



JANUARY

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OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

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 Vaccinations

 Fleas

 Worming

www.facebook.com/pages/Tasmanian-Animal-Hospitals

Bellerive: 29 Clarence Street, Bellerive, 6244 7667

Sorell: 6 Gordon Street, Sorell, 6265 2935





Puppy Vaccination History

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Adult Vaccination History

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here

Date _____ Age & weight _____ Next due _____ Signature _____ Place vaccine sticker here



Nutrition is one of the most essential factors you control to give you and your pet a long and happy life together.



If you get your puppy's nutrition right, you will maximize their development and life potential. Conversely, poor quality diet is a major risk factor in most disease processes!

Q what should I feed?

A We recommend Hills Science Diet puppy foods. We have assessed the available health foods on the market and recommend Hills Science diet puppy foods. Science diet had the combination of an excellent quality-controlled product and a track record of both feeding trials and ground breaking research into pet nutrition.

Science Diet is classed as a Super Premium dog food – we call it a Health food.



Why Hills?



Antioxidant blend	Clinically proven to help your pet's immune system
DHA (high quality fish oils)	Brain and Vision development Joint mobility and development
Highly digestible carbohydrates	Supplies abundant energy for active puppies while promoting gentle digestion
Precisely balanced	Promotes ideal body weight
High quality protein	Builds strong bones and muscles



Q Should my Chihuahua puppy eat the same food as my Great Dane puppy?

A Small to medium breeds

- Weigh *under* 25kg as adults
- Should be fed puppy food to enhance development until they are 12 months old

Large to giant breeds

- Weigh *over* 25kg as adults
- Should be fed a 'Large Breed' puppy food until they are 18 months old
- Science diet can reduce the risk of Elbow Dysplasia in Giant Breeds

There is no 'right' answer. Fortunately, all Super Premium dog foods have feeding guides to use as a starting point, which you can then adjust according to your dog's individual needs. It is important to always measure the amount of food you are giving.

How much should I feed?

bones

Bones have traditionally been fed to dogs to assist with dental health and as a boredom buster.

We have now found that bones can actually cause more problems than they are worth. Fractured teeth, bones stuck in the mouth or gut and conditions such as pancreatitis, obesity and Inflammatory bowel disease are common problems found in dogs, young and old.

fresh food versus commercial food

- It is difficult to provide a complete and balanced diet without supplementing some additional minerals, vitamins or proteins when feeding only fresh foods.
- It may take years of feeding an unbalanced diet before problems related to inadequate nutrition appear.
- It is very difficult to undo the years of damage caused by feeding an unbalanced diet.

Our Recommendation:

- Feed fresh food as a supplement - 30% maximum
- Use fresh, good quality vegetables and low fat protein sources – stored properly
- Cook meat!!!!

As obesity is one of the more common health problems we encounter today, measuring your dogs' food intake allows for fine tuning of your dogs' diet as required.

how often do I feed?

Age	Meal Frequency
6 weeks-5 months	3 meals
5 months-12 months	2 meals
12 months onward	1-2 meals



foods to avoid

- X Onions
- X Corn cobs
- X Stone fruit
- X Chocolate
- X Excessive grapes
- X Anything overly fatty, spicy or sweet





worming your puppy

Worms are easily controlled, we recommend Drontal. Clinical trials show up to 98% effectiveness – some other wormers are not as successful. The following worming schedule is recommended:

2-12 weeks:	Fortnightly
3-6 months:	Monthly
6 months onwards:	Every 3 months

If you need assistance worming your puppy, please don't hesitate to bring them in for our nursing staff to administer free of charge.



There are four major types of worms in Tasmania:

Roundworm	Roundworms are around 3 - 5 inches long & spaghetti-like in appearance. Pets can get infected through contaminated soil and rodents. Roundworms feed upon the intestinal contents, competing with the host for food.	Tapeworm	The name itself comes from the shape of the parasite which looks like a long (50cm-70cm) flat tape-like body. The tapeworm is one of the easiest of the worms to detect. Pets generally pick up tapeworms by ingesting infected fleas through grooming. The tapeworm also attaches to the intestinal wall to feed.
Hookworm	The hookworm attaches to the lining of the intestinal wall with it's sharp (hook like) teeth and feeds on blood. Pets can become infected by eating infected rodents and birds as well as infected soil.	Whipworm	Whipworms are significantly smaller than the other worms and are rarely seen. They have a small head and whip like tail. An adult whipworm will bite the tissue of the intestine and imbed its head in there and feed. Pets generally become infected by contaminated soil.



