

**Welcome to our “Puppy Love Shelties” family !**



**We have been breeding Shetland Sheepdogs since 1989 and truly feel that they are one of the best family pets that you can have.**

**While quite a few of our puppies and adults have been seen in calendars and even on a porcelain collectors plate -**

**most of our puppies just go to a home like yours to become loving pets.**



**We have always strived to provide healthy dogs to caring homes and other than the purchase price all**

**we ask is that you give this Sheltie the love and proper care that it deserves. We also LOVE to get updates and photos of the pets that we have placed.**

**We hope that you have many wonderful years together and, that should you want another Sheltie in the future, you will contact us again.**

**Sincerely;**

**Rick & Monica Lavers**

# I AM YOUR PUPPY

and I will love you until the end of the Earth,  
but please know a few things about me.

## I am a Puppy;

I will chew EVERYTHING I can get my teeth on. This is how I explore and learn about the world.

Even HUMAN children put things in their mouths. It's up to YOU to guide me to what is mine to chew and what is not.

## I am a Puppy;

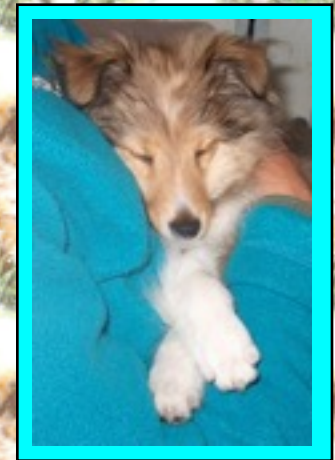
I cannot hold my bladder for longer than 1-2 hours.

I cannot "feel" that I need to poop until it is actually beginning to come out.

I cannot vocalize nor tell you that I need to go,

and I cannot have "bladder and bowel control" until 6-9 months.

Don't punish me if you have not let me out for 3 hours and I tinkle. It is YOUR fault.



## As a Puppy,

it is wise to remember that I NEED to go potty after Eating, Sleeping  
Playing, Drinking and around every 2-3 hours in addition.

If you want me to sleep through the night, then do not give me water  
after 7 or 8 p.m.

A crate will help me learn to housebreak easier,  
and will avoid you being mad at me.

## I am a Puppy,

I like to play.

I will run around, and chase imaginary monsters, and chase your feet  
and your toes and

"attack" you, and chase fuzz balls, other pets, and small  
kids. It is play; it's what I do.

Do not be mad at me or expect me to be sedate, mellow and sleep all day.

If my high energy level is too much for you,  
maybe you could consider an older rescue from a shelter or "Rescue Group".

My play is beneficial, use your wisdom to guide me in my play with  
appropriate toys and activities like chasing a rolling ball, or gentle tug games,  
or plenty of chew toys for me. If I nip you too hard, talk to me in "dog talk", by  
giving a loud YELP. I will usually get the message, as this is how dogs  
communicate with one another.

If I get too rough, simply ignore me for a few moments, or put me in my crate with an  
appropriate chew toy



### I am a Puppy;

hopefully you would not yell, hit, strike, kick or beat a 6 - month old human infant,  
so please do not do the same to me.

I am delicate, and also very impressionable.

If you treat me harshly now, I will grow up learning to fear being hit,  
spanked, kicked or beat.

Instead, please guide me with encouragement and wisdom.  
For instance, if I am chewing something wrong, say, "No Chew!"  
and hand me a toy I CAN chew.

Better yet, pick up ANYTHING that you do not want me to get into.  
I can't tell the difference between your old sock and your new sock, or an old sneaker  
and your \$200 Nikes.

### I am a Puppy,

and I am a creature with feelings and drives  
much like your own, but yet also very different.

Although I am NOT a human in a dog suit, neither am I an unfeeling  
robot who can instantly obey your every whim.

I truly DO want to please you, and be part of your family, and your life.  
You got me (I hope) because you want a loving partner and companion, so do not  
relegate me to the backyard when I get bigger, do not judge me harshly but instead  
mold me with gentleness and guidelines and training into the  
kind of family member you want me to be.

### I am a Puppy

and I am not perfect, and I know you are not perfect either. I love you anyway.  
So please, learn all you can about training and puppy behaviors and caring for me from  
your Veterinarian, books on dog care and even researching on the computer!

Learn about my particular breed and it's "characteristics"; it will give you  
understanding and insight into WHY I do all the things I do.  
Please teach me with love, patience, the right way to behave and socialize me with  
training in a puppy class or obedience class, we will BOTH have a  
lot of fun together.

### I am a Puppy

and I want more than anything to love you, to be with you, and to please you.

Won't you please take time to understand how I work?

We are the same you and I, in that we both feel hunger, pain, thirst, discomfort,  
fear, but yet we are also very different and must work to understand  
one another's

language, body signals, wants and needs.

Some day I will be a handsome dog, hopefully one you can be proud of and one  
that you will love as much as I love you.

### Love; Your Puppy

(Copyright 2000, by J. Ellis - Photos "Shiloe" owned by Rick & Monica Lavers)

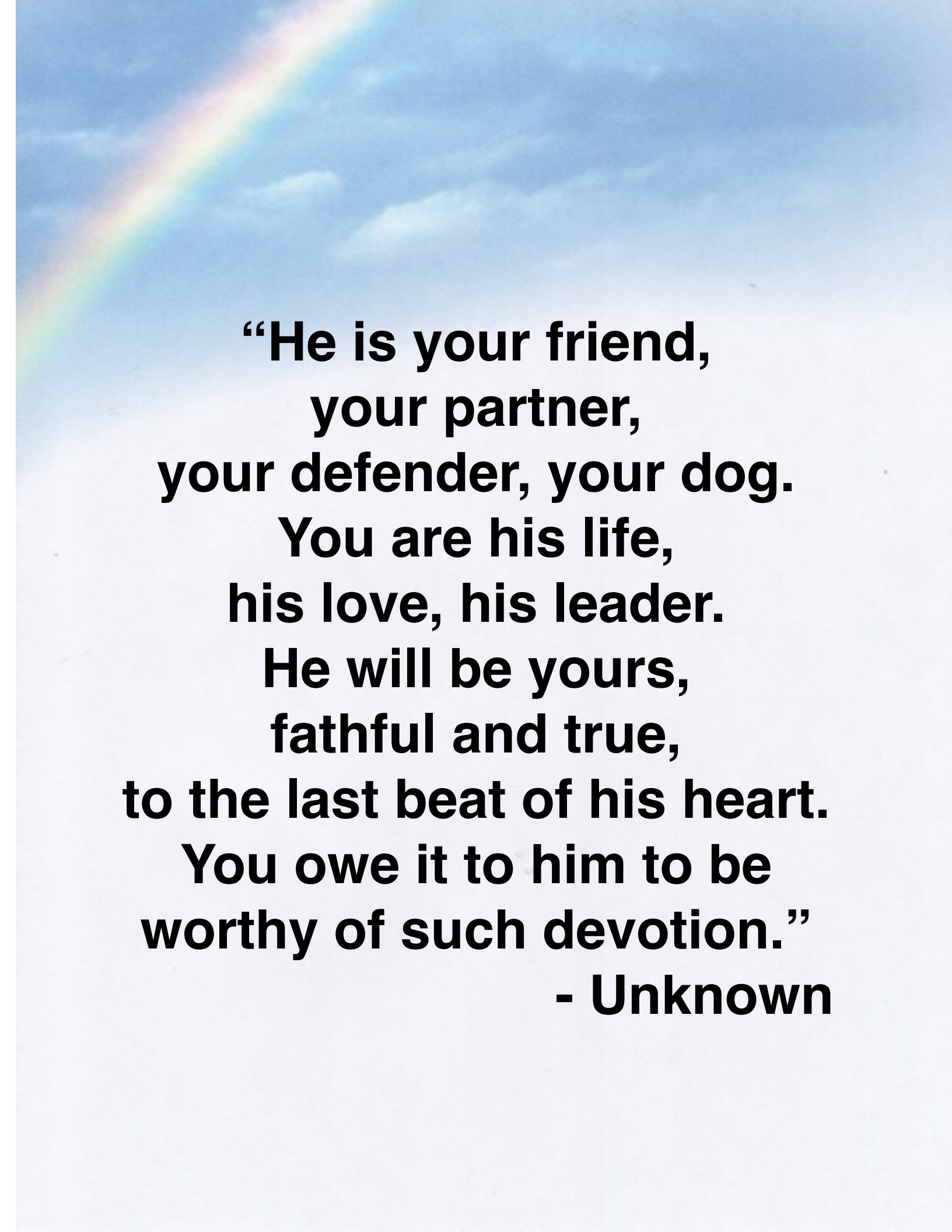




You can't buy loyalty, they say  
I bought it though, the other day;  
You can't buy friendship, tried and true,  
Well just the same, I bought that too.

I made my bid, and on the spot  
Bought love and faith and a whole job lot  
Of happiness, so in all  
The purchase price was pretty small.

I bought a single trusting heart,  
That gave devotion from the start.  
If you think these things are not for sale,  
Buy a brown-eyed puppy with a wagging tail.



**“He is your friend,  
your partner,  
your defender, your dog.  
You are his life,  
his love, his leader.  
He will be yours,  
faithful and true,  
to the last beat of his heart.  
You owe it to him to be  
worthy of such devotion.”**

**- Unknown**



## **TOUCH ME**

**Touch me with your voice as a puppy young and new,  
And let me know my presence is what is pleasing you.**

**Touch me with your spirit, for God sent me here to you,  
To teach you of that precious bond known by the choicest few.**

**Touch me with your hands as I grow tall and strong,  
I need you as my mentor through out my whole life long.**

**Touch me with your lips, and brush them softly on my brow,  
Please kiss away the fears that I am feeling now.**

**Touch me with your eyes as I become full grown,  
To validate unspoken love that we have always known.**

**Touch me with your heart as our bond keeps growing stronger,  
And words need not be used in our language any longer.**

**Touch me with your breath, so soft and warm upon my face,  
As I try to bring you comfort in life's never ending race.**

**Touch me with your love when my muzzle turns to grey,  
I live my life to please you, each and every single day.**

**Touch me with your scent when age has dimmed my sight,  
To reassure me always that you will be my light.**

**Touch me with your face when your tears are meant for me,  
So I may bear your pain and let your heart be free.**

**Touch me with remembrance when I have traveled on,  
And, I will hold your heart in mine forever when I'm gone.**

***Susan Krauser  
2002***

*When a breeder  
entrusts you with  
one of their babies*



*You get a piece of  
their heart and a  
part of their legacy.*

**“When it’s too hard to look back  
and you’re too afraid to look ahead  
look right beside you  
I’ll be there.”**



**- Your Sheltie -**

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## PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES

P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022

Hi, I'm your new puppy. I was born on \_\_\_\_\_  
so I am only \_\_\_\_\_ old.  
I am a "Shetland Sheepdog" (normally called a "Sheltie") and my color is  
\_\_\_\_\_.

MOST AKC PAPERWORK CAN BE DONE ON LINE AT [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) saving a lot of time if you so desire, if not follow the directions below and mail in your paperwork (**NOTE - we REQUIRE that our AKC puppies get registered as part of your contract**)!

To fill out your AKC papers - start with **STEP 1** and **STEP 2 (in red)** and pick an option (**ONLY if you so desire - not required**).  
Go to **STEP 3 (in red)** and calculate the amount needed for the package you desire and the payment method. NEXT - NAME YOUR NEW PUPPY in the spaces provided (you should settle on a unique name that has NOT already been used by someone else). You will note that the litter owner(s) have already filled out ALL of the **Blue Sections** as required by the AKC. The 5 digit number in the yellow area is ONLY for registering your puppy on line and the 3 digit number (if visible) to the left is ONLY to be used if your puppy was sold with FULL AKC REGISTRATION!

**Please note that you ONLY have 1 year from the date that the AKC papers were issued to register your new puppy before the price will INCREASE and you will not be in compliance with your contract with PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES!**

The last step is for you to fill out the New Owner(s) information on the back (IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN FILLED OUT) and have each new owner sign on the "New Owner's Signature" line in the red area near the bottom. **NOTE - the AKC now charges \$10.00 for each added co-owner, so you may just want your Sheltie under one name.**

**MAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM & PAYMENT TO:**

The American Kennel Club  
P.O. Box 900053  
Raleigh, NC 27675-9053

We hope you have many, many happy years together with your new Sheltie - we LOVE updates and photos from time to time!

## REQUIREMENTS

### **PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**

**P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022**

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW OWNERS:**

**“PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES” goes to great lengths to make sure that you have an excellent lifelong experience with your new puppy. To this end, we ask you (the new owner) to do the following:**

**#1 KEEP YOUR SHELTY VACCINATED!**

Most puppies have **ONLY** had their first vaccination by the time they leave our home and will **NEED** two more vaccinations with “Pfizer +5/CV” (or an equivalent) in the next two months and after that a yearly revaccination. Your new puppy will also need to be vaccinated at 3 to 4 months of age (depending on local laws) for **RABIES** as well as any other vaccinations or preventative treatments your veterinarian feels are needed.

**#2 REGISTER YOUR NEW PUPPY WITH THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB!**

This is easy to do and can be done on line at [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) or by mail. Doing this will make your Sheltie more valuable and will give you a free health check at some veterinary offices as well as opening up many opportunities for things to do with your new four legged friend and allows you to get a number of publications from the AKC.

We also like to know the official AKC name and the “call name” you use for your new puppy if you have not yet decided on them by the time you pick up your puppy!

**#3 KEEP US POSTED FROM TIME TO TIME!**

We **LOVE** to get updates (and photos) a few times a year!

# Puppy Love Shelties

## YOUR VETERINARIAN INFORMATION

name of veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_ phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_ city: \_\_\_\_\_  
other needed information: \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUR EMERGENCY VETERINARIAN INFORMATION

name of vet or clinic: \_\_\_\_\_ phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
address: \_\_\_\_\_ city: \_\_\_\_\_  
cross streets or directions: \_\_\_\_\_

### Extra Shot

Nobivac Puppy-DPv  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1st Shot

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2nd Shot

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3rd Shot

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS  
VACCINATION  
IS NOT  
ALWAYS GIVEN**

### 2nd YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3rd YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 7th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 8th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

### 9th YEAR

Pfizer +5/CV  
date: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE #1 - Puppies are treated with “**Nemex 2**” wormer every 2 weeks while at our home !

NOTE #2 - Some times of year we give an additional shot of “**Nobivac Puppy DP-v**” to help prevent **PARVO**

NOTE #3 - We **STRONGLY** recommend that you give your Sheltie a yearly booster shot of a “5 in 1” or “6 in 1” type vaccination (like the Pfizer +5/CV or an equivalent), **ASK YOUR VET FOR RECOMMENDATIONS!**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### ***WHY DOES MY PUPPY NEED TO BE WORMED?***

All puppies seem to get “round worms” from their Mother when nursing. We worm all of our Shelties on a regular basis and also give a product called “Nemex 2” wormer to puppies at 2, 4, 6, 8 & 10 weeks of age if they are still with us. **YOU SHOULD CHECK WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN FOR HIS or HER RECOMMENDATIONS!**

### ***CAN YOU GIVE THE FIRST PUPPY SHOTS EARLY?***

**NO!** Your puppy still has the immunity from the Mother until about 6 weeks of age. At about 6 weeks of age the puppy’s immune system is just starting to “kick in” - any shot given before that time will have **NO EFFECT** as the puppy’s immune system will not be able to make any antibodies. We normally give a “First Shot” shortly before the puppy leaves our home.

