



Puppy Care Notes

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

Your puppy's first
night is a big
transition step.

The first few nights are almost always difficult.



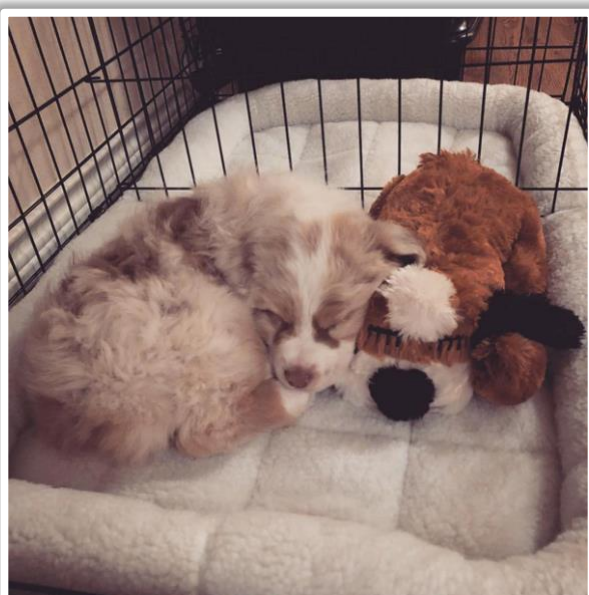
Snuggle Puppies can be of great comfort.

Your puppy has been sleeping in a built-in garage, attached to our house. He may feel comforted by an old towel or item of clothing with a familiar scent to snuggle up with. We offer options of purchasing blankets and/or toys from our Burrinjuck Boutique Store. That way your puppy can become familiar with this object and then have that same item [with all its delicious smells] to take to his new home. Some people have tried using a hot water bottle and even placing a ticking clock near the puppy. Consider purchasing a snuggle puppy. Snuggle Puppies come with a heat bag and their very own rhythmic heart beat. The beating heart in this plush snuggle pup is designed to sync to the heartbeat of Mum - very adorable and the puppies love them! Snuggle Puppies can be purchased separately or as a part of our "New Beginnings Start Up Pack". Packs include a snuggle puppy, blanket, teether and toy. Browse our shop at Burrinjuck Boutique for further information. Our online shop is located at <https://burrinjuckboutique.ecwid.com>.

Decide right from the start where you would like your puppy to sleep. Start out as you wish to continue. **At the same time, it is also necessary to be flexible in your expectations.** He is only very young and will be really missing the comfort and security of his mum and siblings. It may be helpful to have him a bit closer to your own bedroom, at least initially until he is less fretful in his new environment.



Be Firm but Flexible – Especially in the first few days.



CRATE TRAINING

We recommend crate training as a convenient and helpful strategy to provide safety and security for your puppy. Should you choose to use a crate, get one large enough to accommodate your dog when fully grown. Puppies actually enjoy spending time in their crate. The crate becomes their safe haven and a comfortable 'den'. If your puppy is not settling, try covering the crate with a towel, blanket or crate cover to help him/her feel safe and secure. If you would like to begin crate training, we can get this started during the last few weeks for a small fee of \$50.

TOILET TRAINING



If your puppy is going to be inside you will wish to get started on toilet training. When outside your puppy has been negotiating a puppy port and making his way out to a grassy area in the backyard to do his business. Inside the house, we have set up a square of false grass over some puppy pads. Puppies are accustomed to doing wees and poos on the grass so it is a natural instinct to head to that area to toilet. Another option is toilet timing. Take him outside every hour (and take him to the same spot) then give a big cuddle and reward each time he manages to go to do his business. Some people like to pair the toilet action with the same phrase, e.g. "good job". He is most likely to need to go, just after waking up from a sleep or after eating or drinking so be prepared to whisk him outside at these times. Often the most telling sign is sniffing of the ground, prior to squatting but you do only have a few seconds. Avoid cleaning up accidents using products containing ammonia. Ammonia smells similar to urine and will encourage him to return to that place to toilet.