FAQ's about worming

Q can I get worms from my puppy?

A Yes. People normally pick up worms from poor hygiene around their puppy. Children are particularly prone and can pick up from playing around worms, or near your puppy's toilet areas (sand pits, lawns, garden beds).

Our Worm Control Program

- Good treatment and prevention program for your puppy
- Good hygiene around your puppy
- Always wash your hands after handling your puppy
- Never eat whilst handling your puppy
- Prevent your puppy from licking you and your child's face
- Poo Patrol – clean up faeces daily or as soon as possible.

Q at what age can my puppy contract worms?

A The most common way for a puppy to contract worms is directly from their mother, either before birth (via the placenta) or after birth (via the milk). Faeces are a very common source of worm transmission, as well as fleas and scavenging.

Q will worming treatment from the supermarket do the job?

A Unfortunately supermarket worming treatments only have approximately 76% effectiveness in treating intestinal worms. We recommend Drontal which has shown up to 98% effectiveness in clinical trials.

symptoms of worm infestation

- Weight loss • Diarrhea
- Anemia • Pale skin
- Pot belly

FACT

There is no
Heartworm in
Tasmania





Your puppy may have fleas even though you can't see them.



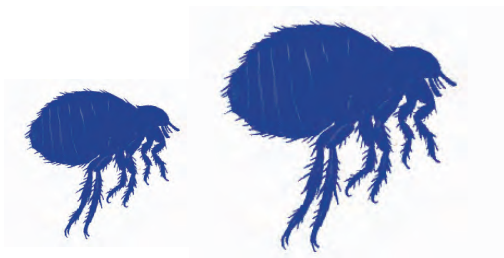
what are fleas?

Fleas are very small reddish-brown external parasites that live on the skin of your puppy and feed by sucking blood. Adult fleas live on your puppy's skin with females laying up to 50 eggs a day!

The eggs drop off into your home and garden, or wherever your puppy spends time. These eggs then hatch into larvae which eat dead skin cells and flea dirt until transforming to pupae inside silk cocoons.

As pupae, fleas can remain dormant until perfect conditions occur for re-infestation. This can be from 3 weeks to 350 days.

Unfortunately, perfect conditions for a flea are warm and humid, much like our homes. They then transform into adult fleas waiting to spring up on to you or your pet from up to a metre away for their next meal.



benefits of preventing fleas

1

Fleas are not fussy eaters! Not only will they feed on your puppy but will bite you too.

2

Flea bites often leave an itchy red bump on us, much the same as a mosquito would.

Q how can I tell if my puppy has fleas?

A Your puppy may have fleas even though you can't see them.

Flea dirt, or flea droppings, are detected more easily than the flea itself and can be seen on the skin over the rump and back, like black specks of dirt.

Flea droppings when combed onto a damp white sheet of paper will turn red as they contain the blood ingested by the flea as it feeds.



Because fleas are so small, they can be difficult to detect, much less eliminate from your home.



signs of fleas you might notice on your puppy:

- ☐ scratching
- ☐ chewing
- ☐ biting
- ☐ restlessness
- ☐ scurf over the tail base
- ☐ flea dirt
- ☐ Anemia – If the flea infestation is large enough they can literally drain your puppy's blood supply, making them ill.
- ☐ Flea allergy dermatitis (FAD) – Some pets are allergic to flea saliva and can itch for several weeks after a single flea bite. Through self trauma this can lead to skin infections.
- ☐ Tapeworm infection - Ingested fleas can also transmit tapeworm. (could be in a paw print)

how do I prevent fleas?

Because fleas are so small, they can be difficult to detect, much less eliminate from your home.

.....

Flea collars and powders are outdated, as they only kill the adult fleas on your puppy at the time of treatment.

.....

Fleas can only be brought under control effectively by treating both your puppy, and any other household pets with an effective flea treatment such as Advantage.

Advantage comes in an easy to apply monthly 'spot-on', which is absorbed through the skin and continues to protect your puppy for a month after application, killing any fleas your puppy comes into contact with.

.....

Regular treatment is key in ridding your home of these parasites. An adult flea can live up to a year without a blood meal!