### ***DO I NEED TO GIVE THE WHOLE SERIES OF SHOTS?***

**YES!** Your puppy’s immune system **NEEDS** the full series of shots to build up immunity to the diseases. If you stop giving the shots you might as well not given them at all!

### ***DO I NEED TO GET THE ANNUAL REVACCINATIONS?***

**YES!** Your dogs immune system does need the annual revaccinations to ensure the dogs health. **NOTE** - Even with the full series and revaccinations some dogs can still get “Parvo”

### ***CAN I CHANGE THE BRAND OF FOOD THAT MY DOG EATS ?***

**YES!** You should give a puppy (any dog under 12 year of age is considered a puppy) for the first year of it’s life. It **NEEDS** the extra nutrition during the first year while it is growing, after that you can change to an adult food. **ANY GOOD QUALITY BRAND OF FOOD WILL DO!** You do **NOT** need to keep feeding the same food we feed our puppies, but change over to the new brand **SLOWLY** giving a little less of the old brand mixed in with a little more of the new brand for a week or 10 days to avoid diarrhea!

### ***DO I NEED TO “GLUE” MY PUPPY’S EARS?***

**NO!** We sometimes will glue ears for a “photo shoot” but rarely do it even then. If you are not going to “show” your Sheltie in **CONFIRMATION** classes at a dog show I would **NOT** bother with the “gluing” as it can be a real **PAIN!** If yo wish to “glue” the ears go to page 42 for a list of products and where to get them.

**PLEASE** feel free to give us a call anytime if you have a question - we are here to help!

**HOME CHECKLIST**

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**

**P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022**

**HOME CHECKLIST FOR YOUR PET'S HEALTH**

**MY SHELTYE .....**

**.....IS ACTING NORMAL - ACTIVE AND IN GOOD SPIRITS**

**.....HAS A NORMAL APPETITE WITH NO CHEWING OR SWALLOWING  
DIFFICULTY.**

**.....BREATHES NORMALLY, WITHOUT STRAINING OR COUGHING.**

**.....URINATES IN THE USUAL AMOUNTS AND FREQUENCY.**

**.....HAS NORMAL APPEARING BOWEL MOVEMENTS.**

**.....WALKS WITHOUT STIFFNESS, PAIN OR DIFFICULTY.**

**.....HAS HEALTHY LOOKING FEET AND SHORT NAILS.**

**.....HAS A FULL GLOSSY COAT IN GOOD CONDITION.**

**.....HAS SKIN THAT IS FREE FROM DRY FLAKES AND NOT GREASY.**

**.....IS FREE FROM FLEAS, TICKS, LICE OR MITES.**

**.....HAS EYES THAT ARE CLEAN AND DEBRIS FREE.**

**.....HAS A MOIST NOSE, FREE FROM DISCHARGE.**

**.....HAS CLEAN, WHITE TEETH FREE OF PLAQUE AND CALCULUS.**

**.....HAS GUMS THAT ARE PINK WITH NO REDNESS AND NON-OFFENSIVE  
BREATH ODOR.**

**.....HAS A BODY THAT IS FREE FROM LUMPS/BUMPS AS I RUN MY HANDS  
OVER ITS ENTIRE BODY.**

**PLEASE call your Veterinarian if you answer NO to any of these questions!**

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**  
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**WHAT DISEASES SHOULD MY SHELTY BE PROTECTED AGAINST?**

- \* **DHL(Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis) are widespread, contagious and deadly diseases. Nearly every dog will be exposed during it's lifetime making vaccination a MUST!**
- \* **“Kennel Cough” or Tracheobronchitis, is an upper respiratory infection causing a persistent, dry, hacking cough. The disease may last several weeks and is HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS!**
- \* **Parvo Virus & Corona Virus - are intestinal infections resulting in viral diarrhea, fever, vomiting and depression. It is transmitted through direct contact with an infected dog's feces or urine, both are HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS and LIFE THREATENING!**
- \* **Heartworm - is a life threatening disease wherever mosquitoes are present. Your pet MUST be tested prior to starting preventive medication.**
- \* **Rabies - is a FATAL infection of the nervous system that attacks all warm blooded animals including humans. THERE IS NO CURE FOR RABIES - vaccination is your pet's ONLY protection!**
- \* **Fleas - can cause anemia and even death in young pets. If swallowed, fleas can transmit tapeworms to your pet. Flea bites can cause allergic reactions resulting in a painful, difficult to cure skin disease. A flea control program should include your pet, your home and your yard at the same time!**
- \* **Intestinal Parasites - threaten your pet's health. Large numbers can cause intestinal blockage, bloody diarrhea, and even death. Your vet can do a microscopic examination of a stool sample from your pet to check for parasites.**

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***PUPPY TO ADULT FEEDING SCHEDULES:***

Just about any of the good name brand of puppy and/or dog food are acceptable - **WE DO NOT RECOMMEND ANY OF THE LOW COST "STORE" BRANDS BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN TOO MANY FILLERS AND TOO MUCH SUGAR ALONG WITH INFERIOR INGREDIENTS.** Feeding a hard dry dog food also helps clean your puppy's teeth. Remember - **ANY CHANGE IN FOOD SHOULD BE DONE SLOWLY!** If needed (and ONLY if needed) you can add a teaspoon of a name brand canned dog food, cottage cheese, yogurt or a SMALL amount of hamburger to help stimulate eating for your puppy. Your puppy should be given a "puppy food" for the first year of its life.

The following is a very GENERAL feeding schedule and may well be too much food for our puppy - adjust the amount of food as necessary!

**General Puppy Feeding Schedule:**

Morning Feeding	Approximately 1/3 cup dry food
Afternoon Feeding	Approximately 1/3 cup dry food (you may moisten with warm water)
Evening Feeding	Approximately 1/3 cup dry food

PLEASE NOTE that these amounts must be adjusted up or down depending on the growth rate and size of your puppy as well as its activity level. If your puppy is eating ALL of its food at each feeding, feed it a little more until it does not eat all of its food. If it is leaving food at each feeding cut back until it is eating all of its food. PLEASE do not overfeed or underfeed your puppy. Puppy vitamins are also a good thing to give your growing puppy.

"Free feeding" or "Self feeding" is fine for an adult that is not overweight but it can make it harder to "housebreak" a puppy!

Avoid "people food" as it can cause vomiting or diarrhea. Milk, raw eggs and meat can also cause digestive problems. REMEMBER - **NO CHOCOLATE** and **NO CAFFEINE** for dogs!

You may give your puppy large **COOKED BEEF** bones to play with. DO NOT give raw bones because they may become rancid and make your puppy sick. **NEVER GIVE CHICKEN or PORK BONES** as they can splinter and kill your puppy!

#### **SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR OF AGE:**

At this point you can go to two feedings a day - morning and evening. At bedtime you may wish to give a “dog biscuit” as a treat.

#### **ADULT:**

At this point you may go to one feeding a day (evening feeding is recommended) with 1 or 2 biscuits in place of the other feeding. At one year of age you should change over to an ADULT dog food. Make the change SLOWLY giving a little less of the old food and a little more of the new food mixed in its bowl at each feeding until it is eating only the new food after a week or ten days.

#### **MEDICAL:**

We send our puppies home with a record of vaccinations and wormings that the puppy has had. We STRONGLY recommend that the puppy is taken to see your veterinarian within three (3) days for a checkup. REMEMBER - your puppy MUST have its full series of shots in order to build up immunity to all of the diseases, and some dogs may never build up full immunity to “Parvo”.

#### **HOUSEBREAKING:**

Training your new puppy will be far easier if you remember to be CONSISTENT! From the moment your puppy steps in to your home, training begins. BE CONSISTENT. If you do not want the puppy on the furniture, DO NOT let him on the furniture AT ALL. If you do not want him in the living room (or dining room), don't let him in there PERIOD! Place something in the doorway to block the entrance such as a “baby gate” , cardboard, plywood or something else that will work. If the puppy climbs or jumps over (or tries to) tell him NO and place him GENTLY back in the desired area. WE DO NOT RECOMMEND that you give your puppy complete run of your home. Confine him in an area that can be easily cleaned (such as a laundry, bath room or kitchen) until such time as he has learned to “respect” that area - then slowly allow him in to other areas where he will be permitted. Please keep in mind that many bath rooms and laundry rooms DO NOT HAVE GOOD VENTILATION!

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU CRATE-TRAIN YOUR DOG! We have sent home instructions for this, remember that a puppy may need to “go outside” at anytime from right after eating to about a half hour after his meal. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER rub a puppy's nose in his mistake - it has been proven to do nothing except get his nose dirty and your hands messy! DO NOT CORRECT THE PUPPY IF YOU DID NOT CATCH HIM IN THE ACT - he will NOT know what he is in trouble for! Instead, take your puppy outside and when he has gone as you want him to - PRAISE HIM, TELL HIM HOW GOOD HE HAS BEEN - this works wonders!

#### **GROOMING:**

Shelties are easy to keep. Usually a good brushing once a week will keep them looking good. The more brushing your Sheltie gets the better. For grooming you will need a “pin” brush for a puppy and a “slicker” brush for an adult along

(page 8)

with a metal “rake”. ALWAYS brush the hair while slightly damp. We use a plastic spray bottle with water in it to LIGHTLY spray the dogs coat.. Begin by brushing against the adults coat and finish brushing with the coat. Pay special attention to the hair behind the ears as the fur tends to “mat” there.

Hair may need to be trimmed between the pads of the feet and toenails (claws) must be trimmed as well.

A Shelties thick long coat is a form of insulation both in summer and winter - DO NOT SHAVE IT OFF! Minor clipping may be necessary if your Sheltie becomes matted behind the ears. Bathing is only necessary once a month in the summer and every two in the winter (you may wash your Sheltie more often if it is needed, up to once a week).

#### **OBEDIENCE & DISCIPLINE:**

Shelties are VERY sensitive to their owners’ desires. A sharp word will do more than an actual “spanking”. Remember that a Sheltie is an intensely loyal family dog - they may not like some people that come over to your home and may not be comfortable around that person. NEVER force your Sheltie to “make up” to someone or he may resent the person even more.

#### **CHEWING:**

All pups will chew, therefore they need some toys that are designed for chewing, such as cooked beef bones, “Nylabones”, and hard rubber balls and toys. Make sure all playthings are sturdy and do not have small pieces that may be chewed off and swallowed or choked on.

#### **SAFETY:**

Try to “Puppy-Proof” your puppy’s area. Check for electrical cords, make sure they aren’t hanging or placed in an area where your puppy can reach and chew on them. Make sure there are no poisons around that your puppy can get in to. Make sure that there are no places the puppy can crawl into and get stuck. Check the “Items poisonous to dogs” pages further in this book.

NEVER use “Egualvan” (Ivermectin) for prevention of “Heartworm” - this medication has been known to be fatal to Collies & Shelties. NEVER give a dog chocolate or caffeine to a dog. Carpet fresheners can be an irritant to your dogs skin. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER leave your dog in the car on a hot day - heatstroke occurs very suddenly! DO NOT USE MORE THAN ONE FLEA PRODUCT AT A TIME! Do not give your dog a “flea bath” then put a “flea collar” right back on him!

#### **BREEDING:**

WE INSIST that ALL our puppies sold as “pets” be spayed or neutered. In females, this eliminates the messy “heats” and prevents cysts and tumors commonly found in the adult that has not been spayed. In males, it eliminates the possibility of Prostate Cancer as an adult. BREEDING A LITTER OF PUPPIES IS A BIG RESPONSIBILITY!

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## **DOG CRATES: Questions and Answers** by Vicki DeGruy

### **EVERYONE SAYS I SHOULD GET A CRATE FOR MY DOG. WHY? I DON'T WANT TO PUT MY DOG IN A CAGE!**

If dog crates were designed to look like doghouses, it might be easier to convince people that they are not cages! First, let's talk about what a crate really is and how they can improve your relationship with your dog.

Long ago, when dogs were still wild animals, they often slept in dens or shallow holes they dug in the ground, hidden away in places where they felt safe from predators. These were small, dark places, just big enough to turn around in and to lie down comfortably.

Even after centuries of selective breeding and living in people's homes, dogs still retain some of their ancient instincts. One of these instincts is the desire to have a den - a small, cozy place of their own where they can feel safe and secure. A "crate" is just a modern version of a den. In other words, it's a doghouse within your house. Just as you enjoy having your own room where you can go for peace and privacy, your dog likes having his own room too.

As well as giving him a safe, cozy place to stay, crates can make training your dog a lot easier. Housebreaking goes much faster when you use a crate and destructive chewing becomes easier to control. Traveling is safer for both you and your dog when he is in a crate. As you may have unhappily discovered, it's very hard nowadays to find a motel that allows pets. Many motels, though, allow crated dogs. Finding a rental apartment that will allow pets is becoming next to impossible, but many landlords can be persuaded to accept tenants with crate trained dogs.

### **WHERE CAN I FIND A CRATE?**

The most likely place to buy a crate is at your local pet supply store. You can find them at hardware and department stores, too. For the largest selection, and sometimes the best value, a wholesale pet supply company may be your best bet. You can find these companies through ads in popular dog magazines. It pays to shop around. Crates come in several styles and materials and some are sturdier or more convenient than others.

### **WHAT KIND SHOULD I GET?**

The most popular crates are made of plastic or heavy welded steel wire. Plastic crates are molded two-piece units with ventilation areas along the sides and a welded steel door in front. They're lightweight, portable and are easily taken apart for storage or travel. Some of them come in decorator colors! Most plastic crates meet federal regulations for airline travel. The quality of plastic crates varies among manufactures, and you'll need to shop more carefully for a

wire crate because quality and style vary greatly. Some of them are flimsy and not meant to be collapsed for storage. Others, advertised as “collapsible”, do so only with great difficulty and don’t fold down to a convenient size. Look for sturdy crates with heavy gauge wire that are easily folded down into a “suitcase-style” shape for transportation and storage. Although they aren’t approved for airline use, I prefer wire crates for my heavy coated Chows because they offer better ventilation.

#### **HOW BIG SHOULD IT BE?**

A crate need only be big enough for the dog to stand up, turn around and lie down comfortably. I like them to be just long enough for my dogs to stretch out on their sides to sleep. Growing puppies can be a problem when buying a crate. Not everyone can afford to buy a new one for each stage of growth, but too large a crate can make a puppy harder to housebreak. Fortunately, decidors are available for some brands so you can shrink and expand the puppy’s space as needed.

#### **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?**

You can expect to pay between \$50 and \$125 for a quality crate for a medium to large dog. While it may sound like a lot, a good crate will outlive several dogs and quickly pays for itself in peace of mind and undamaged carpets, furniture, and belongings.

#### **HOW DOES A CRATE MAKE HOUSEBREAKING EASIER?**

Along with their natural instinct to sleep in a den, puppies are born with the instinctive desire to keep their dens clean. Given the opportunity, most puppies will seek out an area to relieve themselves that’s far away from where they eat, play and sleep. Using a crate takes advantage of this natural tendency and helps the puppy learn to control himself in between trips outside.

