

Dairyland Doodle Dogs Puppy Essential Suggestions List

These are suggestions for bringing a puppy home, but things we have found to be great additions based on our own experiences and the experiences of our puppy families.

42" double door kennel - we like the wire ones [Link](#)

2 Rolled edge dog bed (washable) medium size 19"x 28" x 3" [link](#)

This will fit in half the kennel if you decide to use the divider, but also gives pup a place to lay off of the blanket on plastic. Puppies have accidents in their kennels - it happens - you need something that washes and dries quickly - we use these in our kennels

Food and water bowls that do not tip easily

we do not recommend gravity feeders until they are older- and have training down

You need to know when puppy eats and drinks to establish good potty habits and if they have all access to food and water potty training will be very difficult

Puppy Shampoo and Puppy Conditioner (optional)
whitening shampoo for the white pups

Slicker Brush with covered pins [link](#) and **Metal Comb** [link](#)

Food "All Stages or Puppy" - Will update which food puppies are eating at time of pick up

-Do not change puppy food for at least a month, moving to a new house is stressful and can bring on diarrhea if you change food you do not know if it is the stress of a new house or the new food.

-If you switch to a new food after a month, please make sure it is listed as a quality food. Typically if you can buy it at a dog store it is a better quality versus Target, Wal-Mart etc. Skimping on quality dog food will lead to other health problems.

Leash and Collar thin 5/8" size Small 12-16" (with our 30-60 lb pups X-Small collars 8-11") with lightweight hook [link](#)

-Lightweight thinner is better, you will most likely replace this in a few months when puppy is bigger - plus puppy will probably get a hold of the leash once or twice which will wreck the leash with those razor sharp teeth. Then when puppy is older you can replace with a thicker 1" collar and leash
Too heavy of a clip (thicker leashes) just distract puppy from going potty or from walking because it feels different and puppies are easily distracted and when trying to teach puppy to walk or go potty the last thing you want is puppy distracted by heavy clip

Heartbeat puppy [link](#)

-Puppies are used to sleeping with each other and being warm and hearing the heartbeat of their siblings, this has been very helpful in getting puppies to sleep in their kennels and at their new houses by themselves. We typically only let puppy have it at kennel nap and sleep time (we just put it on top of kennel when puppy is not in kennel- turn heartbeat off)



potty



Red or Black Kong and a variety of chew toys (soft, rubbery, hard)

We like to fill the Kongs for a mental activity or for when you kennel pup (non xylitol Peanut Butter is a favorite, I do not like giving food when not there to observe but smearing a little PB inside the Kong is a great distraction and positive reinforcement for being in kennel then hopefully pup gets tired and naps :)

Poop shovel - [link](#) I like the metal shovel with metal rake- plastic breaks

Poop Pail- [link](#) if picking up poop is easy it gets done! Pick up poop after every poop - except leave one pile there so they know where to go. Line pail with a full size garbage bag.

Please do not make kids do this job- this is an adult job - that is really a punishment for kids and they might resent the puppy.

Vet appointment within 72 hours of pick up

we do understand if it a few days beyond the 72 hour window, puppies will have been seen a few days before going home and have received their 8 week shots but we like to have a second set of eyes on pup and get you one a schedule for vet for next vaccination

Deworming we deworm puppies here but puppies should be dewormed regularly throughout their life depending on lifestyle. Talk to your vet for best recommendations - and older dogs come across intestinal parasites (worms) when out in the yard from the feces of other animals. Yes, some of these can pass to humans. We dewormed puppies at 2 and 4 weeks of age with Pyrantel Pamoate and 6 and 8 with Fenbendazole.

Heartworm a worm that is passed from mosquitoes effects the heart is also preventable from a monthly pill - ask your vet about it, there are certain times you can do treatment if you live in a low area or you can treat all year long

Training Classes We strongly recommend training classes for you and pup. There are several options out there. Baxter and Bella are online but we love a local trainer who has had several of our pups go through her classes and these pups are amazingly well behaved.

The last thing on our list you need a lot of is patience. Puppies never do anything intentionally bad. They just have accidents. Please remember this when you get frustrated! They are not trying to be naughty. So please remember do not hit or spank or just redirect, love and teach with equal parts love and patience.



Puppy Schedule and Potty Training

Feeding: 2-3 Times a day

Breakfast Meal 7 am

Bedtime Meal 7 pm

You should always read the label on any food you will see how much to give your pup.

Potty Training We raise pups to have separate areas for potty, sleep and play. This will help make potty training easier but pup will still have accidents! They need to learn where these areas are in your house. Small spaces help puppies be more successful, as in gating off certain areas especially carpeted areas for the first few weeks. I would also roll up area rugs for a little while but that is just me (I do not want to shampoo a carpet).

Puppies can only make it a few steps for each month old they are before pottying (sometimes they don't even know they are peeing)

Feeding and Potty Schedule

1. In morning take pup out of kennel calmly - take outside directly - say "go potty" reward with positive praise or treats after potty - immediately outside right there not when you get in
 2. Feed and water puppy - 10 - 15 mins - take up food and water
 3. Go outside - stay outside until puppy goes potty- positive reinforcement treat and praise outside
- *Repeat at each meal.

If you think your pup needs a drink at non-meal time - that is fine - just remember outside after
Take puppy to the same place to go potty - leave one pile of poop out there so they know where to go-

Some people use the umbilical method- this is basically after you have done the feeding and pottying you keep pup attached to you with a leash attached to you or near you and that way you are always watching for signs for potty behavior, but it also teaches pup to stay near you.

