

New Puppy Checklist

Everything you need for your puppy's first weeks — from supplies and home setup to vet visits and early training.

Day-One Essentials

- 1 ■ Collar + ID tag (phone number)
- 2 ■ Flat leash (4–6 ft)
- 3 ■ Harness (no-pull optional)
- 4 ■ Crate (size to adult breed)
- 5 ■ Bed + washable blankets
- 6 ■ Puppy food (vet-approved)
- 7 ■ Food & water bowls (non-slip)
- 8 ■ Training treats (small, soft)
- 9 ■ Chew toys/teething toys
- 10 ■ Puppy pads / potty bells (optional)
- 11 ■ Enzyme cleaner for accidents
- 12 ■ Baby gate / playpen

Health & Safety

- 1 ■ Schedule first vet visit (within 3–7 days)
- 2 ■ Vaccination plan & records
- 3 ■ Microchip registration info
- 4 ■ Flea/tick & heartworm prevention (per vet)
- 5 ■ Puppy-safe grooming brush & nail trimmer
- 6 ■ Toothbrush & puppy toothpaste
- 7 ■ Pet insurance quote/policy (optional)
- 8 ■ Emergency vet & poison control numbers

Home Setup

- 1 ■ Safe potty area & routine (every 2–3 hours)
- 2 ■ Crate location (quiet corner)
- 3 ■ Remove chew hazards (cords, plants, meds)
- 4 ■ Set feeding times (2–3x/day)
- 5 ■ Create a toy rotation bin
- 6 ■ Household rules (sofa, rooms, bedtime)

Training & Socialization

- 1 ■ Learn marker word (“Yes!”) or clicker
- 2 ■ Potty schedule & praise plan
- 3 ■ Name recognition drills
- 4 ■ Sit/Down/Come basics (2–5 min sessions)
- 5 ■ Gentle handling (paws, ears, mouth)
- 6 ■ Controlled socialization (post-vaccines per vet)
- 7 ■ Enroll in puppy class (optional)

Nice-to-Have Extras

- 1 ■ Snuffle mat / puzzle feeder
- 2 ■ Travel crate / car restraint
- 3 ■ Waterproof throws for sofa/bed
- 4 ■ Puppy shampoo & drying towels
- 5 ■ GPS tag (for escape-artists)

First-Week Timeline

- 1 ■ Day 0–1: Quiet settling-in, potty routine, introduce crate, short name games.
- 2 ■ Day 2–3: Vet visit scheduled, simple cues (Sit/Come), brief play + naps.
- 3 ■ Day 4–5: Gentle handling practice, short walks (if vet-cleared), toy rotation.
- 4 ■ Day 6–7: Review feeding schedule, reinforce potty success, consider puppy class.