During the first few months, puppies require almost constant supervision, something that’s hard to do with our busy life-styles. Using a crate helps you to prevent accidents when you can’t watch your puppy every minute.

Housebreaking is easier to accomplish when accidents are prevented in the first place, rather than correcting the puppy afterward. Using a crate, a place that the puppy is naturally reluctant to use as a bathroom, combined with regular feeding and exercise schedule, will make housebreaking go faster as well as saving your carpets and your sanity!

#### **MY DOG CHEWS UP EVERYTHING IN SIGHT WHEN I’M NOT AT HOME! HOW WILL A CRATE HELP?**

Just as you crate an un-housebroken puppy to prevent accidents when he can’t be supervised, the same applies to a dog that chews or gets into mischief when you can’t be there to watch him. Confined to a crate, a destructive dog is limited to chewing only on the toys you give him, not to your cushions or woodwork! But if your destructive dog will be alone for more than a couple of hours, consider letting him run free in the yard, putting him in a kennel run or make other arrangements such as seeking advice of a dog behaviorist.

**HOW DO I GET MY PUPPY USED TO A CRATE? I'VE TRIED PUTTING HIM IN IT BUT HE CRIES SO MUCH, I LET HIM OUT AFTER A FEW MINUTES. HE DOESN'T LIKE IT AND I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM.**

If small children and puppies could have their way, they'd choose to run free all the time without any restrictions. Unfortunately, because they don't have the maturity to handle that freedom and keep themselves out of trouble, they have to learn to accept short periods of confinement. The key word is "accept" - it doesn't mean they'll like it right away. Most dogs bark and complain during the first few days. Once they begin to accept this new restriction on their freedom, they quiet down and learn to enjoy it.

Growing puppies alternate periods of activity and rest throughout the day. There's no reason they can't do their resting in a crate, like a baby taking a nap in a playpen or crib. By keeping the puppy on a regular schedule of feedings and exercise, you can control his natural rest periods. If you put the puppy in his crate when he's already tired and ready to settle down, he'll get used to his new "bedroom" faster.

In the beginning, he should only be expected to stay in the crate for two-hours naps and overnight. When he is out of the crate, your puppy needs plenty of playtime and attention. I like to give puppies at least an hour between crating periods when they're played with, loved, allowed to explore and romp. This burns off their boundless puppy energy and helps them understand that crating is only a temporary thing.

Special toys and treats help make his "room" a pleasant place to stay. Give the puppy a small treat every time he has to go into his crate. Better still, toss the treat into the crate so he can jump in after it (if you want him to learn to go in the crate on command, say "Kennel" when you toss the treat). He won't understand right away but before long he'll put three things together in his mind: "Kennel" + Crate = Treat!

You've given him a reward for going into the crate, now you need to give him an incentive to stay there quietly. Make his "room" comfortable. Get him a soft but hard-to-destroy blanket or bed. Get him a selection of toys but don't give them all to him at once, just one or two at a time. Rotate the toys. Puppies get bored easily and switching the toys around makes them seem new and exciting. Teething puppies love chew toys and all dogs love a sterilized beef bone with peanut butter stuffed in the middle. They can spend hours trying to clean it all out.

Dogs learn quickly when their behavior is associated with a reward. Behavior that doesn't result in a reward often disappears when there's nothing in it for them. It's normal for many puppies to bark, whine, howl or throw tantrums when first being crate-trained. If you let your puppy out of the crate while he's upset, you'll be rewarding him for bad behavior. The next time he's supposed to go in his crate, he'll cry and bark again because that's what got him out the last time.

For many puppies, just ignoring their complaints is enough to make them stop. If it doesn't get them anywhere, they soon give it up and find something better to do like sleep or play with a toy. Stubborn puppies might need a harsh sounding "NO!" and a rap on the top of the crate to help them get over their tantrums. Whatever you do, don't take him out of the crate until he's quieted down.

**I'VE GOT AN ADULT DOG THAT'S NEVER BEEN IN A CRATE BEFORE. IS IT TOO LATE TO TRAIN HER?**

No, it's never too late! Older dogs can often learn faster than puppies. At first let her smell and investigate the crate with the door open. Feed her meals in it and have her jump in and out of it for treats. Just as you would for a puppy, you should make a crate a comfortable place to be and keep crating periods short in the beginning. Dogs and pups should never be kept in crates for long periods of time with no exercise or attention. Once accustomed to them, many dogs enjoy spending time in the crates even when they don't have to. Crates are a favorite place to retreat with a new toy or to get some relief from a rambunctious puppy or child. There are several crates around my house at any given time, you can find dogs napping in them, the doors standing wide open. They even argue about who gets to use certain crates. Would they react this way to something they thought of as a cage? Not hardly!

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## **THE DEN INSTINCT**

reprinted from "Spring/Summer" - "AKC FAMILY DOG" magazine

Here's a little known fact for new dog owners: Most dogs like crates. To them, it is their haven, their den, their "home away" from, well, home. Although many owners are reluctant to train their puppies to use a crate, doing so can ease the housebreaking period, help puppies to travel safely, and give them a comfortable place to retreat for peace and quiet. Here are some crating tips:

- \* Most puppies quickly come to consider their crate - especially when it's padded with a towel or pillow liner - a den. And since, by nature, dogs do not like to soil their dens, using a crate during housebreaking can help teach young puppies when and where it is appropriate to "go".

- \* It is important to purchase a well-ventilated crate that gives your dog plenty of room to comfortably stand up, lie down, and turn around. If the crate is too big for the puppy, install a divider so the puppy uses only half of the crate (if the crate is too large, the puppy may eliminate in one end and sleep in the other).

- \* Timing is everything. Although many puppies can make it through the night, they should only stay in the crate for a few hours at a time during the day.

- \* Although most puppies learn quickly, they cannot always control their urges. Should your puppy soil his crate, do not harshly reprimand him, but quickly take him outside and praise him for going where he is supposed to.

Finally, a crate should NEVER be used as a punishment, but should be encouraged as a place for your puppy to relax, sleep and get away from the world.

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## **"CRATE TRAINING YOUR PUPPY"**

One of the first things owners teach their puppies is not to eliminate in the house. One very effective method - the one used by most breeders and trainers - is "crate training". Not only can you house train a puppy using a crate, but when it is used correctly, the dog naturally learns to look upon it as its den. The pup will seek out the crate when it wishes to rest undisturbed.

Crates come in different styles and sizes. Choose one that will be large enough for an adult dog of your puppy's breed to lie down, stand up and turn around in easily.

Many breeders use fiberglass (or plastic) airline crates. Avoid those with zinc nuts and bolts - they can poison a dog if swallowed. Wire crates work well and are fairly portable.

put the crate in a location close to other family members to lessen the puppy's anxieties. Move the crate from kitchen or family room to the bedroom at night, so your puppy will feel like part of its new family.

Remove the puppy's collar before it goes into its crate. Then be prepared for the pup's first experience with crate training; it will probably cry or whine. Offer a treat and close the door. Leave the room, but remain nearby. At the first sign of a separation response, such as barking, whining or howling, intervene with a sharp "NO!" Your pup should associate the reprimand with its actions and stop. It may take four or five tries, but it will eventually settle down.

Once the pup is quiet, keep it in the crate for 30 to 45 minutes. If it begins to cry, take it outside to relieve itself. Once that's accomplished, praise the pup, take it back inside and allow it free time outside the crate. If it starts chewing on something other than its toys, respond with a sharp "NO", take the object

**away and replace it with a toy.**

**After 15 to 20 minutes of play time, put the pup back in the crate for a nap, correcting it if it cries. Your pup learns through association, so consistency should help it accept being in the crate after a few tries. When it has been quiet for an hour or so, repeat the process.**

**Be aware that your puppy will need to eliminate directly upon walking and shortly after eating or playing. Also, a very young puppy will not be able to hold its urine all night, so be prepared to take it out during the night.**

**Put your puppy on its leash immediately after letting it out of the crate. Rush the pup to the door or carry it if it's small, so it can avoid an accident. Be sure it relieves itself once outside.**

**Never place newspapers on the bottom of the crate - these will encourage the pup to eliminate there. After you're sure your puppy isn't wetting its bed, you can give it a towel or blanket, though it may be more comfortable without one.**

**Gradually lengthen the amount of time your puppy is allowed to play - when it's 5 or 6 months old, it should be able to control itself for an hour or so between trips outside.**

**The crate also aids in curbing destructive behavior, such as uncontrolled chewing. As your puppy matures and shows it can be left loose in the house, give it that privilege.**

**The crate itself cannot stop your puppy's need to chew when it's teething, so provide it with safe chewable toys and nylon or rawhide bones. If it continues to chew beyond the teething stage (about 8 months), it's probably bored, so try to spend more time with it.**

**By the time it is 8 months old (a bit older for giant breeds), it should be able to walk around the house for most of the day once it has been taken outside to relieve itself. By 1 year, it should be mature enough to be trusted all night in the house. But keep the crate set up with the door open anyway. Your pup will become attached to its own private "den" and will look for it.**

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## **IS YOUR HOME "PUPPY-PROOF"?**

Your puppy probably can't wait to investigate (by investigate, we mean, chew, taste, and swallow) everything within his reach. But sometimes this adventuresome spirit can spell danger.

That's why it is essential that you "puppy-proof" your home and yard - ideally before he moves in - by making sure that all potential poisons and dangers are out of reach. Here are a few of the hazards you should be particularly aware of:

**\* ELECTRICAL CORDS.** Tuck them where your puppy can't get to them, and keep a watchful eye lest he should have an urge to chew. **A SHOCK CAN BE FATAL.**

**\* MEDICINES.** Make sure that all medicines are stored high above your puppy's reach, and never leave pills or containers on low, accessible surfaces, even for a moment.

**\* POISONS AND HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS.** See that no cleansers, polishes, insecticides, rodent poisons, or other dangerous chemicals have been left in "puppy-level", easy to open cabinets (child safe latches can help).

**\* POISONOUS PLANTS.** Not all plants are pet friendly. Many can be harmful to your dog. Indoor: cactus, dumb cane, mistletoe, photodendron, poinsettia sap and tobacco - to name a few. Outdoors: azalea, daffodil flower bud, honeysuckle, horse chestnut, lilly of the valley, morning glory flower, rhododendron, rhubarb, skunk cabbage, tulip bulb, and wild mushroom - to name a few.

You can find a more complete list of "HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS POISONOUS TO PETS" and "PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS" as well as "POISON HOTLINE NUMBERS" on other pages in this book.

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## **TRAINING 1-2-3**

**P**uppies don't come equipped with house manners. You must teach them. Perhaps the most effective way to do this is with obedience training, which gives you and your dog a common language.

**F**ortunately, your youngster is like a little sponge, ready to soak up all he needs to know if he is to mature into a well-behaved adult who's a joy to live with and is welcome almost everywhere. In fact, you're training your dog *every time you interact with him.*

**I**t's never too early for a puppy to learn the basic obedience commands, but you should remember that puppies have short attention spans. Keep your training sessions brief - about 15 minutes each - and playful. Motivational tools and rewards, like toys, bits of food, and *lots of praise,* make training fun for a puppy.

**M**ost of today's prominent trainers believe that you should *NEVER* use any physically painful (re: spanking) correction. You want to set up a relationship of trust.

**T**ouching the dog is good, as long as it's gentle and playful. You want him to get used to being touched. You can even physically manipulate him into the proper positions for some of the exercises. This will make you aware of any negative reactions he has to being touched.

**F**ive easy-to-teach commands provide the foundation for future learning. If you say the command word or phrase as your dog executes the action, he will get used to hearing that word in context. In time, the word will work as a cue.

**You will probably use these commands every day:**

### **SIT**

**METHOD 1:** Lure your puppy into a sit using a tin piece of cheese or a dog treat. Put the food in front of his nose, say "SIT" in a calm voice, and slowly lift the food over his head. He will probably sit as he lifts his head to nibble the food. If he backs up instead, put your other hand on his rump and gently guide him down the first few times. **BE SURE TO PRAISE HIM!**

**METHOD 2:** Guide the pup into a sit. Squat down next to him, place one hand on his chest and the other behind his rear legs. Say "SIT", apply gentle pressure on his chest and press behind his knees. **PRAISE!**

## COME

This command could save your dog's life one day. Start in a quiet room. Squat down, open your arms, and say "Come", then praise immediately, on the assumption that he will obey. DON'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HE WILL DO; set a positive tone.

When he comes, don't grab at him. Instead, let him come to you, and lightly scratch his chest. If he is small enough, scoop him up and tell him how wonderful he is.

Practice this indoor, but in a safe, enclosed area. Make a game of it by hiding from your pup and calling him. Or walk away from him and quickly call him.

If he doesn't come, go slowly to him, put the leash on him, and guide him back to where you called him from, praising the whole time. This tells him that he has to do it but that you aren't angry. NEVER scold him if he comes too slowly, as this will only teach him to avoid you in the future.

## STAY

Have your puppy sit or stay at your side, then pivot around and face him. Command "STAY" and signal with your open palm in front of his face. Take a few steps away from your pup, but not so far that the leash becomes taut, keep it loose.

After a few seconds, step back to him and place your foot on the leash as you stand close to him. This keeps him from jumping up as you bend down and calmly stroke him. Be sure you don't make the leash tight enough to cause any pressure on his collar.

To release him, use the word you have chosen as your signal to him (your "release word"). which might be "OK" or "g", and praise him enthusiastically

Only gradually should you increase the distance between you and your dog and the amount of time you ask him to stay. Do not train for distance at the same time as the initial stay.

After you have added distance and your dog's stay is solid, you can add distractions. For example, have a friend stand nearby and bounce a ball. The puppy should not move out of the stay.

If your puppy does get up while in a stay, simply walk back to him, silently and calmly put him back into position, flash the hand signal, and walk away. Say nothing. If your puppy repeatedly breaks the stay, you're increasing the time or distance too quickly.

## DOWN

METHOD 1: Begin with your puppy sitting next to you while you hold a treat in one hand. Rest your other hand on his shoulder blades and tell him

**"DOWN".** Slowly lower the treat straight down between his paws, then slowly pull it away (make a capital "L"). **DO NOT FORCE HIM DOWN.** Once he is down, praise him and give him the treat.

**METHOD 2:** Stand behind your puppy. Reaching forward, place your right hand on the pup's right shoulder blade. With your left hand, grasp the pup's left rear leg and tell him **"DOWN"**. Gently encourage him to bend the leg.

Now lift his left front leg up off the ground and gently shift his weight to the left with your right hand. Gently place him on the floor and praise him exuberantly. You are guiding, not forcing your pup into this position. With extremely shy, fearful, or playful pups, who squirm, freeze, or become frightened by this, you are better off beginning with method 1.

## **HEEL, OR WALKING ON A LEASH**

Traditionally, when your dog heels, that means he is walking on your left, with the leash loose rather than taut, and his head even with you knee.

Many current trainers prefer to say **"Let's go"** or **"Forward"** as the cue, rather than **"Heel"**. And many do not believe that your dog must be even with your knee at all times, unless you're preparing for obedience competition. Still, you don't want him to get much ahead or behind you.

To begin training your dog to heel, hold the leash in your left hand and a toy or a treat in the right. Say **"Let's go"**, and step off with confidence.