A FULL physical examination is included in the vaccination consultation



vaccinating your puppy

Vaccinations are important for your puppy's long term health and happiness and will protect them against a range of preventable diseases. The vaccinations we recommend are highly effective and proven to be very safe.

We vaccinate against the following diseases. Parvovirus, Distemper and Hepatitis – which is covered in the C3 Vaccination, and parainfluenza virus and Bordetella – covered in the Kennel cough vaccination.

what we vaccinate against

Parvovirus – is a common but highly contagious viral gastroenteritis. Symptoms are depression, loss of appetite, severe vomiting and diarrhea containing blood. Death can occur very quickly.

Distemper – is uncommon but highly contagious. Symptoms are conjunctivitis, nasal discharge, convulsive seizures and spinal cord damage. Treatment is often ineffective.

Hepatitis – can cause sudden death in puppies. Symptoms in adult dogs are weakness, fever, diarrhea, loss of appetite and bleeding.

Canine Cough – a common but complex disease caused by bacterium and virus. Symptoms are a persistent hacking cough which can be devastating in both puppies and older dogs.





FAQ's about vaccination

Q why should my puppy be vaccinated?

A To protect from potentially fatal, yet preventable diseases. If your puppy ever needs a holiday at the doggie resort a certificate of vaccination is required, and your puppy will come home happy and healthy.

Q why does my puppy need more than one vaccination?

A When puppies are born they receive maternal antibodies from their mother to help protect them from diseases. This declines over the first few weeks of life, leaving your puppy vulnerable. The maternal antibodies can interfere with the early vaccine uptake, so to build up your puppies immunity multiple vaccinations are given.

Q when is it safe for my puppy to play in the park?

A We recommend keeping your puppy away from public areas 2 weeks after their final puppy vaccination, generally at around 18 weeks old.

Q does my puppy need ongoing vaccinations?

A As your puppy grows into adulthood an annual vaccination is necessary to maintain immunity against these diseases. Annual vaccinations include a comprehensive health check to ensure your puppy remains healthy throughout its life.

Q are there any side effects

A Side effects are rare but if your puppy does exhibit the following signs, please contact your Vet: Pain or lump formation at the site of injection, fever, loss of appetite, lethargy.



We want you to say YES
when it really matters



accidents happen

Snake bite:	\$2000 - \$8,000
Car accident:	\$1000 - \$3,000
Gastro enteritis:	\$600 - \$2,000
Grass seeds:	\$600 - \$2,000
Cruciate surgery:	\$1800 - \$4,000

pet insurance

Pet insurance is an excellent way to ensure the best possible care for your pet when your pet is in need.

There are many pet insurance policies available and it is best to decide on the level of cover that is required to meet you and your pets needs. We have listed a few examples of pet insurance companies so that you can be informed of some of your options and so that your insurance is truly personalized to your dog or cat's requirements. If you are would like more information regarding Pet Insurance, Google 'pet insurance comparison Australia'.

quick facts about pet insurance

- One in three pets will need veterinary treatment each year
- Around 80% of pet owners with older pets will claim on their insurance each year
- You are more likely to claim on your pet insurance than your car or household insurance

Our pets give us unconditional love, joy and company and we all want to provide the most optimum health care. We are all aware of the costs involved with routine health care such as vaccinations, parasite control, nutrition and desexing but it is the unexpected accidents and costs involved that can cause financial burden on a family. Having a financial plan can make all the difference and can put a family in the position to say YES to treatment for your beloved pet in an emergency.

Tasmanian Animal Hospitals has a no accounts policy with payment being required at the time your pet goes home. Whilst pet insurance is one option, you may like to consider the following:

Savings Plan – setting aside a regular amount for those unexpected accidents

Pre Payment – come into the hospital and pay an amount that allows you to stay in credit

Credit Options – we have several external options available for emergencies; client services would be happy to discuss these options with you.

Petplan Pet Insurance 1300 738 225
www.petplan.com.au

IQ pet insurance 1300 477 387
www.iqpets.com.au

Medibank Pet Insurance 132 331
www.medibank.com.au/Pet-insurance.aspx



Basic Training will help to ensure your puppy matures into an obedient and well mannered member of your family.



Teaching your puppy a few simple commands will give you control in most situations, keep your puppy's mind stimulated and help to prevent problem behaviours before they arise.

the golden rules of training:

- Reward good behaviour
- Ignore bad behaviour
- Turn bad behaviour into good behaviour

nothing in life is free!!

