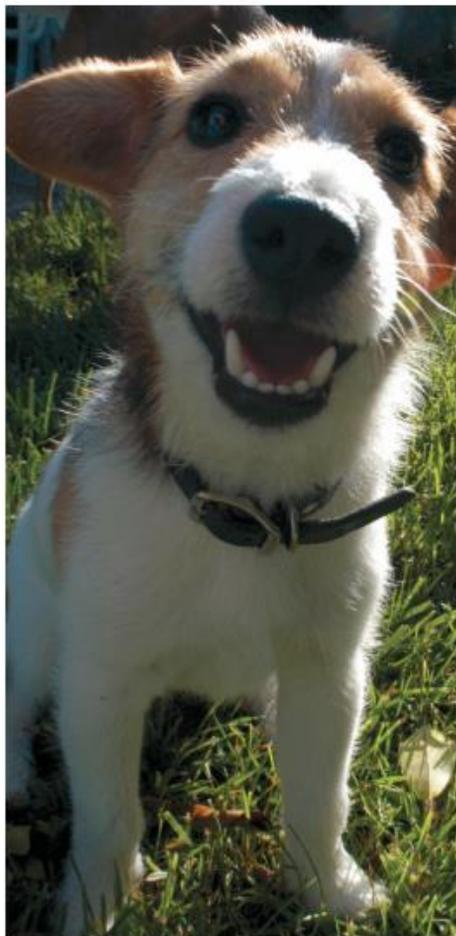
Veterinarians specializing in behavior recommend that owners take advantage of every safe opportunity to expose young puppies to the great variety of stimuli that they will experience in their lives. Enrolling in puppy classes prior to three months of age can be an excellent means of improving training, strengthening the human-animal bond, and socializing puppies in an environment where risk of illness can be minimized.

In general, puppies can start puppy socialization classes as early as 7-8 weeks of age. Puppies should receive a minimum of one set of vaccines at least 7 days prior to the first class and a first deworming. They should be kept up-to-date on vaccines throughout the class.



## REFERENCES

1. Serpell J, Jagoe JA. Early experience and the development of behaviour. In Serpell J (ed). *The Domestic Dog*, p.82-102, Cambridge University Press 1995
2. Freedman DG, King JA, Elliot O. 1961. Critical periods in the social development of the dog. *Science*, 133, 1016-1017
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5. Eskeland GE, Tillung RH, Bakken M. The effect of punishment, rewards, control and attitude in obedience and problem behaviors in dogs. *Proceedings IVBM* 2007;103-104.
6. Hilby EF, Rooney NJ, Bradshaw JWS. Dog training methods: their use, effectiveness and interaction with behaviour and welfare. *Animal Welfare* 2004;13: 63-69.
7. Bradshaw JW, McPherson JA, Casey RA, Larter LS. Aetiology of separation-related behavior in domestic dogs. *Vet Record* 2002;191:43-46.



## The Process of Socialization:

Puppies should be handled from birth, learning to accept manipulation of all body parts. Every effort should be made to expose them to as many different people, well-socialized animals, situations, places, etc. as possible. Puppies should be encouraged to explore, investigate, and manipulate their environments. Interactive toys and games, a variety of surfaces, tunnels, steps, chutes, and other stimuli can enrich the puppy's environment. Puppies should accompany their breeders/owners on as many car trips as possible. These exposures should continue into adulthood to maintain an outgoing and sociable dog.

Puppy socialization classes can offer a safe and organized means of socializing puppies and more quickly improve their responsiveness to commands.<sup>4</sup> Each puppy should have up-to-date vaccinations and be disease and parasite free before entering the class. Where possible, classes should be held on surfaces that are easily cleaned and disinfected (e.g. indoor environments). Visits to dog parks or other areas that are not sanitized and/or are highly trafficked by dogs of unknown vaccination or disease status should be avoided.