As you walk, hold your right arm across your body so the treat or toy is held above and slightly in front of your pup's head. Encourage him to look up at you by teasing him a bit with the toy or treat. To get and keep his attention, speak excitedly and perhaps bob your hand up and down.

When the pup looks up at you, praise him warmly. If he is distracted, squeak the toy, get his attention, and praise him. After the pup has given you 20 or 30 seconds of attention, give him the toy or treat. Play a bit, relax, then work again.

## **SHAKE**

(reprinted from an article in Fall/Winter - 2003 "You and Your Dog" magazine)

With your dog sitting, reach down and take hold of his right paw with your right hand. Raise his paw gently as you give your dog the **"Shake"** command. Lift until his paw is level with his chest, and then shake it gently as though you were shaking hands.

As soon as you've shown him what to do, praise him lavishly. Speak to him in an upbeat voice, stroke his head and reward him with a treat.

Repeat this exercise several times a day for about a week. Then switch to just reaching out for his paw. If your dog offers his paw, take it, shake it gently and reward him profusely.

# SOCIALIZE YOUR PUPPY

In your puppy's early months - beginning at 7 weeks and continuing up to 9 months of age - he goes through a crucial stage of mental development that shapes his personality and behavior for the rest of his life. As soon as he finishes his puppy shots, give him lots of chances to visit new surroundings and meet new friends, neighbors, and even other animals (in SAFE situations). This process of exposing your puppy to different people and things is called socialization.

If possible, enroll your new companion in a "Puppy Kindergarten" class.

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## **THE BIGGIE: HOUSETRAINING**

Until he's about 3 months old, your puppy has to relieve himself quite frequently. If you're not quite sure how to go about house training him, this this might not bode well for your carpet. Understanding a few important factors can make for a much speedier and easier house-training process.

**\* Timing is EVERYTHING.** Your young puppy will probably need to "go" right after eating or playing, right after waking up, and promptly at these times, before he has a chance to make a "mistake" in the house.

Remember, keeping your puppy on a regular schedule of meals and walks will make housetraining easier for both of you.

Here's a tip: Don't end the walk abruptly as soon as he relieves himself. This teaches him that relieving himself ends the fun outing - and he may figure out that "holding it" will result in more time spent outside!

**\* Always let your pup know when he's been good.** On your walks, praise him lavishly (for example, say "Good Puppy! Good Puppy" in a happy voice) as soon as he eliminates. The basis of speedy, easy puppy training is clear and immediate communication on your part.

Use the same simple words and phrases to mean certain things. Don't expect your puppy to understand long, rambling sentences. Tone of voice is important, too. Your puppy will learn more quickly that "Good Boy" means you're pleased with what he's done if the words are said cheerfully.

**\* A watchful eye is key.** Watch your puppy every minute that he's loose inside your home. If you notice him acting like he's about to eliminate, say "NO" right away in a stern but calm voice, quickly take  
(page 22)

him out, then praise him when he relieves himself outside.

Think of it this way: Every mistake your puppy make in the house is a step backward in his house training - and every time he relieves himself outside, it's a step forward.

**\* Never give "Delayed Punishment".** You should NEVER punish your puppy for mistakes he made in the house when you weren't watching. As with all training, the feedback that's communicated to your puppy - whether positive or negative - must always coincide with or immediately follow the puppy's action. This allows him to make a clear connection between the action and the feedback it causes, ensuring speedier learning.

If you were to punish your puppy hours afterward for a mistake he made in the house, he would probably hang his head and look sad while you admonished him. Many people who see their puppy act this way in such a situation think he is "acting guilty", and therefore they think he understands what he did was wrong. But all this behavior really means is that the puppy knows, because of his owner's tone of voice and body language, that the person is angry and upset. It doesn't mean he understands WHY.

Punishing a puppy for reasons he doesn't understand will leave him only confused and unhappy. This will lessen his trust in you and damage the bond that is developing between the two of you, and it will surely slow down the housetraining process.

**\* Provide your pup with his own special place.** Finally, until he is completely house trained, it is most important to never let your puppy have the run of the house unattended. have him stay in a confined area - a part of the kitchen fenced off with a baby gate, perhaps, or (ideally) a roomy crate or "den", anytime you're not watching him. A puppy is naturally less likely to relive himself in a confined space. Because of this instinct, he's more likely to wait until it's time for his next walk.

## **Something to chew on.**

Because of the new teeth developing in his jaws, your young puppy has a very strong urge to chew on things. In fact, he **NEEDS** to chew. Like a human baby who is teething, your puppy chews to help the new teeth emerge through his gums.

Rather than punishing your puppy repeatedly for chewing on things he finds around the house, give him plenty of toys that he's **ALLOWED** to chew, and praise him when he's happily gnawing on these. Hard nylon chew toys are an excellent choice.

Some objects, such as sharp fragments of cooked poultry or pork bones from the diner table, can spell serious tummy trouble. The best bets are durable chew toys equipped with a recess for hiding bits of dry dog food. These toys keep your puppy entertained and busy for hours.

Still, be sure to stow valuable or dangerous items, electrical cords, and your best pair of shoes out of harms way!

## **Digging it.**

Puppies and dogs dig for different reasons. Some dig to make a cozy bed, and some dig for the pure joy of it (ever seen a kid having fun with a pail and shovel at the beach? You get the idea). But trainers say that probably the most common reason for digging is that the dog is bored and lonely. So an important first step is to prevent boredom and loneliness.

Your puppy needs companionship. If he's left alone in a yard all day with nothing to do, he's sure to be unhappy - and he might turn to digging for comfort. If you have to be away for most of the day, see that he has company for at least several short periods during that time. Have a neighbor or pet-sitter come over for play visits or to take him for walks. Provide him with plenty of toys that will keep him safely occupied.

If he still delights in making holes in the lawn, you can even create his own special digging area in the corner of the yard. By

burying a few of his toys there and making a fun game of it, you can teach him that it's OK for him to practice his earthmoving skills in this special place.

## **Jumping up for joy.**

It's perfectly natural for your puppy to jump up in excitement and put his paws up on you as he greets you (and other people). After all, He's happy to see you! But although this is cute when he does it now, it might not be quite so cute when he's grown up - especially if he's a large breed, such as a retriever. Two things can help ensure that as an adult he won't make a habit of "saying hello" with his muddy paws:

*\* Be sure not to encourage your puppy to put his paws up on you.*

*\* Teach your pup to greet people calmly right from the start.*

Rather than punishing him, teach him to sit whenever you come in the door or when a friend approaches him. Give him praise or a treat EVERY time he sits, and simply ignore him when he jumps - this way, he'll figure out pretty quickly which behavior is more rewarding. He'll soon be sitting every time he sees you coming.

## **A final word.**

Training your puppy and raising him to be the well-behaved, happy companion you've hoped for involves a serious commitment of your time, effort, and attention. Just as with raising a child, there may be ups and downs, but sharing your life with this loving (and loved) family member is all worth it.

If you have questions regarding your puppy's behavior, don't hesitate to ask your vet or local boarding kennel to recommend a reputable trainer in your area.

Information on local dog clubs that offer training classes can be obtained from the AKC at (919) 233-9767 or [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) . Excellent advice can also be found in a number of books about raising a dog, including "American Kennel Club Dog Care and Training" (Howell Book House; \$16.99).

Most of all, enjoy your new puppy! Spend time with him and give him your best, and he will reward you with years of devoted companionship.

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### **PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS**

Aloe Vera	Emerald Feather	Philodendron (all types)
Arnaryllis	English Ivy	Plum (leaves & seeds)
Andromeda Japonica	Fiddle Leaf Fig	Plumosa Fern
Apple (seeds)	Flamingo Plant	Poinsettia
Apple Leaf Croton	Foxglove	Poison Ivy
Asparagus Fern	Geranium	Poison Oak
Autumn Crocus	German Ivy	Pothos
Avocado (fruit & pit)	Glacier Ivy	Precatory bean
Azalea	Glory Lily	Primrose
baby's Breath	Golden Pothos	Red Emerald
Bird of Paradise	Hahn's English Ivy	Red Princess
Birdsnest Sanseveria	Heavenly Bamboo	Rhododendron
Bittersweet	Hibiscus	Ribbon Plant
Branching Ivy	Hullo	Sago Palm
Buckeye	Hosta	Satin Pothos
Buddhist Pine	Hurricane Plant	Stuffer
Caladium	Hyacinth	Silver Pothos
Calla Lilly	Hydrangea	String of Beads
Carnation	Indian Laurel	String of Pearls
Castor Bean	Indian Rubber Plant	Sweetheart Ivy
Ceriman Cherry (seeds & leaves)	Iris	Swiss Cheese Plant
Chinaberry tree (all)	Japanese Show Lily	Taro Vine
Chinese Evergreen	Jade Plant	Tiger Lily
Christmas Cactus	Jerusalem Cherry	Tomato (plant & fruit)
Chrysanthemum	Kalachoe	Tulip
Cineraria	Lily of the Valley	Variegated Rubber Plant
Clematis	Macadamia Nut	Wandering Jew
Colcus	Madagascar Dragon Tree	Weeping Fig
Cordatum	Marble Queen	Yesterday Today & Tomorrow
Corn Plant	Miniature Croton	Yew
Cornstalk Plant	Mistletoe	Yucca
Croton	Morning Glory	
Cuban Laurel	Mother-in-law's Tongue	
Cydamen	Narcissus	
Daffodil	Needlepoint Ivy	
Daisy	Nephtytis	
Day Lily (cats)	Nightshade	
Dieffenbachia	Norfolk Plant	
Dracaena	Oleander	
Dragon Tree	Onion	
Dumb Cane	Oriental lily	
Easter Lily	Peace Lily	
Elaine	Peach (leaves & pits)	
Elephant Ears	Pencil Cactus	

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## DANGERS OF XYLITOL

by Liz Donovan for The American Kennel Club /  
December 16, 2015

A substance called Xylitol is making thousands of dogs sick and even causing death, affecting more pets now than ever before, and it's probably in your home right now.

Cases of Xylitol poisoning in dogs have increased dramatically in recent years, *The Wall Street Journal* reported, citing statistics from the *Pet Poison Helpline*, which received 10 times as many calls relating to Xylitol by November 2015 than in all of 2009.



"There are still a lot of dog owners who have never heard of Xylitol", Ahna Brutlag, associate director of veterinary services for the hotline told *The Wall Street Journal*. "Nor do they understand that something this benign, an ordinary sweetener, could be toxic to pets"

Learn about this substance, why it's dangerous to dogs, and what to do if your dog eats it.

### What Is Xylitol?

Xylitol is a sugar substitute most often associated with "sugar-free" chewing gum and mints, but it's also found in some brands of peanut butter, toothpastes, certain medications, vitamins and many sugar-free products (chocolate, JELLO, yogurt, pudding), and even some household products such as baby wipes and lip balm. A comprehensive list of products is available from the AKC. VCA Hospitals reports that Xylitol is 100 times *more toxic to dogs than chocolate*.

### Why Is Xylitol So dangerous?

According to Caroline Coile, *AKC Family Dog* Nutrition & Health columnist: "The dog's pancreas confuses Xylitol with real sugar and releases insulin to store it. The insulin removes real sugar from the bloodstream and the dog can become weak, and have tremors and even seizures starting within 30 minutes of eating it". Other symptoms of hypoglycemia include poor coordination and vomiting/diarrhea.

Liver failure (and death) can also result from Xylitol ingestion, and symptoms can take as much as eight hours to show up. A dog only needs to consume a very little amount of Xylitol to receive a deadly dose. As much as two pieces of gum can cause a problem in a small-breed dog.

### How Is Xylitol Poisoning Treated?

If you suspect your dog ate something with Xylitol in it, no matter how little it was, contact your veterinarian (or emergency veterinarian if off-hours) immediately.

"Because the amount of Xylitol in gum and other products varies so widely and because some manufacturers don't report how much is in their product, it's important to call your veterinarian as soon as possible if he ate something with Xylitol in it", Coile says.

## PEANUT BUTTER / XYLITOL POISONING

A good prognosis is dependent on how quickly the pet is treated. Your veterinarian may need to stabilize your pet's blood sugar, give intravenous fluids, monitor your pet, and use other therapies to treat symptoms.

How Can I Protect My Dog?

**Read The Ingredients:** If you're offering your dog *peanut butter*, look for Xylitol in the ingredients, as some brands, namely specialty brands, are using the sugar substitute to sweeten their product. Also, check the label on products with buzz words relating to sugar, such as "reduced sugar", "Diabetic-friendly", "cavity-free", or "no sugar added", for example, as these also may contain Xylitol.

**Keep gum, candies, mints and purses out of reach:** Even if you don't typically have these items in your home, be sure that guests visiting keep their purses out of the dog's reach in case they are carrying Xylitol-containing medications or products, such as gum, mints, or candies. Also, *be aware of household products* that contain Xylitol and find alternatives or store them where your dog cannot reach them.



**Be prepared:** Post the phone number to the *Pet Poison Hotline* (855-764-7661) as well as the number and address for your local emergency veterinarian in a place where all household members can see it. This is a good idea for all pet-related emergencies. That way, if your dog eats Xylitol or another toxic substance, you'll save precious minutes getting him treatment immediately.

# **POISON HOTLINE**

**(888) 4ANI-HELP**

or

**(888) 426-4435**

**Your puppy ate the philodendron and you don't know what to do? Try calling the ASPCA Poison Control Center, which provides unique assistance to pet owners who need answers quickly about toxic chemicals, dangerous plants, products, or other substances via a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week hotline.**

**Staffed by 25 veterinarians, including five board-certified veterinary toxicologists and ten certified veterinary technicians, the center is an allied agency of the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine.**

**There is a minimal consultation fee (\$45.00 or more) for the hotline services, which can be paid by credit card.**

**The number is:**

**(888) 4ANI-HELP**

or

**(888) 426-4435**

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## **PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**

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### **ORIGIN & HISTORY**

The “Sheltie” or Shetland Sheepdog was bred in the Shetland Islands off of the northern coast of Scotland. The Shetland Islands are very damp and cold offering a very harsh living to its inhabitants (human & animal). The small “Shetland Pony” was developed to fill the needs of the locals along with cattle & sheep of compact size. A small dog was in turn needed for herding and keeping the cattle and sheep out of the gardens. The shepherds needed a dog that was small, hardy, courageous, intelligent and resilient, who's double coat would protect them from the extreme cold and stormy weather on the islands. The “Sheltie” was originally called a “Toonie” (town) or “Peerie” (fairy) dog. In the early years, breeds such as the “Greenland Yakki” and “King Charles Spaniel were bred into the “Sheltie” along with show type “Collie” of the day. Many of the “faults” found in show dogs are the result of these cross breedings.

In 1908 the “Shetland Collie Club” was formed in Lerwick, and a year later the “Scotch Club” was formed. There was much dispute as to description and size for the new breed. In 1914 the “English Shetland Collie Club” was started and shortly thereafter the name of the breed was changed to the “Shetland Sheepdog” due to complaints about the “Collie” name being in the breed name. The first import of “Shelties” to the United States came in 1910, and the American Shetland Sheepdog Association was formed in 1929 with the set by it in place until 1952, and further revisions made in 1959 when the size standard of 13” to 16” for either sex was put into place.