The **N.I.L.I.F.** method is a way to become more relevant to your puppy by using environmental rewards to ask for desired behaviours.

- Environmental rewards are all the things your pet enjoys in life.
- Food
- Playing with toys
- A car ride
- Going for a walk
- Being let up on the couch
- And YOUR LOVE and ATTENTION

Many undesired behaviours are learned by your puppy demanding attention.

example: Your puppy jumps up on you, you pat him. Now he knows that if he jumps up on you he gets your attention and will do this again.

For *Nothing in Life is Free* to work all you need to do is enforce a simple command or behaviour before puppy gets what he wants - Control the resources.

Next time your puppy jumps up for a pat, just ignore him- you don't need to say no, growl or push him down. Simply wait a few seconds, ask him to sit and then give him a pat – you have now reinforced that sitting quietly gets pats (not jumping).

The N.I.L.I.F. method can be used in a number of situations.

Puppies quickly learn acceptable behaviours.





Puppies are learning from us every time we interact with them

Training sessions are a fantastic way to bond with your puppy. As dogs are creatures of habit, puppy training is about creating good habits. Training should become part of your puppies daily routine and continue for life.

training tips

Plan your training sessions - know what your going to teach before you start

Keep it short - puppies have a short attention span, if your sessions are too long they will lose interest

Set them up for Success - choose something your puppy can do easily, and start and finish on a good note

Be Patient - If you or your puppy becomes frustrated, take a breather and try again later

Have fun - just like us, puppies learn faster when they are enjoying themselves

Healthy Treats - ideally treats are healthy, outside the normal diet and able to be stored in your pocket for opportunistic training. We use dried liver treats

Q are some puppies easier to train than others?

A Whether you have chosen a registered pedigree or a cross breed your puppy is an extremely intelligent, unique individual with a keen willingness to learn. The history and origin of you puppies breed will determine certain behavioural characteristics that will be a contributing factor in training.

remember
the 3 C's
Clear • Calm
Consistent

teach your puppy some tricks

Desensitize your puppy to new objects and strange situations.

Provide mental stimulation and help to prevent boredom related issues

Have fun playing with your puppy, and impress your friends.

roll
over

spin

fetch

shake
hands

play
dead

crawl

high
five

speak

through
the hoop

The possibilities are endless!

- Enrol in our Puppy Pre-School
- Follow up by joining an obedience club in your area

There is nothing more rewarding than experiencing what you and your special friend can achieve together.





When it comes to toilet training your puppy, remember - patience, persistence and consistency!



Positive reinforcement is the most successful method to toilet train your puppy. This involves both opportunity and rewards. Toilet training usually involves retraining your pets preferred toilet surface AND denying access to the old surface eg close it off or feed or leave toys in the areas where they currently going.

steps to toilet-training your puppy...

1

Step One – Choose a designated area where you want your puppy to go to the toilet. This could be an area in the garden, or if inside a specifically designed dog loo or wee mat. Look for the toilet cues eg just after meals, circling, sniffing then lead your puppy to the choose area with a treat and reward them once they arrive. By rewarding them for this step they are more likely to start feeling you when they need to go to the toilet.

2

Step Two - Ignore your puppy until they go to the toilet in your chosen area. As soon as they go reward them immediately.

3

Step Three - Lead them back inside and reward again to complete the behaviour. Rewards must occur immediately after the event. Rewards can be in the form of praise, offering a food treat or giving the dog their favourite chew toy. This is so the puppy makes the connection between the toileting and the reward.

Q how do I know when puppy needs to go?

A Puppies will need to go after a meal, after a snooze or when they're excited. A common sign to look for is sniffing around as they look for a suitable place to squat.

how should I react to accidents??

Positive reinforcement also involves ignoring 'unwanted' accidents – so if your puppy goes in the wrong place it is best to display no reaction, don't get angry – they won't understand what they've done wrong. You should clean the area thoroughly with an unperfumed, non-ammonia based cleaning product to take away the scent and reduce the likelihood of the dog using the same place again next time.

Old-fashioned responses such as 'rubbing the dog's nose in it' or administering any form of punishment will not teach the dog anything; in fact it may actually delay the learning process.



Get your puppy off on the right paw with classes that encourage good behaviours while helping you establish a strong bond with your new arrival.

