



TOP PUPPY TIPS

FOR WELCOMING YOUR NEW PUP
INTO YOUR HOME



Check out our online 
[e-Dog Training Academy](#)



TOP PUPPY TIPS

FOR WELCOMING YOUR NEW PUP INTO YOUR HOME

This quick reference guide is meant as a starter for you to read prior to your pup coming home.

We recommend following this up with either our book titled **The first 8 weeks at home** (available on our website), or our puppy course which will give you ongoing training prior to starting classes or our bronze obedience course.

If you would like to know more, please visit our online [e-Dog Training Academy](#).





Top Puppy Tips

Establishing early boundaries

Pups are like humans: the calmer you are the calmer they will be.

Before your pup comes home establish the boundaries that you want in place once your dog is older.

Do you want your pup on the sofa? Do you want your pup jumping up at people? Do you want your pup upstairs?

These are all important questions that you should discuss before your pup comes home.

Make sure you stick to your boundaries and you will achieve them.

Your pup will not know what your boundaries are, so be sure to be kind and persistent in trying to achieve them.

The use of force is not needed in today's modern training world.

If you are struggling, always get help from a local balanced trainer. A pre-class home visit from your trainer is an





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excellent purchase and will be a great opportunity to meet the trainer and book your pup's classes for later on (good trainers get booked up early).





Socialisation

It is well known that the earlier you socialise your dog the better. The modern vaccination programme doesn't always allow this.

We would recommend you find inventive ways to get your dog out of the house prior to the end of the vaccination programme - just be safe.

For small pups these visits out of the house are easily achieved. Walking with your pup in your arms or jacket or even in baby slings, are great ways of getting out and about.

For bigger breeds it is slightly harder but short drives out in the car and then sitting with them on a blanket in new areas would really help.

Remember socialisation isn't about "playing" with other dogs it is about exposing your dog to the outside elements.

Think of places that you will visit with your pup when they are older.





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If you are likely to want to go to a café or similar, then you should take them as a pup. Trips to vets, groomers and other places are also great places to visit, without any treatments. Give your pup a positive experience.

Be polite but firm with people if they want to approach with another dog, just say no if they are not vaccinated yet.

Lots of people with larger breeds use prams to get their dogs out in this early socialisation period - It will not give you a lazy dog if you choose this method.





Toilet Training

Before your dog comes home, securely pen off and clean a suitable area of your garden, just outside your access door.

Once your pup is home, calmly introduce them to this area.

Do not say anything to your dog.

If you walk around the area yourself, this will be enough to encourage your dog to move and investigate. This will generally get their bladder moving, once they have been to the toilet, praise them and take them back inside. Treats are not required just lots of smiles and praise.

Each hour, take your dog back out to the area and then repeat the whole process.

If your dog doesn't go to the toilet within a few minutes take them back indoors.

By not allowing them too much free play in the garden for the initial couple of weeks, they will soon realise they are going out to the toilet.





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Never tell your dog off for going to the toilet indoors they do not understand.





Crate Training

Training your dog to have a safe, secure place that is their own is one of the most amazing things you can do for your dog.

Successful crate training will give your dog security for life. Vets visits, home boarding, visits to the groomers etc. will all become more relaxing for your dog. Successful crate training will also play a big part in helping to reduce the risk of separation anxiety.

Some breeders will start to introduce a crate for you if they have room in their house, so speak to them about this.

Ensure you have given your breeder a small blanket that will stay with the litter for a week or two before you take your pup home.

Place the blanket in the crate. Do not have any other sleeping area available for your pup whilst introducing the crate. They need to see their crate as their “bedroom”.

Place the crate on an interior wall of your home, trying to avoid busy walkways and free access to staring out of





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windows. Cover the crate almost completely with a blanket, leaving the door side uncovered.

When you arrive home place the pup inside the crate with the door open.

This will allow your pup to take in their new surroundings, without being overwhelmed. They will come out when they are more relaxed and ready.

Have their only source of water in a non-tip bowl inside the crate. You can remove this overnight. Feed all meals inside the crate for the first few weeks. You don't need to shut the door.

Do not allow children to climb in the crate this is your pup's bedroom area and they need to feel safe.

At least twice during the day ensure that your pup has a sleep in the covered closed crate. Even if you are at home this sleep is encouraged. It will give you a **much happier pup and they won't associate it with you disappearing.**

Never use the crate as a punishment for your pup.





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Early Training

There is no need to do a lot of “formal training” in these early weeks. One or two minutes a day is all that is needed, and you can use the dog’s dinner if they are kibble fed.

Everything else your pup learns should be based around “good manners receive good things”. Smiles and lots of praise for all good behaviour.

If you offer your pup a toy, then they should sit quietly for a second before you give it to them.

Opening crate doors, back doors, having a cuddle, having their dinner, having their lead on are all excellent free sources of “rewards”.

Encourage the sit position for all of these things.

Once your pup starts classes and training gets harder then you can use treats.





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Toys/Chews

Have an abundance of hard-wearing chews and toys for your pup available at all times - **don't make the mistake of putting them away.**

Encourage play with you with their toys and independent settling with some really tough chew toys.

Often unwanted behaviours can be easily distracted with their toys in these early days.



Final Words

By following these simple tips, you should be able to settle your pup into your home smoothly.

Make sure you pop back regularly to our website as new resources are being added all the time.

You can also contact us directly by email on admin@essexdogtraining.co.uk, or follow our progress on our [facebook page](#).

**Good luck with
your new puppy!**