### **THE SHELTYE AS A PET**

As stated in the Official Standard for the Shetland Sheepdog - the “Sheltie” is: ...intensely loyal, affectionate, and responsive to its owner. However, he may be reserved toward strangers but not to the point of showing fear (note that puppies often go through a “fearful” stage at 10 to 16 weeks) or cringing... It should be noted that some “Shelties” have a

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preponderance toward barking (you can have your dog “de-barked” by a veterinarian if this becomes too big a problem - most “show dogs” of this breed have been “de-barked”).

“Shelties” do shed their long outer coat and shorter undercoats throughout the year with more shedding occurring in hot weather or after a female is weaned from a recent litter. “Shelties” do require regular brushing and as an adult a “slicker brush” should be used.

Your puppy will need a great deal of socialization - particularly in the first 18 months of its life. They should be exposed to new sights, sounds, smells and people both at home and away in order to boost its self-confidence. Even a small puppy should be walked and not carried so it can experience the world from ground level.

“Shelties” are very adaptable to an array of living situations. They do well with many other dogs, cats and other animals, and can live in an apartment, in a home or on a farm. They do well in a single owner as well as in a family setting.

The “Sheltie” seems to have the ability to enrich the lives of children and senior citizens. They seem to possess an innate caring and sensitivity blended with a sense of humor. In the same vein, their high willingness to please makes them excellent companions who enjoy the gentle stroking of a loving owner.

## **PREPARING FOR YOUR “SHELTIE”**

There is little that compares with bringing home a new puppy! You do need to think about where your new puppy is going to sleep and eat, and where you will keep its toys and chew bones? What special area outside your home will be fenced or designated for “potty Training” and where will you be able to safely play with your puppy away from hazards and distractions. One more thing you will need to do is find a veterinarian that you are comfortable with (don’t forget you will need to get vaccinations for your puppy, one every 3 to 4 weeks until 16 weeks old).

It is a known fact that puppies begin to “imprint” at seven to eight weeks of age. Whatever conditions and people they are exposed to at that time make a lasting impression on them. It is imperative to bring your puppy home as close to this time as possible. Puppies go through a developmental “fear” period at about 12 weeks of age, therefore, that is NOT a good time for a puppy to have the stress of going to a new home

and owner. Puppies also go through a high stress period from about 4 months to 6 months of age due to teething. Not every dog experiences these changes at the same time or to the same level - but most do.

“Sheltie” puppies should be introduced to friends and other family members slowly and on their own terms. Times of year such as Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter or other hectic times can be stressful on a puppy.

**CLOSE SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN IS A MUST! THEY SHOULD ONLY BE ALLOWED TO PICK UP THE PUPPY IF THEY ARE SEATED AND SHOULD BE TOLD NOT TO DROP THE PUPPY!** The puppy **MUST** be held securely and put down on the floor carefully. Remember that puppies tend to squirm and frequently will try to jump from high elevation - they have not yet developed any fear or sense of distance or height.

Play periods are **VERY** important and will lead the way toward establishing successful bonding and a good rapport. Quiet rest periods and naps are also **VERY** important for good health.

When your household quiets down for the night most puppies who are newly separated from their mother and litter mates will whine and cry for them. You might consider having your puppy sleep in its “crate” in your bedroom for 1 or 2 night. This closeness sometimes soothe, comforts and quiets a young puppy’s insecurities.

For a normal sleeping area you should choose a quiet and out-of-the way, clean, dry and draft free area in your home. A puppy needs a place to get away from the normal household goings-on, if it chooses. **DO NOT BANISH YOUR “SHELTIE” TO A BASEMENT, GARAGE OR BACKYARD** as they do not do well if they are not part of the family’s daily social structure. In the beginning it is **NOT** a good idea to use a “wicker” basket or bed for your puppy as it will chew on the wicker and could swallow a splinter. **Ideally the VERY BEST BED IS A DOG CRATE** along with a blanket, towel or pillow! Keeping your puppy in a crate also helps dramatically in housebreaking as a dog instinctively prefers not to soil its bedding. Also if you are going to travel by car with your puppy, a crate gives it some safety along the lines of a seat belt for humans.

## **FEEDING**

“Shelties”, as most breeds of dogs, thrive on structure and routine. Feeding at regular times daily is a must. This routine, coupled with “crate training” is one of the biggest aids in housebreaking. Food and water dishes (like its bed) should be in an accessible yet out-of-the-way location.

When your puppy is brought home (normally between 6 and 10 weeks of age), it should be kept on the same food it was weaned on to. If you choose to change its diet you should do so gradually, introducing the new food into the present food while decreasing the original food over a 1 to 2 week period. Any sudden change will cause stress on the puppy's digestive system with the results being the possibility of vomiting, gastritis, and **DIARRHEA**! A good way to slow down diarrhea in a puppy is to give it a tablespoon of "cottage cheese", two or three times a day until the diarrhea slows down. You can also give an eyedropper full of "Pepto-Bismol" or "Kaopectate" that has been diluted, 2 or 3 times a day. If the diarrhea persists - **SEE YOUR VETERINARIAN!**

Puppies (and adults) should eat "hard" kibble type dog food. Nutritionally it is better for them and it is **FAR BETTER FOR THEIR TEETH!** Eating the hard food helps loosen the "baby" or "milk" teeth, exercise the gums, and speed up the tooth shedding process in puppies (note - you will probably not find any of the "milk" or "Baby" teeth as they normally get swallowed and go through the digestive system). The following is a **GENERAL** feeding schedule that you may want to use (check with your vet for his recommendations):

FEEDING SCHEDULE			
AGE	7am	Noon	5pm to 10pm
weaning to 3 months	*	*	*
3 to 6 months	*	*	*
6 months and over		*	*

**Don't overfeed.** Obesity is a health hazard. **DON'T EVER FEED TABLE SCRAPS.** It teaches bad behavior and the scraps do not have what the dog needs in the way of nutrition! **NEVER GIVE YOUR DOG POULTRY or PORK BONES** as they splinter and can cause throat or intestinal damage!

### RIDES IN THE CAR

Puppies should be given frequent **SHORT** car rides to get used to the motion and noise of travel. Some dogs adjust to car travel right away - some never do. You can check with your veterinarian about medication for nausea for your pet.

## GROOMING

The “Sheltie” will normally get his full adult coat at around 2 years of age. When grooming an adult “Sheltie”, the coat should be damp (spray the coat with a spray bottle filled with water to get the coat damp). Brushing a dry coat will cause damage to the hairs. A “pin” brush will work fine for your puppy but as an adult you will need to use a “slicker brush” to do a good job on its coat. The best way to groom your “Sheltie” is to do what is called “line brushing”. In “line brushing” you lay the dog on its side (on the floor works good). Begin at the nap of the neck, part the hair to the skin and brush the coat upwards and out. Part the coat again just below the line you have just finished and repeat the brushing. Continue until you have reached the dogs shoulder. Now move onto the body doing the same style of brushing. When one side is finished you can turn the dog over and repeat the process on the new side. When you have finished both sides you can touch up the coat to get a GREAT looking “Sheltie”. Remember that some “Shelties” are prone to “matting” behind the ears and you may have to give extra care in brushing that area.

We hope that tis answers all of your questions, but you ever need to call us about something - please, don't hesitate - we are here for you! If we are gone, it might take a few days for us to get back to you BUT WE WILL!

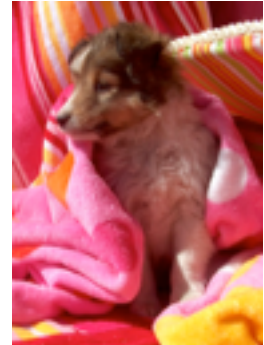
# Recommended Dog Foods



All puppies that we breed and sell are weaned on to “NUTRA NUGGETS” brand, “Puppy Food”! We have used this product for many years with very good results! This is the same product that we send home in your gift bag of items to get you started. We now use this food for ALL of our Shelties.

We have used “Eukanuba” brand “Puppy Food” in the past and found it to be a very good but high priced food - but after a HUGE price increase and health concerns with food manufactured by “Iam’s” (Proctor & Gamble) we changed. “Nutra Nuggets” brand “Adult” food can be purchased at “Costco” - but they normally don’t carry the puppy food (we got it direct from the distributor but many independent pet stores also carry it).

There are many good brands of dog foods on the market. We DO NOT recommend using a “cheap” off brand or a “store” brand from a super market. Most of these contain fillers and DO NOT have the nutrition, supplements and vitamins that your puppy or dog needs. Some of the other good brands that we can recommend are “Iams” (the same manufacturer as “Eukanuba”), “Science Diet”, “Eagle” (a VERY expensive brand) and “Pedigree” brands. We have found that the “Purina” brands of dog foods tend to be a little too rich and have had problems with diarrhea in the puppies when it is used. We are NOT saying to not use it - only use caution and take plenty of time changing over to it from any other brand of food.



No matter what brand you change to, take at least a week in the change over process - giving a little more of the new food and a little less of the old food mixed in the bowl at each feeding. If you make an abrupt change in the diet - YOUR PUPPY WILL HAVE DIARRHEA !!

Please also note that we recommend that you ONLY feed dry kibble food to your puppy or dog (NO wet food). The dry food has all the nutrition your puppy or dog needs and it is FAR better for their teeth.

At about 1 year of age (check with your vet for their opinion) you should change over from “puppy” food to an “adult” food.



This is what your puppy eats



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## **DOG FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**Tempted to buy a "bargain" dog food instead of a premium brand?  
Before you buy, ask yourself:**

**\*IS IT REALLY CHEAPER?** Because high-quality formulas are denser in nutrients than low cost foods, you can feed smaller portions to achieve the same nutritional levels. Think of it like your morning coffee: If it takes five tablespoons of a generic brand to brew a pot of strong coffee and only three tablespoons of more-expensive premium grind to achieve the same result, how much are you really saving?

**\*DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING?** Premium formulas have stable ingredient profiles. That is, they **ALWAYS** contain the same ingredients in the same amounts. The composition of a bargain brand, or "least-cost" formula, can vary from bag to bag, depending on the cost to the manufacturer of ingredients and production. With these foods, the objective is to keep the price down - sometimes at the expense of consistent, balanced nutrition.

**\*WHY IS THE CHEAP FOOD SO CHEAP?** Pet food is a competitive industry. The major brands spend millions each year in research and development, looking for an edge on their rivals. This competition ensures consistent levels of quality in existing high-grade formulas, and a steady stream of "new and improved" products from which consumers may choose.

**Manufacturers of "least-cost" foods spend very little on R & D. In fact, they spend less on everything, which is why their product is so cheap.**

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(this is where we get most of our supplies)

**IF YOU DECIDE IN THE FUTURE TO HAVE YOUR DOG "DE-BARKED"**

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#### **WEB SITES**

<b>American Kennel Club</b>	<a href="http://www.akc.org">www.akc.org</a>
<b>FAQ-Shetland Sheepdogs</b>	<a href="http://www.k9web.com/dog-faqs/breeds/shelties.html">www.k9web.com/dog-faqs/breeds/shelties.html</a>
<b>Sheltie International</b>	<a href="http://www.fix.net/~dogmat/sheltie/sheltie-home.html">www.fix.net/~dogmat/sheltie/sheltie-home.html</a>
<b>Sheltie Paceseter</b>	<a href="http://www.sheltie.com">www.sheltie.com</a>
<b>Shetland Sheepdog Magazine</b>	<a href="http://www.sheltiehomepage.mcf.com">www.sheltiehomepage.mcf.com</a>

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<b>CANINE GOOD CITIZEN PROGRAM:</b>	<a href="mailto:cgc@akc.org">cgc@akc.org</a>
<b>CANINE LEGISLATION:</b>	<a href="mailto:doglaw@akc.org">doglaw@akc.org</a>
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<b>AKC MUSEUM OF THE DOG:</b>	<a href="mailto:dogarts@aol.com">dogarts@aol.com</a>
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## **Take Your Puppy to Kindergarten!**

One of the best ways to ensure that your puppy gets a great start as a happy, well behaved companion is to enroll in a "puppy kindergarten" class. Although a puppy's attention span is short, there are very important things every puppy should learn at an early age.

In puppy kindergarten the owner learns, too. For these classes, the emphasis is on fun and informality. You'll join a small group of other owners and their puppies in a series of simple exercises that teach you how to prevent problem behavior as well as introducing basic training techniques. Kindergarten class also gives your puppy exposure to new people, other dogs, and unfamiliar situations. This kind of socialization is vital and has a great influence on a puppy's adult personality. It helps to ensure that once he's grown up, he will be friendly toward strangers without being timid or aggressive, and that he will easily adapt to a wide variety of circumstances.

To find out about a dog club in your area that offers puppy kindergarten classes, call AKC CUSTOMER SERVICE at (919) 233-9767 or e-mail at [info@akc.org](mailto:info@akc.org) . You can also check with your veterinarian, pet store, or community education program for information on classes offered by a reliable trainer.

**WARNING ! - WARNING ! - WARNING ! - WARNING ! - WARNING ! - WARNING !**

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# **HEATSTROKE WARNING !**

## **LEAVING YOUR SHELTY (OR ANY DOG) IN A PARKED CAR CAN BE A DEADLY MISTAKE!**

On a warm day, the temperature in your car can reach 160 degrees in a matter of minutes, even when the windows are partially open.

With only hot air to breathe, your Sheltie can quickly suffer brain damage or die from heatstroke. Open windows, shaded parking areas or air conditioned cars *with the motor off* won't save your Sheltie's life.

## **WHEN IT'S HOT - LEAVE YOUR PET HOME!**

In addition, be sure you know these signs of heat stress:

**Heavy Panting  
Glazed eyes  
Dizziness**

**Rapid pulse rate  
Deep red or purple tongue  
Vomiting**

**IF YOUR SHELTY BECOMES OVERHEATED,  
GET HIM INTO THE SHADE AND TAKE THESE EMERGENCY STEPS:**

- \* Apply ice packs or cold towels to the head, neck and chest.**
- \* DON'T GIVE AN UNLIMITED AMOUNT OF COLD WATER, just let him lick ice cubes or even ice cream.**
- \* Get your dog to a veterinarian immediately! It could save your Sheltie's life!**

## HEAT INDEX

### PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES

P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022

## HEAT INDEX

The heat index is designed to show the effects of the combination of heat and humidity. Humidity can turn even moderate temperatures into dangerous ones for your pets!

Temp    >        75   80   85   90   95   100 105  
                    \*\* HEAT INDEX \*\*

R.H.

100	80	91	108	133	166		
95	80	89	105	127	158		
90	79	88	102	122	150	170	199
85	79	87	100	118	143	164	190
80	78	86	97	113	136	157	180
75	77	86	95	110	128	151	171
70	77	85	93	106	124	144	163
65	76	83	92	102	119	136	155
60	76	82	90	100	114	132	149
55	75	81	88	96	107	120	135

please note that direct sun can increase values by 15 degrees

## EFFECTS OF HEAT INDEX

80 to 90 degrees - fatigue possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.

90 to 105 degrees - sunstroke, heat cramps, or heat exhaustion are possible.

105 to 130 degrees - sunstroke, heat cramps or heat exhaustion are likely!

130 degrees and above - heatstroke and sunstroke are highly likely!!