Classes and at-home training should be based on positive reinforcement with frequent rewards praise, petting, play and/or treats. Positive and consistent training is associated with fewer behavioral problems and greater obedience than methods that involve punishment and/or encourage human dominance.<sup>4,5,6</sup>

Time must be scheduled for puppies to play alone with their favorite toys (such as stuffed food toys) or take naps in safe places such as crates or puppy pens. This teaches puppies to amuse themselves, and may help to prevent problems of over attachment to the owners. Continuing to offer dogs a wide variety of experiences during their first year of life is also helpful in preventing separation-related behavior.<sup>7</sup>

Proper confinement training using pens or crates helps to ensure that puppies have safe and secure places for rest and confinement. Puppies that are used to being crated will be less stressed if they must be hospitalized or be confined for travel by plane or car. Crates should serve as comfort or play areas.

Early and adequate socialization and programs of positive training can go a long way to preventing behavior problems and improving bonding between humans and dogs. While the first three months is the most important socialization period in a puppy's life, owners of puppies that have passed this milestone are strongly encouraged to continue to socialize their puppies to as many people, pets, and locations as is practical. However, owners of puppies displaying fear should seek veterinary guidance.

## Mouthing Behaviors in Puppies and Dogs (Nipping)

Puppies and dogs use their mouths to explore and investigate their worlds, and they are very deliberate about it, so it is important for puppies and dogs to learn appropriate mouthing behavior around humans.

### Puppies

Puppies have teeth like scalpels! Early in their lives, they spend a lot of time using their teeth, on their mother and on their littermates. However, not all puppies learn from their canine families to be gentle with their teeth (called bite inhibition), and even those that do learn from dogs cannot necessarily apply that information in their new (human) homes.

What does this mean to humans? Most puppies continue to vigorously explore their world with their mouth and teeth when they go home with their new owner. Wow, does it hurt when they nip and bite! What can the owner do to change this behavior in their pup?

1. Encourage other mouthing behaviors: smear your hands with peanut butter or banana or baby food, and encourage the pup to lick it off of your hands. This is one form of mouthing the puppy can do as an alternate to nipping or biting;
2. Make sure the puppy is getting enough normal chewing activity. Puppies need to chew things like bones, Nylabones, chew toys, stuffed frozen Kongs, or rawhides. (Some of the more powerful breeds, who can pull apart large rawhide pieces and choke, should not have rawhide). The pup should always have access to an item which is appropriate for them to vigorously chew, rather than your hands or feet!
3. Teach your pup to touch your hand with its nose. It's easy! Put your outstretched palm one inch to the side of your pup's face, and when he turns his head in that direction, praise and give a treat with your other hand. Do this about ten times, and your pup will learn quickly that moving towards and/or touching your hand with its nose is a way to earn a reward. Then, when your pup comes towards you, you can hold your hand out, and they will touch your hand with their nose instead of nipping or biting;
4. If your pup nips or bites, calmly put them down and/or walk away from them, putting a door in between you and them, for about a minute. Don't yell or try to frighten or discipline them, as this could teach them that you are a scary person to be avoided, or they could think this was a new game. Pups want to be with you, and if biting deprives them of that, biting should decrease as you consistently remove yourself from them each time they bite.

## Mouthing Behaviors in Puppies and Dogs (Nipping)

5. Avoid behaviors that will over-stimulate your puppy to bite, such as running and chasing games, tug games, and any other games which involve quickly-moving things that could be construed as prey to the pup. It is not a good training technique to engage the pup's prey instincts, then punish it for biting. Instead, teach alternate behaviors, such as sit, down, touch my hand, etc., and reward those behaviors over and over, until the pup knows them very well. That way, if the pup becomes over-stimulated, you can ask them to sit, and that will stop the unwanted behavior. Teach children these same rules, and do not leave them unsupervised with the puppy (or with any dog), ever.

6. Prevent mouthing by putting your puppy in its crate with a toy when it is too tired to perform behaviors it has been taught as alternatives to biting. Prevent it by giving the pup something to keep in its mouth when it is near you. If you consistently keep the pup's mouth occupied with appropriate items, while rewarding good behavior, you will have a puppy who grows into a dog who understands how to use its mouth around people. Be careful about giving the pup something to bite after it has bitten you. Though you may think you are distracting the pup, you are actually rewarding them for biting.