Our puppy socialisation classes provide:

- Supervised, safe interactions and play sessions with other puppies and other people

Plus advice on:

- Toilet training
- Play biting
- Handling skills - petting , grooming and vet checks
- Introducing a collar and lead
- How to build a relationship on trust and co-operation
- Introduction to simple commands, such as sit, come and stay
- Basic manners
- Relationship-forming games
- Problem prevention
- Tips on puppy health & nutrition

classes

Classes are held once a week for 1 hour over a 4 week period. If you would like to enroll your puppy, please contact Tasmanian Animal Hospitals on **6244 7667** to discuss further or to make a booking.





We suggest bathing your puppy on a monthly basis



Grooming is an excellent way to help establish the bond between you and your new pet. Grooming makes your puppy cleaner and gives you the opportunity to check for fleas, ticks, skin irritations and lumps. This helps to make your vet visits more enjoyable because they are familiar with being handled at home.

From an early age we recommend you start with touching their paws & ears gently, check their eyes, ears and teeth regularly and see your vet if you notice anything unusual. Puppies with droopy ears are more prone to ear infections so these breeds may need to have their ears checked more regularly. When teaching your puppy to be still and have their paws and ears checked use positive reinforcement with treats or pats.

create a daily grooming routine

This can become an enjoyable moment each day for both of you which also creates a time to brush teeth and do a quick checkover.

bathing

We suggest bathing your puppy on a monthly basis, using a shampoo formulated specifically for dogs because their skin is a different PH to human skin. Puppies should be dried thoroughly after a bath to prevent them from getting too cold.

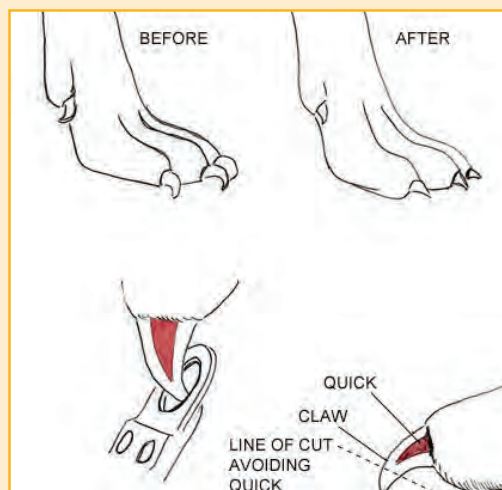
We recommend Aloveen Shampoo - a Hypoallergic, PH-controlled, Oatmeal-based shampoo.

brushing

Long haired breeds will require regular brushing and combing to prevent their coat from becoming too knotty. Start off gently; it is important your puppy enjoys and looks forward to this routine. Most dogs enjoy being brushed, but if you have difficulty at home there are professional dog groomers available.

nails

Nails need to be trimmed regularly, only clip the tip of each nail, stopping before the quick where the blood vessels are. We will be happy to demonstrate how to do this, as it can sometimes be difficult to judge where to clip, particularly if your puppy has dark nails. Walking your dog on hard surfaces regularly may help keep the nails short.





If you do not intend to breed from your dog, surgical desexing has undoubted advantages both for males and females.



benefits of desexing

- Your pet will be less inclined to wander, keeping them safe at home
- Reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour

- In Females:**
- Prevents unplanned pregnancies
 - Greatly reduces the risk of developing mammary (breast) cancer and some hormone related tumours
 - Eliminates the risk of developing ovarian and uterine disease

- In Males:**
- Greatly reduces the risk of developing prostate disease
 - Eliminates the risk of developing testicular tumours

Q when should I get my puppy desexed?

A We recommend desexing your dog between the age of 5-6 months, as this is when they become sexually mature. Desexing at this age will ensure your puppy gets the maximum advantage from the procedure. However, no dog is too old to benefit from the procedure.

Q will my puppy put on weight after desexing?

A Desexing your puppy may lower their metabolic rate, making them more prone to weight gain. Monitoring their weight and adjusting their diet as required is the best way to ensure your puppy stays healthy for the rest of their life.

Q will my dog become incontinent?

A Some female dogs will develop urinary incontinence due to the lower hormone levels in the body. This generally occurs later in life, although very rarely it can occur shortly after desexing.

Q my dog is in season, can she still be desexed?