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**  
P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**THE DOG FOOD WE USE (for adults) IS:**

**“NUTRA-NUGGETS” - Available from “Costco” and specialty pet stores (the adult food comes in a green bag). This is a “GOOD” quality food at a reasonable price and they make a “Puppy Food” (in a purple bag) as well!**

**We had used “Eukanuba” for many years, but after Proctor & Gamble bought out the company there were too many problems with other peoples dogs getting sick and/or passing away, and a HUGE increase in price! WE NO LONGER RECOMMEND “IAMS” OR “EUKANUBA” BRAND DOG FOODS!**

**THE EAR GLUE WE CAN RECOMMEND IS:**

**“JIFFY SEW”**

**We get it from:**

**LYLE EDLIN  
P.O. BOX 22  
GREEN LANE, PA 18054  
(215) 679-9019  
[www.showdogsolutions.com](http://www.showdogsolutions.com)**

**THE EAR TRAINING TAPE THAT WE CAN RECOMMEND IS:**

**“JAPANESE EAR TAPE”**

**Available from:**

**LYLE EDLIN  
P.O. BOX 22  
GREEN LANE, PA 18054  
(215) 679-9019**

**THE “WICKET” WE USE FOR MEASURING IS AVAILABLE FROM:**

**HIGHLAND ENTERPRISE  
P.O. BOX 28076  
LAKEWOOD, CO 80228  
(303) 988-7316**

**As things change and companies sometimes go out of business, change names or move WE CAN NOT GUARANTEE THAT ANY OF THESE PEOPLE, COMPANIES, ADDRESSES OR PHONE NUMBERS ARE ANY LONGER CORRECT!**

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## **BATHING TIPS**

- 1. Use LUKEWARM water for bathing and rinsing.**
- 2. Start from the top of the head & work your way back & down. Be sure to use a sufficient amount of shampoo. Work the shampoo up into a rich lather. Try to leave the shampoo on for 5 minutes or more to obtain the best results (good time to give your pet lots of love & tell them how well they are doing).**
- 3. Scrub gently, but get down to the skin.**
- 4. Be careful around the face and ears. It's best to use a washcloth in these areas.**
- 5. Rinse well... until the water runs clear. If you don't, your pet may look like they have dandruff - it may cause them to scratch & scratch.**
- 6. If your pet is REALLY DIRTY, repeat the shampoo & rinsing process.**
- 7. Towel dry - OR LOOK OUT FOR SPRAYING WATER!**
- 8. ONLY use a shampoo made for dogs (the PH is different from shampoos made for humans).**

## GERIATRIC INFORMATION

### PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES

P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022

## GERIATRIC INFORMATION

Just as a person ages, your pet will slow down as it grows older. The biological clock moves much faster for pets than it does for people. Instead of taking 18 years to reach physical maturity as people do, Shelties mature when they are slightly more than one year old.

### YOUR SHELTIES AGE IN HUMAN YEARS

SHELTIE	HUMAN
1 year	15 years
2 years	23 years
3 years	27 years
4 years	31 years
5 years	35 years
6 years	39 years
8 years	47 years
10 years	56 years
12 years	65 years
14 years	75 years
16 years	86 years
18 years	98 years

As you can see, a Shelties age does not work out to a 7 to 1 ratio as most people believe!

**Aging Pets** are like aging people in many ways. They may walk stiffly and have problems going up and down stairs. You may notice gray hair developing, a duller, drier coat and hazy eyes. They can have many of the same physical problems that people do - failing eyesight and hearing, arthritis, heart, kidney, liver and dental problems.

**Obesity can reduce life expectancy by 30 to 50%.** A diet especially formulated for the needs of your aging pet is very important. Slowing metabolism and lower activity levels make older pets more prone to obesity. Extra pounds place a burden on heart, lungs, kidneys, joints and muscles.

**Your vet** will tell you when it is time to make a change in your Shelties diet.

# FIRST AID

## A Summary of First Aid Tips for Pet Owners

### PET EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fill in phone numbers where appropriate

Veterinarians Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

After-hours Emergency Veterinary Clinic Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**National Animal Poison Control Center Hotlines \***

**(800) 548-2423    (900) 680-0000**

\* For the 800#, the charge is \$30 per case (credit cards ONLY).

\* For the 900#, the charge is \$20 for the first five minutes, \$2.95 per minute thereafter.

### Vital Signs

What should they be:

Temperature: Dogs & Cats: 101 F. to 102.5 F.    (below 100 F or above 103 F is abnormal)

Heart Rates:        Dogs = 70-160 beats/minute        Cats = 160-240 beats/minute

Respiratory Rates: Dogs = 10-30 breaths/minute        Cats = 20-30 breaths/minute

NOTE ! Use a rectal (NOT ORAL) thermometer for pets (digital ones are GREAT)

Heart rate can be checked by placing a hand over the animals chest.

Respiration can be measured by observing the flanks.

Measure both rates for 15 seconds - then multiply by four to get the rate per minute

Make sure animal is in a calm, resting state to get normal rates!

### Helpful Items to Have on Hand

\*Gauze Pads and Rolls, Rolled Cotton and Veterinary Self-adhesive Wrap

\*Thermometer (RECTAL)    \*Tweezers & Pliers        \*Antibiotic Cream & Antiseptic

\*Calamine Lotion & Petroleum Jelly        \*Cotton Swab Sticks        \*Eye Dropper

\*Blunt-end Scissors to safely cut bandages or cut hair away from wound on pet

\*Extra Blankets, Towels, Pillows and Tube Socks for Slipping Over an Injured Paw

\*Transport Crate to Carry Pet to Veterinarian

**The following situations generally require veterinary attention.**

**These tips are designed to help you stabilize your pet while veterinary help is being obtained !**

Bleeding	page # 48	Unconsciousness	page # 48
Vomiting	page # 48	Choking	page # 48
Heat Stroke	page # 49	Limping	page # 49
Bee or Wasp Sting	page # 49	CPR for Pets	page # 50

## Bleeding

note! - clotting problem - possible exposure to rat poison

### Action Steps:

- + Arterial bleeding is an immediately life-threatening situation. Arterial blood will be bright red, will bleed in “spurts”/ will be difficult to stop and requires **IMMEDIATE VETERINARY ATTENTION!**
- + For any type of bleeding, place a clean cloth or sterile gauze over the injured area.
- + Apply direct pressure for AT LEAST 5 to 7 minutes to stop bleeding.

Don't apply a tourniquet unless absolutely necessary.

## Unconsciousness

possible reasons: drowning, electrocution, trauma, drugs

### Action Steps:

- + In case of drowning, clear the lungs of fluid, lift animal's hind quarters high overhead and squeeze chest firmly until fluid stops draining.
- + In case of electrical shock, DO NOT touch the pet until it is no longer in contact with the electrical source.
- + In case of airway obstruction, the object will need to be gently removed. (see “Choking”)
- + If animal is not breathing and has no pulse start CPR. (see “CPR”)

## Vomiting

possible causes: poisoning, injury, motion sickness, disease, fear, parasites

### Action Steps:

- + Examine vomit for blood or other clues as to cause.
- + If poisoning is suspected, CALL THE POISON HOTLINE, bring a sample of the suspected poison, preferably in its original packaging, to the veterinarian.
- + Gently press on stomach to detect any abdominal pain.
- + Withhold all food and water until a veterinarian has been consulted.

Abdominal pain, enlarged stomach and unproductive vomiting are serious signs. CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY!

## Choking

possible causes: foreign object, allergic reaction

### Action Steps:

- + Gently pull tongue forward & inspect mouth & throat. If a foreign object is spotted, hold the mouth open & attempt to remove it by hand, with tweezers or a pair of small pliers. Take care not to push the object farther down the animal's throat.

- + If the animal is not breathing, start CPR. (see “CPR”)  
(page 48)

## Heat Stroke

possibly from excessive heat, lack of shade, overexertion, lack of water, etc.

### Action Steps:

- + Place in a cool or shady area.
  - + Immediately bathe animal with tepid water (DO NOT LEAVE UNATTENDED)
  - + Monitor rectal temperature, when temperature drops below 103F, dry pet.
  - + Continue monitoring temperature and transport to veterinarian.
- DO NOT ALLOW ANIMAL TO BECOME EXCESSIVELY CHILLED !

## Limping

possible causes: broken limb or digit, arthritis, injury, dislocation, sprain, etc.

### Action Steps:

- + Attempt to localize injury through GENTLE inspection.
- + Once localized, examine affected area to check for pain, heat, injury and swelling.
- + If a fracture is suspected, GENTLY stabilize limb for transport. (see handling & transporting tips)
- + Cover any wounds with a clean cloth (see "Bleeding")

## Bee or Wasp Sting

### Action Steps:

- + Bee Stings are acidic - neutralize with BAKING SODA
- + Wasp Stings are alkaline - neutralize with VINEGAR or LEMON JUICE
- + Apply cold pack.
- + Apply calamine or antihistamine cream.
- + In case of severe swelling or difficulty breathing - see your VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY!

## Handling and Transportation Tips

- + Don't assume a pet won't bite or scratch
- + Don't try to comfort an injured pet by hugging it - DON'T put your face next to its head.
- + Muzzle dogs if necessary with gauze, soft towel, etc. - wrap cats in a towel.
- + Perform any examinations slowly & gently. STOP if pet becomes agitated.
- + Don't attempt to lift or drag a large injured dog. Improvise a stretcher to use !
- + Before transport try to stabilize injuries. Rolled magazines or newspapers can serve as impromptu splints. Pad limb and splint generously with rolled cotton & gauze if available or improvise with suitable pillows, pieces of blanket, towels, etc. Make sure splint immobilizes joints above & below injury.

- + Lay animal on its side and remove any obstructions in airway (open mouth), pull tongue forward, extend neck and sweep mouth with finger.
- + If airway is clear, extend neck, hold tongue out of mouth and close animal's jaws over tongue.
- + Holding jaws closed, breath into both nostrils for 5 to 6 breaths. If no response, continue artificial respiration (see below). If there is no pulse, begin cardiac compressions.
- + Depress widest part of chest wall 1.5 to 3 inches with one or two hands.
  - Dogs over 60 lb. = 60 times/minute
  - Animals 11 to 60 lb. = 80 to 100 times/minute
  - Animals 5 to 10 lb. = 120 to 40 times/minute
  - For very small animals (1 to 5 lb.), place hands around rib cage and apply cardiac massage.
- + Continue artificial respiration
  - Dogs over 60 lb. = 12 breaths/minute
  - Animals 11 to 60 lb. = 16 to 20 breaths/minute
  - Animals less than 10 lb. = 30+ breaths/minute

This information is provided as a guide only by:  
**ROYAL CANIN, USA, inc.**

You should **ALWAYS** talk with **YOUR** veterinarian about **ANY**  
and **ALL** emergency procedures.

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**  
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## **DENTAL CARE**

### **PETS NEED DENTAL CARE, TOO!**

Have you brushed? No, not your teeth - your dogs. Dogs need regular dental care just as you do.

Gum disease and broken teeth are the major concerns for animals' teeth. Fortunately, dogs seldom suffer from tooth decay. The cone shape of their teeth, non-acidic saliva, and low-carbohydrate diets all help protect them from this nasty ailment (NOTE: if you give your pets sweets for snacks, they CAN get cavities).

Regular brushing and professional cleaning can keep your dog's teeth healthy and gleaming. Give pets appropriate toys to chew will help prevent fractures.

### **DOES IT REALLY MATTER?**

So your pet has bad teeth. What's the big deal?

Periodontal disease, which affects the gums, bones, and connective tissue around the teeth, can cause tooth loss. First, plaque - a soft clear or cream-colored deposit - forms on the teeth. If it isn't removed, minerals in the animal's saliva turn plaque into tartar. Tartar builds up below the gums and bacteria grow, causing inflammation.

The same bacteria which cause the inflammation can enter your pet's bloodstream and cause or aggravate lung, kidney, liver and heart problems - a lot of trouble from something that could be stopped in its early stages.

### **START CARE YOUNG!**

When your puppy first begins to get permanent teeth (about 6 months of age), check carefully to be sure the "baby" or "milk" teeth come out as the new teeth come in. Retained "baby" teeth can cause the permanent teeth to be crooked. Small breeds with their tiny jaws are at special risk for this problem.

While hard foods and chew toys can help keep teeth clean, you need to get your pet accustomed to regular tooth brushing. As soon as you bring your new pet home, get it accustomed to having its mouth handled. This is a good practice for dogs that will be shown since judges check to be sure the dog has its full set of teeth. It is also good training because it teaches the dog to tolerate having things in its mouth without biting or snapping.

#### **FEEDING RIGHT.**

What you feed your pet affects its dental health. Dry foods and treats help clean plaque from the teeth. Rawhide chews are also good cleaning tools, as are a number of knobby plastic toys on the market. None of these are hard enough to cause tooth damage, but you need to watch your pet to be sure small pieces of the toy's aren't torn off and swallowed. Real bones can also be dangerous for your pet and **SHOULD NOT** be used for teeth cleaning purposes.

#### **TEACHING YOUR PET TO ACCEPT BRUSHING.**

You can train your pet to accept regular brushing. Begin by running your finger gently over the dog's gums. At first, just rub the outside, but as your pet adjusts to the routine, begin to open his mouth and rub the gums inside the teeth as well.

As your pet gets accustomed to this, wrap your finger with gauze and rub his gums. Eventually add a toothpaste designed for pets - **DO NOT USE HUMAN TOOTHPASTE!** By the time you do this for a few weeks, your pet should be willing to accept a toothbrush for pets, which should have soft, multi-ruffed synthetic bristles.

Hold the toothbrush at a 45 degree angle and apply it to the area where teeth and gums meet. Rotate it in small circles, overlapping several teeth. Finish with vertical strokes to pull plaque from between the teeth. Repeat this process until all the teeth on the cheek side are clean. The inside teeth will be more difficult, as your pet may resist opening his mouth, but eventually you will be able to brush your pet's teeth a couple of times a week.

#### **WHEN YOUR PET NEEDS PROFESSIONAL HELP.**

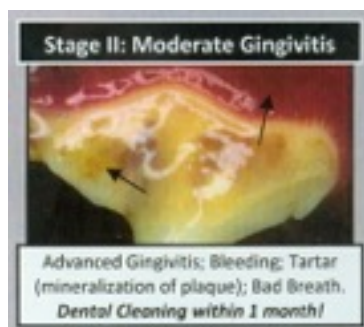
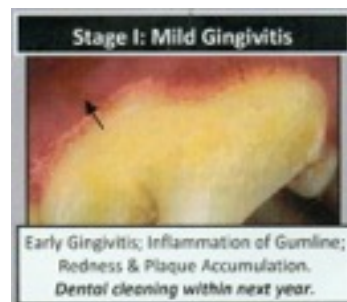
If your pet won't cooperate with home brushing or if you already see brown tartar stains on his teeth or red and bleeding gums, it's time to turn to your veterinarian for help. He or she will give your pet general anesthesia and clean the teeth above and below the gum line to remove plaque and tartar. After the teeth are cleaned, they will be polished to remove microscopic plaque and to make the teeth smooth to discourage plaque from clinging.

Remember, dental care is as important to your pet's health as it is to your own. You owe it to your pet to provide regular tooth care and cleaning.

# STAGES OF GINGIVITIS IN YOUR SHELTYE

Most dogs that eat modern dog foods will have some tooth decay!