### Adolescent and Adult Dogs Who Mouth

Sadly, many, many pups do not learn proper dog-human mouthing interaction when they are little. The pup might not have been trained in good behaviors like sit or down, and perhaps it got a lot of attention when it bit or nipped. (The attention doesn't have to be pleasant to be rewarding to the puppy or dog. Even a series of "OW! Bad dog!!" interactions could be just the attention the dog likes.) Alternately, when the dog puts its teeth on a human and the human begins flapping their arms, jumping around, yelling, grabbing the dog's collar, the dog could find itself in the midst of what to it is a really fun game. Thus, the once-cute puppy can be turned into a grown dog that puts its teeth on people inappropriately.

Many dogs that put their mouths and teeth on people are mislabeled as aggressive. An aggressive dog is identified by its intent to harm, and is distinguished from an inappropriately mouthy dog by its history of deliberately harming someone (a bite history), by fearful body language (slinking, hackles up, growling, low-wagging or tucked tail), or by offensive body language (stiff posturing, forward-facing movement, high, stiff tail, possible wagging, raised hackles, growling, barking or lunging). An inappropriately mouthy dog can harm you, but its intent is not likely to be harmful, and its behavior is usually related to no training or for being, even accidentally, rewarded repeatedly for mouthing behaviors.

A dog is as precise with its mouth and teeth as humans are with their hands and fingers. With your thumb and index finger, you can caress, slightly pinch, or leave a bleeding wound. Dogs are the same way with their teeth. A dog who mouths you but who is not aggressive needs to learn the lesson it did not learn as a puppy; how to interact appropriately with humans with its mouth.

All of the above suggestions also apply to the adolescent (4-18 month-old) puppy, and to an adult dog. Teaching alternate behaviors and good behaviors can turn the mouthy dog into a dog who is a pleasant companion for a lifetime.

# How to Crate Train a Puppy

Place crate in central location & let puppy explore it

Make it comfy & inviting with blankets & a toy



Offer a treat toy when inside the crate

Teach tolerance by locking the toy inside & the puppy out

Extend crate time over a week

from  the spruce

Most people have heard of crate training but may not know what it really is or why it works. The following is a brief discussion about crate training, how to use it with your puppy, and some common mistakes made. Crate training takes time, effort, and a lot of patience, but when used properly, it can be a positive experience for both you and your dog.

## Why should I crate train my puppy?

Crate training is a great way to limit your puppy's access to your house while he learns appropriate behavior. It will cut down on the number of "accidents" while your puppy is learning to be housetrained and will reduce destroying and chewing of furniture or other household items. It will give you more peace of mind and freedom to be away from home easier and less stressful for him to travel, to be in a cage at the veterinarian, or to be confined for any other reason in the future. You may choose to continue to use the crate into your dog's adulthood as his very own comfortable "room".

# Crate Training

## Why does it work?

In the wild, dogs naturally seek out dens for sleeping quarters. Presumably this is because they are closed with only one entrance, giving the dog a sense of security. Dogs instinctively do not like to soil in their dens and will go outside to eliminate. Crating your dog is simply using his instinct not to soil in his den, and so therefore allowing you to gradually teach him that your whole house is his “den” and to only eliminate outside. Some people feel apprehensive about crating their dog, thinking that it is mean and that their dog won’t like it. However, since dogs seek out dens on their own, a crate is both natural and comforting to a puppy.

## How do I choose a crate?

Both wire and plastic crates are available. Both work well, so it really depends on your personal preference. Keep in my that plastic crates can be used for airline travel while wire crates may be collapsible, thus easier for storage. Getting the right size is very important. Your dog should be big enough for him to have a separate toilet area. If your puppy is going to grow a lot more, get a crate that will be big enough for him as an adult, but block the back area so it is not big enough for him to have a separate toilet area now.

## How do I crate train my puppy?

First, make sure the crate is comfortable by placing a towel or bed inside. Place the crate in a common area and put toys and treats inside for your puppy to discover. Don’t ever force your puppy into the crate, as going in should always be a positive experience. Praise him every time that he goes into the kennel. After he is comfortable going inside his crate for treats, beginning feeding his meals inside the crate. Start closing door while he is eating but open it before he is done. Next, leave the door closed for longer increments of time, building slowly. Never open door when he is whining or scratching, but only open it when he is quiet. If he is consistently whining, he is being closed in for too long, so go back to an amount of time he tolerates well and increase more slowly. After that, start crating him at other times besides his meals. Always give him an incentive to go into the crate (treats, food-filled toys, such as a Kong, ect.).