Training after potty training every time (trust me this is the perfect time because you will remember to do it!) After pups go potty outside do a few mins of training no more.

-Work on one command- sit then after a few days move to lay down etc

-Positive reinforcement with praise and treats work the best to build trust and to remind pups that they need to learn things and listen to you and bonus it is fun because I get love, attention, and a treat!

-Watch a Zak George video he does a great job of teaching these basic skills- he also has a free App called Pupford with videos of lessons to work on- with reminders lol we all need those!

Kennel/Crate Training this keeps puppy safe and gives everyone a break

We have exposed them to kennels- so they are comfortable in kennels and seek kennels to have quiet time. Kennels should be a happy, safe place never, a place for punishment. Short breaks during the day with an extra special treat 5-10 mins reinforces this happy space and gives the puppy a break! They need it and so do you!

Most people put kennels in their bedrooms for the first few weeks or sleep on the couch next to the kennel. Please do not let puppy cry it out... puppy is scared like a baby and needs reassurance, take puppy out (after they are calm by door- very important!- calm puppy - even for a split second = open door)

-Before bed or nap time make sure puppy has done the basics

-Been feed recently

-Had a chance to pee and or poop

-Had a drink

-Had exercise, love and mental stimulation (new experience)

Heartbeat pup, sometimes cover kennel with blanket and pup should be in a warm area that does not have any drafts this will help puppy sleep longer (our house is 68* all the time) if they get cold they might wake up

General Info

Poop is soft- add canned pumpkin (no spices) poop is hard - more water

Nipping

Puppies need naps especially if they get nippy they get over stimulated and often melt down like toddlers

This is a herding breed- they may try to herd running screaming things like children because they historically herd cows by barking and nipping ankles of cows- stop this in its tracks by

Having kids stop running and say "No" to pup

Biting

Never let puppies chew on fingers... redirect with chew toys because when those razor sharp teeth come in with strong jaws you will not think those puppy nibbles are cute anymore

Jumping

redirect, ignore, turn back on pup

Can also step on leach - then pup can not physically jump up

Fussing/Whining

Try not to respond unless it is to go potty!

If puppy does this do not give attention but rather figure out why and remedy the situation.

Some pups fuss when hungry or tired etc

Barking

Remember puppy will get much bigger and that bark might be cute now but will not be so cute when they get older- Australian Shepherds move cows by barking and it is a high pitched bark... nobody wants that, do not reward barking or give into what they are barking about - this will just affirm that barking gets me what I want- and you do not want that!

Puppy moves away from you- this is puppies way of saying I need a break, give puppy a break, remind children to give puppy a break, when people do not pay attention to the signs their puppy is telling them this is when we put dogs in situations where they bite, pay attention to puppies behavior and signals

Behaviors that look cute now... will they be cute when the pup is 30-65 lbs? Hmm maybe not so remember to reinforce calm and polite behavior.

We reinforce this by picking up and loving on puppies who are sitting and looking at us

We reinforce this by treating the pup that is sitting and looking at us

They learn that when I am quiet, calm and sitting nicely my humans do something for me- so reward this behavior not the crazy run around bark at stuff behavior, when you see the undesired behavior redirect (unless puppy really has to go potty well then in that moment just go potty but next time try to catch pup before they get to that excited state)

Puppy House Extended Crate/Kennel Area

Some of our puppy parents choose to use a kennel with an added fence space area with a potty area- this is nice if your pup will be kenneled without a lunch break but also overnight pup could get up, go potty and go back to bed without waking you :) This is similar to the space they are used to here

-Kennel mentioned above 42"

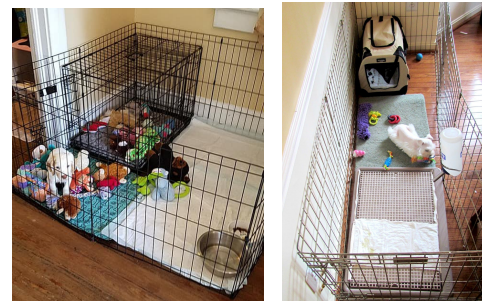
-Fencing [link](#)

-Potty Pad holder with grate [link](#) (grate is needed for potty pad holder or potty pads will get eaten and that is dangerous)

-Metal clips, bungees, or zip ties to hold fencing to kennel

-You want to have a small area for potty, play and sleeping.

You have to decide which set up is best for you. A plain kennel is just fine too; this is just an option to think about.



Remember Puppies need Love, Attention, Guidance and Patience

Puppies learn the most in the first 4 weeks that you have them! This is a magical and exhausting time but stick to a schedule, take turns in your family so one person gets overwhelmed and do your best to reinforce all the good behaviors that you want. Hard Work in these first four weeks will pay off big time!



We always ask our puppies to do things. We never force them to do things. They trust us to take care of them and we need to respect them.

Respect comes from a place of love. We know puppies can be frustrating but remember they just need love and to be reassured about the behavior we are asking of them. Repetition, Patience and Reinforcement. Puppies can not speak please pay attention to nonverbal cues

We have worked on these commands with puppies

"Puppy, Puppy, Puppy" or "Puppy Come" (high pitched voice)

"Leave it" (sharp low pitched voice)

"Sit" (calm voice)

"Yes" (high pitched voice) for affirmation to mark good behavior

You will create the kind of dog you want so remember that when you are reinforcing behaviors in the first four weeks. Do you want a loving and calm dog? Then those are the behaviors to reinforce.

Crate Training at home

<https://austerlitzshepherds.com/2018/11/confident-crating-a-guide-for-the-new-puppy-owner/>