Canned dog food is considered to be far more harmful for a dogs teeth than hard dry “kibble” is. The choice of dog food is of course up to you, the dogs owner - but we recommend ONLY giving your dog a QUALITY BRAND of dry dog food (remember that the inexpensive “store brands” normally have a LOT of “fillers” and will require more food on a daily basis to give your dog the nutrition that it needs (it will therefor eat more and have more waste as well).

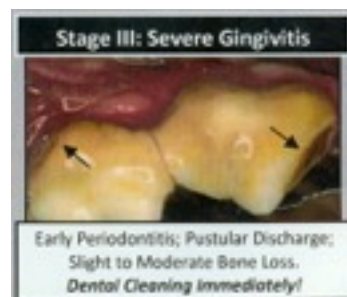


To prevent tooth decay you should (on a regular basis) brush your dogs teeth. It is best if you start this process early (as a puppy) so it will not be a battle to get the teeth brushed. You should start with your puppy by opening its mouth and just rubbing the gums, then progress to the starter tooth brush and BRUSH SOFTLY (remember that this is NOT a procedure that your dog is used too or would have experienced in nature. Using a meat flavored tooth paste (chicken and beef are two common flavors) may be FAR more pleasant to your dog.

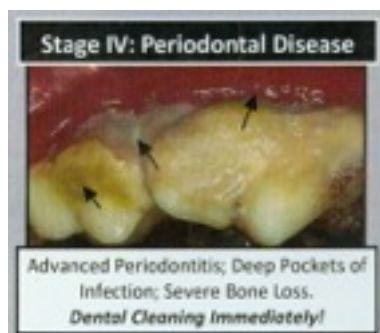
A yearly tooth cleaning is a VERY GOOD IDEA for your dog. At the time of the cleaning you could have your pet's yearly “check up” as well (it is better to have a yearly “check up” for your dog and find a problem early than to wait until you notice that something is wrong with the health of your Sheltie).

If your Sheltie needs its teeth cleaned - PLEASE do not delay! Just as with humans, the tooth decay WILL NOT GET BETTER IF LEFT ALONE! Severe Gingivitis can lead to other health problems and should be taken care of IMMEDIATELY! Failure to take care of your dog's teeth can also lead to BAD BREATH in your Sheltie.

If your Sheltie gets to the “Advanced Periodontal Disease” stage your dog may have deep pockets of infection and also have bone loss in the area. At this stage an IMMEDIATE cleaning is necessary to save your dogs teeth and health. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT TO THIS POINT! Have your dogs teeth cleaned on a regular basis and brush your dogs teeth often (just as you brush at least twice a day, your dogs teeth should be brushed at least once a week and if possible brush them on a daily basis.



## Symptoms of Dental Problems In Your Pet



- \* Persistent Bad Breath
- \* Sensitivity around the mouth
- \* Loss of Appetite or Reluctance to Chew Hard Food
- \* Pawing at the mouth
- \* Difficulty eating & chewing food
- \* Bleeding, inflamed or receded gums
- \* Plaque (often not visible)
- \* Tartar (yellow-brown material)
- \* Facial Swelling
- \* Drainage from one side of the nose or mouth
- \* Loose, broken, or missing teeth
- \* Baby teeth after 7 months old

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**  
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# **DOG FLU FACTS**

- \* The H3N8 influenza virus has jumped from horses to dogs.
- \* This H3N8 virus causes "Dog Flu".
- \* Initial findings of H3N8 infected dogs were found at a Florida Greyhound racing track.
- \* The H3N8 virus causes symptoms that mimic traditional "kennel cough" that is typically caused by Bordetella Bronchispectica bacterium.
- \* Other symptoms of H3N8 infection are nasal discharge and fever.
- \* Both H3N8 and Bordetella are contagious between dogs.
- \* The dogs diagnosed with H3N8 infection should be isolated.
- \* Approximately 80% of H3N8 infections will be mild.
- \* A small minority of infected dogs may experience complications such as pneumonia.
- \* A small minority of infected dogs will also be symptomatic and will not show any sign of infection. However, it is believed that asymptomatic dogs are infectious.
- \* The H3N8 virus has never infected humans.
- \* H3N8 causes a morbidity rate of 5% to 8% in infected dogs.
- \* There have been verified occurrences of H3N8 in dogs in South Florida shelters, boarding facilities and veterinary clinics.
- \* H3N8 has also been verified in New York City and in Massachusetts.
- \* If a dog exhibits coughing, nasal discharge or fever, the dog should be treated by a veterinarian as soon as possible.
- \* Dog owners that have a dog that recently had a respiratory infection should keep their dogs home for a couple of weeks after the illness so as to not infect other dogs.
- \* As a dog owner we need to make sure our dog is vaccinated yearly for Distemper and vaccinated for Kennel Cough/Bordetella in the spring and fall (every 6 months) [check with your vet about this]. This will reduce the likelihood of your dog contracting the influenza virus.

*The above information was condensed from a transcript from a Center for Disease Control media teleconference on September 26, 2005*

**Some statements above MAY NOT share the same view as your veterinarian!**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES**  
P.O. BOX 233  
29 PALMS, CA 92277-0233  
760-362-4022

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PET OWNERS OF OUR SHELTIES

We at PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES strongly recommend to those people getting a Shetland Sheepdog from us as a pet do the following:

- \* Get your puppy or dog checked by a licensed veterinarian within three (3) days of taking possession of your dog.
- \* Follow your veterinarians recommendations for a vaccination protocol (your dog WILL NOT be protected against infectious or contagious diseases without its vaccinations).
- \* Have your dog spayed or neutered at an age that is recommended by you veterinarian (your Sheltie will probably have a longer and better life after being fixed).
- \* REGISTER your dog with the American Kennel Club (AKC) - a requirement as part of your contract!
- \* Have your Sheltie “wormed” as recommended by your veterinarian.
- \* Use ONLY a GOOD QUALITY dry dog food.
- \* Socialize your dog with other dogs and people.
- \* Take your puppy to a “puppy Kindergarten” class.
- \* Brush your Shelties teeth as recommended by your veterinarian.
- \* NEVER leave your Sheltie in a hot car EVER!
- \* Consider having your pet “Micro Chipped” so that in case it gets lost you can get it back.

# STRATEGIC DEWORMING GUIDELINES

## INTESTINAL PARASITES HAVE BEEN AROUND FOREVER AND ARE NOT NOW GOING AWAY -

which means you need to manage them out of your pet. Parasite's don't want to kill your kitten or puppy, they just want to use their resources for their next meal. However they don't mind dragging pets down, causing rough hair coats or anemia in the process!

We want to feed our pets - not the parasites - the best nutrition. That is why we deworm. Don't wait until you are sure your pet has parasites - they have already caused damage at this point. Strategic deworming means getting your pet dewormed before they have tissue damage and start showing signs.

These recommendations are from the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologist (AAVP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

**Puppies & Kittens:** The goal is to clear the parasites during the growth phase of their life, when they are most susceptible.

- \* Deworm at 2-4-6-8 weeks of age, then again at 12-16 weeks of age.
- \* You can then move them to 6 months and 1 year, then deworming as an adult.

**Adult Dogs and Cats:** We are recommending the standard here. If your pet is a big hunter they will need more frequent deworming - you must assess the risk for your pet.

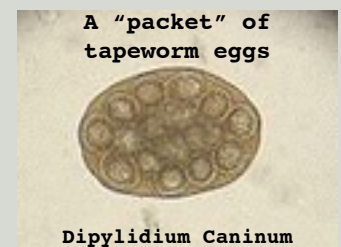
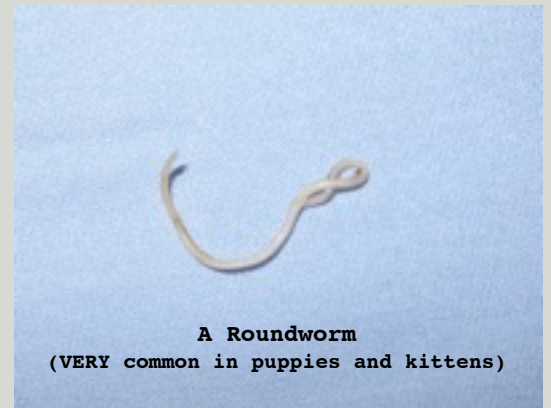
- \* The general rule: twice a year for life.
- \* If your cat is 100% inside, you can deworm once a year. If your cat likes hunting outside, more will be necessary.
- \* Dogs put everything in their mouth and need twice a year deworming to eliminate the parasites they will pick up.

**Bitches and Queens:** Parasites get active in late pregnancy when the females are heavily pregnant and stressed- this is when the mom has the least resistance to parasites. Bitches and Queens will transfer roundworms in the milk, so the effort is to try and stop the transfer to the next generation.

- \* Fenbendazole is labeled for pregnant dogs and is safe for moms during gestation.
- \* After 50 days gestation, deworm for 3 days with Safeguard/Panacur to remove as many parasites as possible from mom before birth.

**Newly Acquired Animals:** No matter what the history or age, assume they have parasites!

- \* Deworm immediately and repeat in 2 weeks.
- \* Put on the above adult program.



# STRATEGIC FLEA CONTROL GUIDELINES

## HOW TO GET RID OF FLEAS -

**First off - we DO NOT have Fleas where we live - so your Sheltie HAS NOT had any Flea treatment(s) (NOTE - NEVER USE A FLEA TREATMENT THAT CONTAINS IVERMECTIN ON A SHELTY OR A COLLIE - IT CAN KILL THEM)!**

Hunting fleas is difficult, but it can be impossible if you do not know how they live. The adult female is simply an egg-laying machine, laying 50 to 100 eggs a day! Before they die, females can lay several thousand eggs, which fall off the pet into the environment.

For every one adult flea seen on your pet, the environment around your pet has 50 eggs and 45 larvae and pupae! Eggs hatch in less than a week, and these larvae will feed on flea dirt debris. Larvae spin a cocoon before entering the pupae stage, where they wait. Inside the cocoon, the pupae are protected from insecticide and toxins. They're located out of the way, under chairs or containers where they are protected from sunlight. Plus, they anchor to the carpet, grass or kennel, making mechanical vacuuming useless. If needed, they can stay in the pupae stage for a year. Pupae are stimulated to "hatch" by vibrations in the area or carbon dioxide. Timing allows adults to emerge when they have the best chance of finding a mammal to feed on.

Adults emerge hungry, and they will feed and mate as soon as they find a host. Fleas feed several times a day for up to four hours each time, which they can do because their saliva has a protein that prevents blood from clotting. The saliva protein is also the reason for flea allergies, which causes the pet to scratch and tear at their skin. Adult fleas pass pepper-looking feces called flea dirt, which is digested blood. Flea dirt is a rich food for the larvae in the environment, and it will turn red on a white paper towel if you wet it.

So how do you hunt down these pests and get rid of them? Treatment failure commonly occurs in the environment. If you only treat the adults on your dogs and not the environment, 95% of the fleas will go untouched. Adults are killed and easily replaced with the remaining pupae. That means it's important to set a game plan.

Vacuum the areas that are not hosed down, especially under tables, chairs and shelving, then dispose of the vacuumed contents in a plastic bag. This removes the flea adults eggs in the area. Wash kennels, scrub the inside runs and clean under everything. Spray the environment with an insecticide that contains an IGR (Insect Growth Regulator), which is the only way to get rid of pupae. The IGR is a flea hormone that prevents the pupae from maturing, and they die in the cocoon. This is critical - make sure you spray under furniture, shelving and whelping boxes. Most products today are safe for your dogs, but as a precaution, let them dry before putting your dog back in the environment. This only takes a few minutes.

Bathe or spray the dog with a flea spray or shampoo and treat the dog with a monthly product to prevent re-infestation (DO NOT USE ANY PRODUCT CONTAINING "IVERMECTIN" ON YOUR SHELTY). You will not be able to get all the pupae the first time, but the next month's application will take care of the new adults. Make sure you re-apply the treatment each month until the problem is under control.

Be careful when bringing a new dog in because you don't know its flea status. As a precaution, it's a good idea to spray them with a pyrethrin spray. Though these sprays only last 24 hours, they are safe and effective to give you extra insurance against fleas.

Spray the exercise yard with an insecticide. When fighting flea issues, sprays with Permethrin is effective. Spray up on the building and kennel with the dogs locked inside. Wildlife, rabbits, squirrels and feral cats are a big source of fleas in your area so building a barrier around your kennel in the spring and fall is important.

## GROWTH CHART

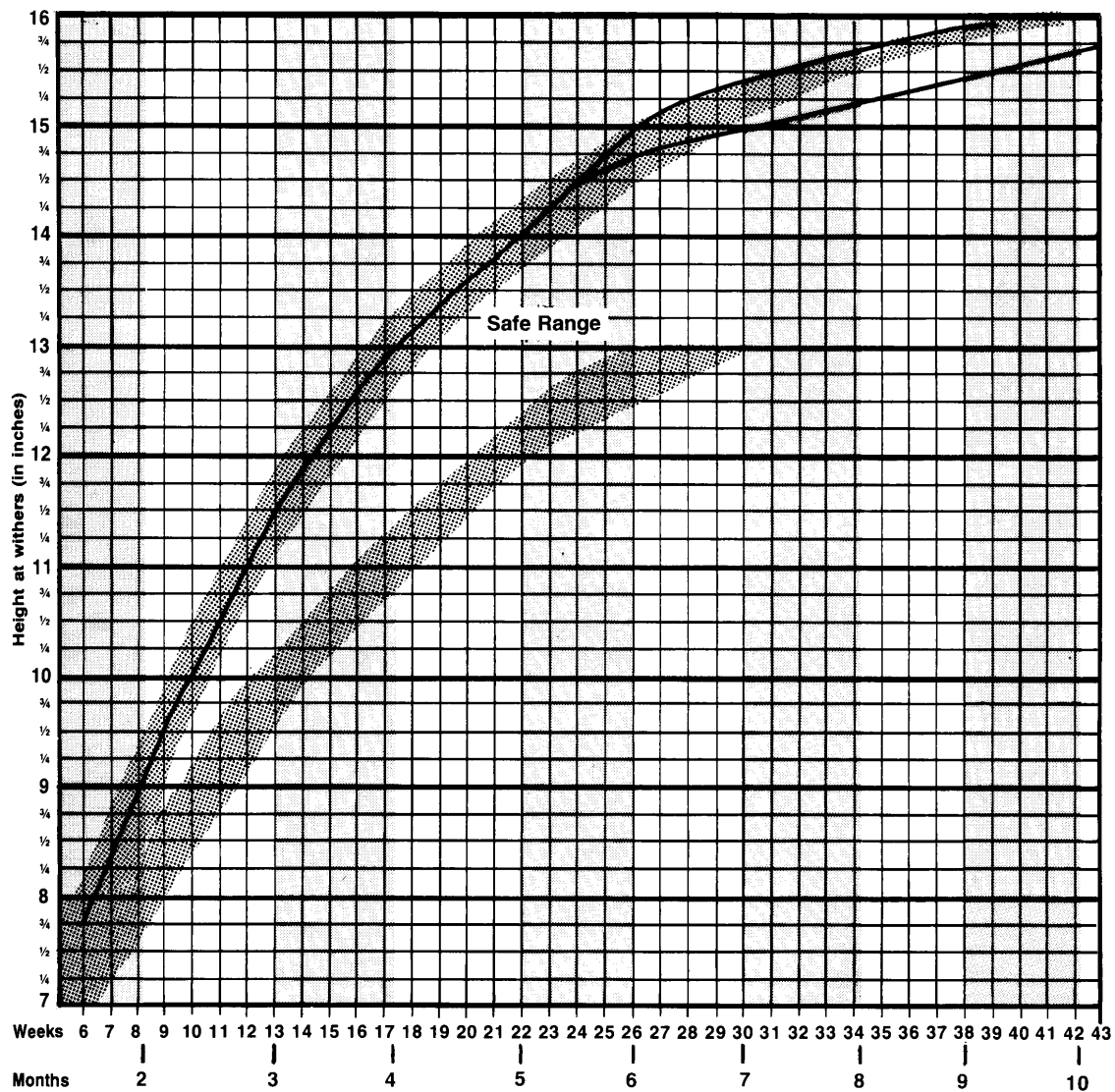
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#### SHELTIE GROWTH CHART

This chart, adapted by Phyllis Holst from tables kept by Evelyn Davis (Sea Isle) and Jo Parker (Parcana) shows maximum height for puppies expected to mature under 16 inches. You may want to copy it and chart the growth rate of your own litters.

