

Small and Medium Dogs

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**BIRTH
4 WEEKS**

Deworming

Puppy can get solids in between Mom's milk feeds



Though puppies can be born with intestinal worms, it is more likely for them to get infected directly after birth through sucking on mother and from contact with the environment. Worm infestations can cause weight loss, anaemia, vomiting, diarrhoea and intestinal obstruction.

6 WEEKS

1st Vaccination

- Deworming
- Frontline spray application
- General health check-up
- Weighing
- Switch to a good small or medium puppy food

We vaccinate against the 5 basic canine viruses – Distemper-, Adeno-, Parainfluenza-, Parvo- and corona virus – that can cause vomiting, diarrhoea, neurological symptoms, nasal discharge, weakness and even death.

Did you know...?

There is a big difference between puppy and adult food, as well as between small to medium- and large breed puppy foods. Small-med puppies need higher quantities of protein, fat, carbohydrates and calcium. Their speedy growth and development means that they can reach their adult height and weight from 6 months and can reach maturity at 9 months of age... Refrain from giving soft food or food off the table, as this is a big cause of dental disease and creates fussy eaters. Always give regular measured meals.

During the general health check, we look at the following:

- Heart development
- Growth and development through weighing the doggy
- Full clinical exam
 - o Temperature
 - o Respiration
 - o Mucus membrane colour
 - o Condition of the teeth

10 WEEKS

2nd Vaccination

- Deworming
- Tick and flea control
- General health check
- Weighing and adjust the amount of food given per meal accordingly

Puppies should be fed between 3 to 5 times daily during the first 4 months of age and thereafter twice daily.

Deworming should be administered every 3 to 6 months since your furry friend can get these from any number of hosts...

Remember to:

- Check your puppy's weight throughout this period and adjust the meal sizes accordingly.
- Administer tick and flea control on a monthly basis

Look out for the following that can be an indication that your puppy might be coming down with something...

- Going off food
- Listlessness
- Vomiting
- Weight loss
- Hair loss
- Diarrhoea

Common misconception...

Parvo or 'Cat-flu' is not carried or transmitted by cats..., but is commonly picked up in the environment where it can be present for up to a year.

14 WEEKS

3rd Vaccination

- 1st rabies vaccination
- Deworming
- Tick and flea control
- General health check
- Weighing and adjust the amount of food given per meal accordingly
- Think of Microchipping your puppy at this age (we can also do this when your puppy is coming in for sterilization and is still under anaesthesia)

Did you know...?

Fleas are the major cause for tapeworm infestations... and by treating your pet against fleas; you also help to limit any tapeworms from spreading...

6 MONTHS

Ideal time to sterilize your furry friend.

- Things to think of doing while coming in for sterilization:
 - o Microchipping - in case he/she wanders around
 - o If there is a hernia, ask the vet if it's necessary to repair
 - o If your puppy has blackleg dewclaws, this is a good time to have them removed.
 - o Have the Veterinarian check if all the temporary teeth have fallen out and if not – ask for them to be removed.
- While he's/she's under anaesthesia, we do the following:
 - o Check the basic heart function
 - o Check the condition of the teeth
 - o Clip the nails if needed
 - o Do a very basic grooming if called for

Although fleas are usually the biggest irritation to pet owners, ticks should be the main concern, since they are generally the host to deadly parasites that causes babesia (biliary) and herlichea... Remember that the only means of reducing the risks of your doggy getting these serious conditions is preventative treatment against ticks...

Please remember...

Animals need 15% less food after sterilization, since their energy usage decreases significantly with the removal of their ovaries and uterus. Please take this into consideration when feeding your sterilized puppy in order for him/her to keep that slim, fit figure...

Benefits of sterilizing your male puppy:

- Aggression will be markedly reduced especially in a multi-dog household.
- A calmer doggy, not governed by his hormones
- The tendency to roam around will be markedly reduced.
- The occurrence of territorial urination and marking will drastically decrease
- The possibility of your puppy developing prostate cancer later in life will be drastically reduced.

Benefits of sterilizing your female puppy:

- No more heat cycles and blood spots every 3 to 6 months
- A calmer doggy, not governed by hormones
- If done before the first heat, the chances of her developing mammary gland tumours later in life, is nullified.
- No risk of developing a pyometra (uterus infection that can be fatal) later in life
- Aggression will be markedly reduced especially in a multi-dog household.
- The tendency to roam around will be markedly reduced.
- The possibility of your puppy falling pregnant with the boerboel down the road's puppies will be eliminated.
- The occurrence of homeless puppies will be reduced over the long haul.

1 YEAR

Ann vaccination

- Includes the rabies vaccination
- Deworming
- General health check
- Weighing and monitoring of body mass – whether your puppy is overweight or not.

Small and Medium breeds (1kg to 25kg adult weight) needs to go over to adult food at 1 year

- Remember to put your doggy on a diet food if overweight or even slightly prone to weight gain.



Remember to... treat against ticks and fleas on a monthly basis, as well as give deworming every 3 to 6 months. Also check that your furry friend has a slim fit figure, as this will help to prevent joint-, heart-, respiratory- and kidney problems later in life...

Small breed doggies and especially pocket sized or mini breeds, are more prone to dental problems and a regular dental check is advised.

Interesting fact...

Dogs with light skin – especially Jack Russell Deworming should be administered every 3 to 6 months since your furry friend can get these from any number of hosts...

Jack Russels, Fox Terriers and Staffordshire Terries, are at risk of developing skin tumours as result of lying in the sun. These tumours are called squamous cell carcinomas and can be prevented by using sunblock on a daily basis, as well as restricting doggies to shaded areas.

2 YEARS

Ann vaccination

- Includes the rabies vaccination
- Deworming
- General health check

** Giant breeds (over 40kg adult weight) should go over to an adult diet.

3-6 YEARS

Ann vaccination

- Includes the rabies vaccination
- Deworming
- General health check
- Dental check

Need to know.

It is necessary to give your doggy booster vaccinations on an annual basis in order for the immunity system to stay optimal and active. Just like us getting our annual flu shots...

Your friend is now considered senior!!!!

7-10 YEARS

Ann vaccination

- Includes the rabies vaccination
- Deworming
- General health check
- Dental check

** Your "puppy" has now reached seniority and needs to be treated as such:

- > Your senior friend needs to go on a senior diet
- > Exercise, although still very important, needs to be changed to compensate for old joints and bones.
- > Dental health becomes important during this phase of life

Did you know...?

There are various prescription diets on the marked, specifically formulated to support dogs with any failing organs, and in general we have great success in supporting animals with chronic illnesses by just changing their diets.

11 YEARS +

It is advisable to do a general health assessment at this age that can include:

- Testing kidney function
- Testing liver function
- Heart check
- Lung check
- X-rays of hips and joints



Small breed dogs can reach a much higher age than large breed dogs