A When a bitch is in season, the blood flow to her uterus is increased, it is fragile and there is an increased risk of haemorrhage. Therefore, we recommend waiting until 2 weeks after she finishes her season to allow the blood vessels to settle down.



Desexing your puppy

what will happen to my puppy when he/she is in hospital?

- Desexing is generally a 'Day Surgery', so your best friend will be home with you again on the same night.
- Fasting (withholding of food) is required from the night before surgery to ensure a safer anaesthetic.
- At the admission appointment, we will check your contact details, discuss the procedure with you and clarify the costs involved. Your puppy will be allocated a bed for the duration of the day and we encourage you to settle them in before you leave.
- They will receive a full veterinary examination before receiving their pre-medication, which contains a sedative and pain relieving medication.
- Our anaesthetics are very safe, with an experienced veterinary nurse monitoring your puppy throughout the anaesthesia and during recovery.
- Every animal going under anaesthesia is placed on intravenous fluids. This helps maintain blood pressure, supports the organs responsible for metabolizing anaesthesia and

allows for direct injection access should an emergency arise.

- Upon recovery, an anti-inflammatory injection is given and your puppy will also be sent home with a few days of anti-inflammatory tablets to ensure they remain comfortable during the healing process.
- As each puppy recovers from their anaesthesia at different rates, we will contact you and arrange for you to collect your puppy at an appropriate time.
- At your discharge appointment, a nurse will discuss home care instructions and answer any questions you may have. We will need to see your puppy back 10 days after the surgery to ensure appropriate healing.

OVARIOHYSTERECTOMY (Spey)
"the surgical removal of the uterus and ovaries"

ORCHIDECTOMY (Castration)
"the surgical removal of one or both of the testes"



Brushing should be every day.
Ask us for a demonstration.



Your puppy needs dental care too! And it's easier than you might think.....

Dental care for pets is very similar to dental care for humans. Dental care starts with teeth brushing. If you never brushed your teeth, would your breath smell bad? How would this make you feel?

Q why brush?

A Teeth brushing for pets can be fun, especially if started at an early age and NOW is the perfect time to include it in your puppy's routine.

Teeth brushing can help prevent and control painful periodontal disease, reduce bad breath and help avoid other health risks as your dog ages.

By brushing your dog's teeth daily, you can reduce the frequency required for professional teeth cleaning and related services.

- Have a **POSITIVE** attitude! If you think you can do it, then you will!
- Keep reasonable expectations. It takes **TIME** and **PATIENCE** to create a habit. **ENJOY** this time with your puppy!
- NB: Brushing is not for every pet. If your puppy is growling or very nervous it is best to back off.

what do I need & how do I do it?

1

BUILD A ROUTINE every day where your pet gets a cuddle and a reward. After a few weeks start gently lifting the lips and touching the gum. Go at your pet's pace. If they start to get stressed, stop and start again tomorrow. TAKES SEVERAL WEEKS.

2

SELECT a canine toothpaste. We recommend Dentipet. Dentipet has the combination of an excellent product AND variable yummy flavours! Slowly get your pet used to the taste then start gently massaging it into the gums with your finger. Once again go at your pet's pace. TAKES 2-4 WEEKS.

3

PICK an appropriate tooth brush. There are many options available. We suggest a 'finger brush' which fits over your finger and has soft bristles. Gently brush with paste into your pet's gum. Go at your pet's pace. It is often better to start with one tooth and build up to brushing all the teeth over several weeks. Gently brush teeth in an oval pattern over the area of the gum margin as well as the space between the teeth. Brush for 30 seconds on the outside of the upper and lower teeth. Brushing should be every day! ASK US TO DEMONSTRATE.



Ideally, with regular teeth brushing, good nutrition and self cleaning by chewing – you can expect your dog to maintain a dental grade of between 1-2 during their adult life!



Tasmanian Animal Hospitals will check your puppy's teeth at their routine puppy vaccinations to ensure there are no teeth issues. At the time of your puppy's desexing, we provide a dental examination to ensure all deciduous teeth have fallen out.

your puppy's mouth at a glance

tooth calendar

Your puppy's first teeth appeared somewhere between five and eight weeks. Puppies grow a total of 28 teeth, which are known as baby teeth, or deciduous teeth.