There is no chart available showing growth rate on small Shelties that can be expected to mature in size. With either over or undersize, a great deal depends upon the age at which the puppy stops growing. For some this is as early as six months, while others continue to grow up to eighteen months. The most reliable indication that growth will continue are big knuckles at the pastern joint.



Screened area shows Nobel growth chart for top and bottom sizes imposed over Sea Isle chart.

Note - Both Parker and Davis list 9½ inches at 10 weeks.

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# FRUITS & VEGETABLES FOR YOUR DOG

Staff Writers, AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB (December 2015)

Dedicated dog lovers tend to be very kind people. we share our hearts and homes (and for some lucky pooches, even the foot of our beds) with our canine pals. Surely there is nothing wrong with sharing our favorite foods with them too, right? Not Necessarily. Many of the foods, such as fruits and vegetables, that humans digest just fine can wreck havoc on a dog's body, causing severe health problems. However, some of the foods people eats can be introduced to a dog's diet just fine, providing health benefits such as joint strength, better breath, and allergy immunity.

Read on to see what foods you can give to a dog and what ones can send your dog to the veterinarian's office:

**CHOCOLATE** - **NO**, this isn't an old wives' tale. Chocolate contains a very toxic substance called methylxanthines, which are stimulants that **stop a dog's metabolic process**. Even just a little bit of chocolate, especially dark chocolate, can cause diarrhea and vomiting. A large amount can cause seizures, irregular heart function, and even death.

**SHRIMP** - **YES**. A few shrimp now and then is fine, but only if they are fully cooked and ALL the shell (tail, head and legs) removed.

**EGGS** - **YES**. Eggs are safe for dogs as long as they are fully cooked.

**TURKEY** - **YES**. Turkey is fine for dogs as long as it is not covered in garlic (which can be very toxic to dogs) and seasonings. Be sure to remove excess fat and skin from the meat and don't forget to check for bones; poultry bones can splinter during digestion, causing blockage or even tears in the intestines.

**CHEESE** - **YES**, in small to moderate quantities.

**PEANUT BUTTER** - **YES**, raw, unsalted peanut butter is best.

**POPCORN** - **YES**. Unsalted, unbuttered, plain is best for a dog.

**CINNAMON** - **NO**. Cinnamon and its oils can irritate your dogs mouth.

**PORK / HAM - YES.** It is a highly digestible protein.

**CORN - YES.** It is a very common ingredient in most dog foods.

**FISH - YES,** but only fully cooked and cooled and no more than twice a week.

**BREAD - YES.** Small amounts of plain bread (no spices and NO raisins).

**YOGURT - YES.** Plain yogurt is a good snack for dogs.

**TUNA - YES.** In moderation, prepared only in water, not oil.

**HONEY - YES.** It is full of vitamins.

**GARLIC - NO.** It is part of the Allium family and is extremely toxic to dogs. Onions and Leeks are also part of this family though not as toxic.

**SALMON - YES.** Fully cooked (heated to at least 145 degrees to kill parasites).

**ICE CREAM - NO.** Adult dogs don't digest milk products well.

**COCONUT - YES.** It contains Lauric which strengthens the immune system.

**ALMONDS - NO.** They can block the esophagus.

**PEANUTS - YES.** Peanuts are safe for a dog.

**MACADAMIA NUTS - NO.** This is one of the most poisonous foods for a dog.

**CASHEWS - YES,** but only a few at a time.

**RAISINS - NO.** Raisins can be toxic to dogs.

**AVOCADO - NO,** not any part is good for a dog.

**WATERMELON - YES,** in moderation and without seeds or rind.

**APPLES - YES.** An excellent source of vitamins A & C as well as fiber.

**BANANAS - YES,** in moderation, give as a treat and NOT part of regular diet.

**GRAPES - NO,** grapes and raisins have been proven to be very toxic to dogs.

**STRAWBERRIES - YES,** in moderation.

**ORANGE** - **YES**, but only in moderation and not any of the peel.

**BLUEBERRIES** - **YES**, a good alternative to store-bought treats.

**CARROTS** - **YES**. Carrots are an excellent low calorie treat and good for teeth.

**TOMATOES** - **NO**. Any green part is toxic, play it safe and don't give any!

**PINEAPPLE** - **YES**. A few chunks are fine.

**BROCCOLI** - **YES**, but **ONLY** the stems. The bushy head contains a toxin.

**MUSHROOMS** - **NO**, don't give your dog mushrooms.

**CUCUMBERS** - **YES**. Especially good for overweight dogs.

**CELERY** - **YES**. And it can help freshen doggie breath.

**PEARS** - **YES**. Cut in to bite size bits but remove **ALL** seeds (cyanide).

**POTATOES** - **YES**. But only cooked as raw can be hard on a dog's stomach.

**CHERRIES** - **NO**. Most parts contain cyanide.

**PEACHES** - **YES**. Small amounts if cut-up peaches are fine.

**ASPARAGUS** - **NO**. There is no benefit so why bother.

**SWEET POTATOES** - **YES**. Packed with nutrients.

**RASPBERRIES** - **YES**. They are fine in moderation.

**MANGO** - **YES**. Remove the hard pit first as it is a choking hazard.

Hope this answers some questions. I am sure there are more, but this is the list that the AKC provided. Any other questions **PLEASE** ask your veterinarian!

# A Survival Guide for Dog Diarrhea

(reprinted from AKC Expert/Advice by Mara Bovsun, September 17, 2020)



It's not a topic anyone likes to discuss, but if you own a dog, chances are you have found yourself cleaning up a stinking brown puddle (or, politely put, doggie runs) more than you'd care to think about.

Diarrhea is a common canine affliction and it varies in frequency, duration, and intensity from dog to dog.

You may not be able to totally prevent diarrhea, but knowing as much as possible about it might help limit the number of times your dog has one of these unpleasant episodes and reduce the duration when runs do come.

## The Canine Digestive System

There are significant differences between the way dogs and people digest food.

Human jaw shape and salivary enzymes, for example, will start breaking down a morsel in the mouth. Dogs, on the other hand, have mouths and jaws made for tearing, crushing, and wolfing food down. Their salivary enzymes are mostly designed to kill bacteria, which is why they can tolerate items that would send their human companions to the hospital.

Food travels rapidly down the canine esophagus and enters the stomach in chunks, where most digestion takes place. Canine stomach acids are about three times stronger than those of humans, so they can digest food that is pretty much intact. Under normal circumstances, transit time from mouth through the small and large intestines should be under 10 hours, producing a firm, well-formed stool at the end.

## Dirty Dozen - Top 12 Causes of Doggie Diarrhea

Many things can disrupt this well-balanced system, causing diarrhea or, less frequently, constipation. Some things, [like eating too much grass](#), are not serious at all. Others can be a sign of a life-threatening problem, such as an indigestible object (like a rock) lodged in the stomach, or a disease like cancer.

There are many reasons why a dog may develop loose stools, but most cases may be attributed to one of these 12 triggers:

1. **Dietary indiscretion:** Eating too much, eating garbage, or spoiled food. There's actually a name for it in veterinary circles - "garbage toxicosis" or "Garbage gut".

2. **Change in diet:** It may take a few days for a dog's digestive system to adapt to new proteins. That's why many dog-food manufacturers recommend that you go slow when you switch from one brand of food to another.
3. **Food intolerance**
4. **Allergies**
5. **Parasites:** Most of these will cause illness in puppies or adults with weak immune systems:
  - A) Roundworms
  - B) Hookworms
  - C) Whipworms
  - D) Coccidia
  - E) Giardia
6. Poisonous substances or plants
7. **Swallowing an indigestible foreign body**, like a toy or a dozen or more socks
8. **Infections with common viruses such as:**
  - A) Parvovirus
  - B) Distemper
  - C) Coronavirus
9. **Bacterial infections**, such as salmonella
10. **Illnesses**, such as kidney and liver disease, colitis, inflammatory bowel disease, and cancer
11. **Antibiotics and other medications**
12. **Stress or emotional upset**

## What Stools Can Tell You About Your Dog's Health



The [consistency and color of diarrhea](#) reveal a lot about the cause of the problem and what is happening in your dog. Take very careful note of the color, consistency, and anything else that might help when you describe the symptoms to a vet. In many cases, diarrhea will resolve after a few days of home treatment, but it's a good idea to give your vet a call if it continues for a long period or has any one of several signs that may point to a serious problem.

This infographic from Just Right by Purina gives you an idea of a “perfect dog poop” which is chocolate brown, shaped like logs, compact, and easy to scoop. Experts say it should feel like cookie dough or Play-Doh when pressed. Large volumes, pudding-like or watery consistency, or signs of mucus (looks like jelly), or blood streaks, are not normal.

### Take Note of the Color of the Poop

Color can also indicate a lot about what is going on inside your dog's gut. Chocolate brown is normal, white colors like orange, green, or gray may signify issues with such organs as liver, gall bladder, or pancreas. Black tarry stool is very serious, and may point to internal bleeding. If you see this, contact your vet as soon as possible. Purina has also provided a handy reference - a color wheel of dog poop.



Color, shape and consistency will all help you and your vet figure out what is wrong when your dog gets diarrhea. These factors will help your vet determine where the problem is originating along the dog's digestive tract.

## Other Ways to Decipher Dog Poop

Following are some common abnormalities, in addition to color, and what each might be telling you about why your dog has the runs:

### \* **Frequency:**

- Small amounts with straining, several times in an hour, which some people call "the squirts" can be a sign of inflammation of the large bowel.
- Three or four times, with large volume, suggest a small bowel disorder.

\* **Oddly shaped or colored solid objects** can tell you what your dog has gotten into. Several small white rice-like shapes, for example, may signify a tapeworm infestation. Grass, wood, or string could tell you that your dog has eaten something that he couldn't digest.

\* **Consistency:** Nestle Purina developed this well-illustrated chart that shows how vets score canine fecal consistency on a scale of one to seven ([see next page](#)).

As disgusting as it may seem, it's important that you examine your dog's poop carefully if she has diarrhea and be able to give the vet as many details as possible. Armed with this knowledge, the vet will be able to tell you whether to schedule an exam or whether you can treat it at home.

## Home Remedies for Doggie Diarrhea

A great many cases are mild and, with your vet's advice, may be treated without a trip to the office. They may respond to a regimen of very basic treatments, including:

**Fasts** - withholding food for 12 to 24 hours, and providing water in small amounts frequently, can clear the cause of the upset and allow the gastrointestinal tract to settle. It's usually the first line of attack for the runs. Before you decide on a fast, be sure that your dog is healthy enough to endure it. [Puppies](#), and [elderly dogs](#), for example, need nutrients. Also, a fast may not be appropriate for [little dogs](#), who do not have the physical reserves of their larger cousins.



Diarrhea can lead to dehydration, so make sure to give your dog access to water at all times. Many people also offer unflavored [Pedialyte](#) to maintain electrolyte balance.

Cures from the Cupboard - After a fast, food is usually introduced slowly and many people start with binders, which can normalize stool consistency. Some tried-and-true methods include:

**Rice Water:** Boil high-quality rice in a lot of water, remove the grains, and offer the dog the creamy white soup that's left. A splash of broth or a bit of baby food will make it more palatable.

**White rice**

# Fecal Scoring Chart

SCORE	SPECIMEN EXAMPLE	CHARACTERISTICS
1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very hard and dry</li> <li>Often expelled as individual pellets</li> <li>Requires much effort to expel from body</li> <li>Leaves no residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Firm, but not hard, pilable</li> <li>Segmented in appearance</li> <li>Little or no residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log shaped, moist surface</li> <li>Little or no visible segmentation</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground, but holds form when picked up</li> </ul>
4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very moist and soggy</li> <li>Log shaped</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground and loses form when picked up</li> </ul>
5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very moist but has a distinct shape</li> <li>Present in piles rather than logs</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground and loses form when picked up</li> </ul>
6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has texture, but no defined shape</li> <li>Present as piles or spots</li> <li>Leaves residue on ground when picked up</li> </ul>
7		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watery</li> <li>No texture</li> <li>Present in flat puddles</li> </ul>

**Canned pumpkin** (plain, not prepared pie filling) has the odd distinction of being effective for diarrhea and constipation.

**Yogurt**, which has beneficial bacteria, can help in dogs who can tolerate milk and milk products.

**Probiotics**, live bacteria that aid digestion (these are also found in yogurt).

**Boiled potatoes**, **without skin**

**Cottage cheese**

Plain protein sources such as **egg** (**prepared with no butter or oil**) or **chicken** (**without skin**).

**Herbs**, such as fennel, have gut-soothing properties.

**Specially- formulated dog foods**: Some manufacturers offer foods that can soothe stomach problems. You may need to obtain these from your vet.

**Over-the-counter medications for humans** may also be effective for doggie diarrhea, but should be given with caution and you should talk to your vet before using them.

Methods that work for one dog may not help another, so you might need to do a little experimentation to find the right formula. It might also be helpful to write down what works and what doesn't so you'll know what to do the next time you find yourself mopping up a mess.

Once you find a recovery diet that agree with your dog, and doesn't cause a relapse, you can slowly increase the portions over a period of days, and then start to add small quantities of your dog's regular food, until things are back to normal.

## **When Doggie Diarrhea Means a Trip to the Vet**

**The right time to contact a vet** depends very much on what's normal for your dog. Unfortunately, some dogs are more prone to digestive disorders than others, so you have to be very aware of the things that are out-of-the-ordinary on an individual basis.

There are, however, benchmarks that can suggest that you should at least consult with your vet:

**Other physical symptoms**, such as lethargy, fever, vomiting, dry, tacky or pale gums, or weakness;

**Diarrhea that does not stop** despite home remedies that worked in the past;

Dehydration;

**Long duration** (Some say a few days, others give more time. This all depends on what is normal for your dog);

**Use of medication** (a dog on antibiotics, for example):

**Existing conditions**, such as advanced age, diabetes, **Cushing's**, cancer, or any medical issue, AND

**When things just don't seem right**. You know your dog, and only you know the subtle signs that something is wrong. Respect your instincts and if you think you need veterinary guidance, **PICK UP THE PHONE!**

NOTE - This article is from the American Kennel Club and WAS NOT written by a veterinarian! These are ONLY recommendations!