

# Bringing Home Your Puppy

## We have a new puppy! Now what?

Bringing a new puppy into your home can be very exciting for everyone. After a few weeks, though, the excitement starts to wear off and reality sinks in—the puppy is doing things her way, not yours, and communication between you and your new best friend can be frustrating. With a few tips and some patience, you can get your things started on the right paw and have a beautiful long-term relationship!

Consistency among family members is key, 24/7. Have a family meeting, agree on the rules for the puppy, and write them down. This holds everyone accountable.

Saying “no” to your puppy doesn’t tell them what you want them to do instead. Say “yes” by rewarding behaviors you like, such as sitting, lying down, and keeping all four paws on the floor instead of jumping. Use part of your pup’s meals for rewards instead of feeding their whole daily ration in a bowl.

Remember that pups and dogs “talk” by using their bodies. Learn to read them!



Teach via rewards



Crate Train



Socialize not expose



Manage



Gently exercise



Train in 1 minute



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