The first teeth that fall out are the incisors, followed by pre-molars and canines.

teething

Your puppy's teething process may occur for several months, on and off. This can be an uncomfortable time. They increase their biting and chewing and test out different objects and textures to relieve the discomfort. Your favourite shoes never looked SO good!

Between 3 and 7 months, a puppy starts to lose their deciduous teeth. By 7 to 8 months, the full set of adult teeth should have grown into place.



dental grading



Grade 1



Grade 2



Grade 3



Grade 4

Grade 0	No plaque or gingivitis – a happy mouth
Grade 1	Mild plaque on teeth
Grade 2	Mild to Moderate tartar on teeth and some gingivitis present
Grade 3	Heavy tartar and onset of periodontal disease. Oral pain is likely
Grade 4	Severe tartar, periodontal disease, tooth loss occurring or imminent

A happy & healthy mouth does not have:

- Bad breath (halitosis)
- Reluctance to chew
- Red and/or puffy gums
- Bleeding gums
- Tartar/calculus (hard coating on teeth that is usually brown or yellow)
- Missing and/or loose teeth





Taking an active role in the care of your pet's dental hygiene gets your puppy used to having their mouth handled. This can assist greatly in future oral medications and mouth checks at the vet.



Some breeds unfortunately are more prone to dental disease than others. At our clinic we spend 2 or 3 times as long discussing dental disease with owners of small dogs than owners of large dogs. Generally smaller dogs have more dental issues. Speak with us about dental checks for your pet.

Q are there any short-cuts?

A To brush your dog's teeth, you need commitment to time and commitment to accessibility. Let's face it – sometimes LIFE gets in the way!

Here are some dental aids that can assist in keeping your dog's teeth healthy:

greenies



provide an oral health solution.

We proudly stock Greenies which are the #1 veterinarian recommended dental chew and are clinically proven to

hills science diet dry



A super premium diet designed for your puppy will have all the nutritional requirements your puppy needs – ensuring they have the majority of their diet in a dry kibble will help with the cleaning of their teeth.

smoked pig ears

Any type of rawhide or smoked chew can be great for your dog to chew – BUT! If you do give them as a chew treat, remember – this counts as food! Pigs ears especially are very fatty. We do not recommend these as a daily cleaning aid and suggest you monitor your dog while chewing.

bad chew toys

- rocks
- tennis balls
- sticks
- plastic bottles



I'll just give my puppy bones to chew.....

Here's some reasons why it's a bad idea to "knick knack, paddy whack...give a dog a bone.."

- Broken teeth
- Mouth or tongue injuries
- Bone stuck in mouth, jaw, esophagus, windpipe
- Bone gets stuck in stomach, intestines
- Constipation due to bone fragments
- Severe bleeding
- Peritonitis

In some instances, your Vet may still recommend bone chewing if all else fails. Please, listen to their instruction on what size bone is best to let your dog chew. Bones are useful but the risks may outweigh the benefits. Speak to your Vet about the way to feed bones, if at all.



Microchipping your dog is now compulsory in Tasmania



Microchipping your dog is now compulsory in Tasmania, which is fantastic news. Thanks to the Microchip many lost dogs that would have otherwise ended up in shelters, are now identified immediately, and reunited with their families.

Unlike collars and pet tags, a microchip is a permanent form of identification. It has been designed to last for the life of your dog. It cannot be accidentally removed, and will not need to be replaced.

what is a microchip?

A Microchip is a computer chip contained inside a tiny capsule. It is inserted into the soft scruff at the base of your dog's neck. The computer chip is coded with an individual number, which is linked to your information through a national database.

The microchip number is easily retrieved by simply scanning your dog with a microchip scanning device, used at all Veterinary Clinics and animal shelters.

Q how do I update my information?

A If you have acquired a new dog, or have changed your address, you will need to update your registered contact details. Go to www.petaddress.com.au for more information.



why do dogs stray?

- Gate was left open or fencing not secure
- Dog is fearful during thunderstorms, strong winds or fireworks
- Recently moved house
- Dog was staying with friends
- House was burgled
- Dog is not desexed

what should I do with a stray dog?

It can be dangerous to approach a stray dog. Even if usually friendly, a dog that is scared may be unpredictable. Contact your council who will arrange for an animal control officer to collect the dog.



Young puppies and kittens can be very mischievous and inquisitive. Before you bring home your new pet you should make sure your house is as safe as possible.



Is Your House Pet-Safe?

