

A FEW PRACTICAL TIPS FROM OUR EXPERIENCE - WE BROUGHT A PUPPY

EYES - check if they are not red. If any problem occurs (puppies like to dig and get ash in their eyes), it's better to have them examined by a veterinarian and use eye drops if necessary. Around 3-4 months of age, have the veterinarian check for any inflammation in the third eyelid (a fine granule) and treat it if needed. The procedure is not demanding. When using eye drops, don't overdo it.

EARS - regularly check for cleanliness. Clean them with a special solution available at the veterinarian's. Cleaning (unless the dog is in an extremely dusty environment or experiencing any difficulties) is sufficient once every 2 to 3 months using a cotton swab. Avoid using toothpicks, cleaning sticks, etc. If any problem arises, such as unpleasant-smelling discharge, it is necessary to visit a veterinarian. Don't overdo the frequency of cleaning and let nature take its course.

CUDDLING - Never stroke the little puppy from the forehead over the crown of the head to avoid deforming their ears. Stroke either from the neck to the back or scratch and stroke on the chest or behind the ears from the back (towards the spine) to simulate a submissive posture. Remember to clean the puppy's ears before the young dog show. They will be inspected, so make sure they are not dirty.

COAT -

BATHING - From around 4 months of age, when the weather is nice and the puppy has the opportunity to take a walk afterward (avoid closing it somewhere immediately after getting wet to prevent overheating), you can try if it wants to swim in natural water (pond, river - but preferably clean water). If the puppy or adolescent dog gets dirty and needs to be bathed, you can bathe them in a bathtub or shower in a shower corner. If you don't have specific dog cosmetics, use a mild baby shampoo. For grooming before a show, it is recommended to gather as much information as possible about the available dog grooming products (the selection is wide, but not everything is suitable for every dog). It is also advantageous to eventually acquire a special dog dryer that can quickly dry the dog, not only when it gets wet or after bathing but also to blow off dust and dirt from the coat before brushing. The current range of dryers is very wide.

BRUSHING - Regularly brush the coat, but not too often when the dog is not shedding because their coat has a self-cleaning ability. They can roll in the mud in the evening, and in the morning, the dog is almost clean. During shedding, brush more frequently, around three times a week.

EXAMINATION OF TEETH AND TESTICLES.

Start getting the puppy used to teeth examination from a young age. With the command "TEETH," examine them as follows: First, bring the dog's jaws together to examine the bite. Lift the puppy's lips on both sides behind the nose with two fingers (never lift the nose directly, as it can suffocate the dog and make it nervous). With two fingers on both sides of the muzzle, lift the lips to see the front teeth. Then, with the jaws closed, examine the teeth from both sides by lifting the lips on the right and then on the left side. Finally, perform the so-called "crocodile" examination by opening the dog's mouth wide to see the back molars. When teaching teeth examination, it's good to have someone outside the family present (at first, it can be a relative, friend, grandfather, etc., and later try the same with strangers). The puppy should consider teeth examination as a routine, and it will be without any problems during their young age. For male dogs, we also examine the testicles. You position the dog

sideways in front of you, gently hold them by the hind flank, support their head, and ask the familiar person to examine the testicles from behind. The best approach is for the person to speak to the dog first, then stroke their back, possibly several times, and then move their hand under the tail and touch the testicles. That is sufficient for teaching the examination of testicles.

We recommend an ideal book where you can learn about the perfect upbringing and subsequent training of a puppy:

Author: MVDr. Martina Klimešová "Four-Legged Friend" or positive motivation in practice.

www.amonra.cz

UPBRINGING AND TRAINING - start training immediately. Start getting them used to a small collar right away, which can be fabric or classic leather.

NOTE - start every training session with a short playtime. Do not use toys that the dog has access to during the playtime, but use a different toy that you have exclusively for this playtime with you. You can have two or three of these toys. Before giving any commands, it is essential to establish a strong bond with the puppy. How do we achieve that? Firstly, with plenty of treats. Reward them verbally with great enthusiasm and give them treats for everything they do as you expect. Never force the dog into anything - that is not the path to an ideal relationship between a puppy and a human. Another reward for the dog is shared playtime. The shared playtime should always be enjoyable for the dog. Rather than forcing them to play with toys, make it interesting for them so that they look forward to it. The first thing to teach is the recall command, so that the dog comes to you in any situation. Initially, puppies are used to the command "kuci, kuci" (pronounced as "koo-chee") in a sweet, gentle, almost sing-song voice, and the same voice should be used to teach the recall. ALWAYS, WHEN THE DOG COMES, PRAISE THEM STRONGLY AND EXCITEDLY - "YOU WERE SUCH A GOOD BOY, THAT'S CLEVER, WELL DONE." Even if they come after 11 calls, never scold them or get angry. They don't understand that they should have come right away, and they will associate coming to you with being scolded. You can find all the details in the above-mentioned book.

SOCIALIZATION. It is necessary for the puppy to get acquainted with other dogs and unfamiliar people. Let them be petted and interacted with. Then training can begin. Until about 6 to 9 months of age, never train the dog continuously for more than 10 minutes. Take breaks, for example, an hour, and then resume training for a while. This is not because the puppy gets tired quickly but to keep training enjoyable and fun for them.

If possible, try to walk the puppy off-leash and without a leash as much as you can. Only attach the leash periodically. If you only walk the puppy on a leash, they won't be able to return to you when off-leash and may run around uncontrollably. It's also good to occasionally hide from the puppy. Puppies have a tracking instinct (meaning they follow their mother everywhere), and now you are taking over

that role. Therefore, it's easiest to start with a very young puppy without a leash. All the training and upbringing work will be much easier for you.

VETERINARY CARE - from the beginning, find a good veterinarian. Ask around, talk to other dog owners or owners of various breeding stations who know a good veterinarian or maybe try a few different ones. The best veterinarian is someone who is capable and willing to get up at midnight and come to you or wait for you at the clinic if your dog has serious problems (car accident, difficult labor, etc.). Puppies are regularly dewormed and have basic vaccinations (see vaccination card). We recommend additional combination vaccinations at 3 months. Rabies vaccination is done on the veterinarian's recommendation, usually between 3 and 6 months. We also recommend vaccinating against Lyme disease and treating the puppy for ticks and fleas as soon as possible. Discuss with the veterinarian which product they recommend.

OTHER - don't overdo unnecessary care. Stick to two sayings: "LESS IS SOMETIMES MORE" and "TOO MUCH OF ANYTHING IS BAD." Specifically, if the dog moves at least a little on hard surfaces (concrete, pavement, gravel, etc.), there is no need to trim the nails unless they are really overgrown. Similarly, it is **NOT NECESSARY** to express the anal glands preventively (done by a veterinarian) unless there are specific problems (inflammation, etc.). There is no need to trim the hair between the paw pads. Again, only if they are matted (from asphalt, etc.). It serves as a natural protection for the pads. The same rule applies to exercise, cuddling, etc. If the puppy starts to behave like a spoiled child (especially around 6 months when they enter puberty), we should temporarily reduce close contact with them to make ourselves more valuable. They will appreciate our care and attention more and become more obedient.

FEEDING AND TREATS - For the first few days, the puppy should be given the same food they have been eating. We recommend puppy food. From 4 months of age, it is recommended to switch to a complete food for large and giant breed puppies. There is a wide selection available on the market. We usually moisten the kibble with water or feed them dry (for their teeth). In the beginning, let it soften a bit, and later - **SERVE IMMEDIATELY AFTER MOISTENING**, don't let it sit and soften.