Providing a safe environment for your pet ensures your pet will have a long and happy lifestyle with fewer unwarranted visits to the vet.

basic husbandry

7 freedoms that your pet should automatically expect to have:

- Secure property
- Secure house
- Food
- Water
- Shelter
- Love
- Veterinary visits



keeping your pet safe

If your pet is free to roam they may face serious danger, they may be:

- Hit by a car
- Attacked by another animal
- Lost or Stolen
- Ingest things they shouldn't like spoiled food and garbage
- Parasites such as ticks, fleas or worms
- Bitten by a snake
- Exposed to contagious diseases and viruses

providing a safe, clean backyard and house

An environment free from:

- Toxins and poisons (including certain plants)
- Garbage (obstructions or toxicity)
- Things that could but shouldn't be ingested: kids toys, socks, plastic bags, inappropriate sized toys or ones that can be easily broken and ingested, fish hooks, sewing needles with thread attached, cooked bones
- Certain foods: Fatty foods, onions, chocolate, spoiled food
- Medications
- Electrical cords/blind cords

Store your products and poisons safely away from your pets!





Environmental Enrichment

you are
the master
of all things
good

what is it?

Providing your puppy with daily environmental stimulation and activity.

Why environmental Enrichment is important:

By providing physical, social and mental stimulation every day your puppy will be content and happy being left alone.. A puppy without stimulation will become bored and may develop problems such as digging, barking, chewing and destructive behaviours.

What entertainment does your puppy have when you are not at home?

myths

1

A big backyard does not mean a happy puppy. The space is not the main issue, it is the quality of the space. You wouldn't leave a child in a room with nothing to do.

2

Lots of toys mean a happy puppy. Every puppy is different and it may take a while to figure out which toys your puppy likes. You often also have to teach your puppy how to play with the toys, it doesn't always come instinctively.

ways to spend time with your puppy:

-
-
-
-
-



It takes some effort to provide environmental enrichment but your puppy will love you for it.



note

Try feeding some of your puppy's daily meals through activities. This will stimulate their natural explore and hunt instincts. Also rotate their toys every few days and make sure the toys are appropriate for your puppy (they cannot be swallowed whole or broken bits cannot be swallowed)..

recommendations

Physical enrichment:

A tired puppy is a happy puppy!

- Daily walks (make sure their vaccinations are up to date!)
- Games eg. Ball throwing, Frisbee
- Trick/ Obedience / Agility training
- Daily play sessions with owners



Mental enrichment:

Keep that mind busy!

- Food dispensing toys (Kongs, treatballs, buster cubes)
- Squeaky toys, rope toys, etc.
- Nylon bones, rawhide chews
- Scattering food on the lawn
- Sandpits/wading pools – use a kids' clam shell
- Ice blocks with dog food/vegies

Social enrichment: Puppies are social animals; the more time they spend with you the happier they will be.

Spend time with your puppy even if you are just watching TV together!



a yard
with a
view

grooming
sessions

doggy
day care

play
dates





Socialisation is essential in shaping the way your puppy behaves and reacts to new experiences as an adult.



Socialisation is one of the most important things you can teach your puppy.

The critical period is between the ages of 6-16 weeks, therefore it's vital that your puppy is exposed to a variety of social environments in a safe way.

Puppy class is a great way to start the socialisation process with your puppy .

benefits

- Exposing your puppy to a large range of stimulus during this time improves the chances of your puppy developing into a confident, well-adjusted member of the doggy community and your family.
- Correct exposure to high levels of stimuli greatly improves their overall temperament, specifically their ability to handle and deal with stress as adults.
- Early exposure can help prevent many of the most common behavioural problems including fear, aggression and separation anxiety.

DO'S	Things to Avoid
Go for a ride in the car with your puppy.	Don't let your puppy interact with unvaccinated dogs.
Ask for a tour of our hospital for you and your puppy	Do not subject your puppy to situations he is not ready to cope with
Carry your puppy in areas where other dogs have toileted.	Extended isolation during the developmental period minimises the opportunity for your puppy to experience negative stimulus which will influence the future temperament of your puppy
Involve your puppy in family activities	

Remember to have fun with your puppy –

Giving love, praise and training to your puppy will further enhance the bond between you both. If you keep the experiences positive your puppy will grow up to be a healthy and happy companion for life; a dog you can take anywhere and be proud of.