WHAT HAS MY PUPPY BEEN EATING?



Your puppy is used to a very varied diet. We have been feeding your puppy a combination of Phuds and raw minced meat mixed in with Advance Puppy Growth Kibble, Balanced Life Rehydratable and water. We generally work on ratio of 1/3 kibble + 1/3 Phuds or 1/3 Balanced Life + 1/3 minced meat. We also feed our older puppies and dogs, [Prime100 rolls and treats](#). This dog food is a convenient option for families wishing to raw feed, who lack the time to prepare meals from scratch. Prime100 is devoured by our dogs. They just love it. Prime100 are a great option for dogs that suffer from allergies: digestive and skin issues too.

WE DO THIS TO ENSURE YOUR PUPPY IS USED TO A VARIED DIET WHEN HE GOES TO HIS NEW HOME.

ANSWERS TO SOME COMMON QUESTIONS AROUND FOOD

What type of dog food should I buy?

If you choose to continue to feed the Advance Puppy Growth Kibble, then we recommend "Puppy Growth-Regular" for our medium to standard size labradoodles. Even our larger dogs prefer the regular kibble size over the large kibble size. We feed the "Toy- Small Breed" Advance Puppy Kibble to our miniature and small-medium sized dogs."

How do I change my puppy's diet?

If you intend to change your puppy's diet to a different dog food, I recommend transitioning from our recommended dog foods to the new dog food very slowly over a period of a week or more. This will avoid giving your puppy an upset tummy and reduce the risk of diarrhoea.

What foods can I feed my puppy?

In addition to the dietary foods recommended above, provide plenty of raw bones, grains and vegetables as an additional supplement to your puppy's diet. Most vegetable can be fed to your puppy, provided they are raw. You can feed the pulp and juice of fresh vegetables [spinach, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, peas, beans, etc.,]. Pumpkin, corn and potatoes must be cooked. Chicken wings, chicken carcasses, mince, chopped beef, lamb necks, shanks and flaps, fish, eggs, bread, pasta, natural yoghurt, cottage cheese, and other forms of cheese are all recommended foods but always introduce new foods a little at a time. Do not feed onion. Do not feed sultanas, currants or grapes as these are also poisonous to dogs.

Can I give my puppy bones to chew?

Bones help to provide vital calcium for your puppy. They are also an excellent form of exercise to develop strong jaw musculature, massages the gums and contribute to good dental care. Ensure you only feed raw bones of medium size and with plenty of meat on the bones. I prefer soft bone or bones that contain cartilage. Examples of these types of off-cuts are lamb shanks, chicken carcasses, chicken necks, roo tails and shoulder blades. Puppies have a HUGE desire to chew when they are teething. We stock Wag dog treats which are wholesome and made of 100% dried meat on bone. Let me know if you would like some advice on the best choice of chew treats for your puppy. I have found the pigs ears and small bully sticks to be particularly effective.

How much should I feed my puppy?

Your puppy will initially need to be feed three times a day. The amount of food he/she eats will depend on the size, appetite and build of your puppy. I often get phone calls from concerned families worrying that their new puppy does not seem to be eating enough. As a rule, I have found that many of my labradoodle puppies are not big eaters but prefer to graze throughout the day rather than have huge amounts at one sitting. The number of feeds per day can be reduced to twice a day by around the age of 6 months.

A Sample Diet

- **Breakfast:**

Small handful of dry kibble (approx 1/4 cup) over half a cup of miced raw beef with balanced life or phuds.
Fresh water

- **Lunch:**

Some chicken necks or a raw bone. Quality training treats. We recommend Balanced Life treats, Ziwi Peak treats and Get Wags.

- **Dinner:**

Small handful of dry kibble (approx 1/4 cup) over half a cup of miced raw beef with balanced life or phuds.
Fresh water

Don't be too concerned if your puppy does not seem to eat very much. Let your puppy's appetite guide you. Weigh your puppy regularly and monitor the activity level of your puppy.



VACCINATIONS

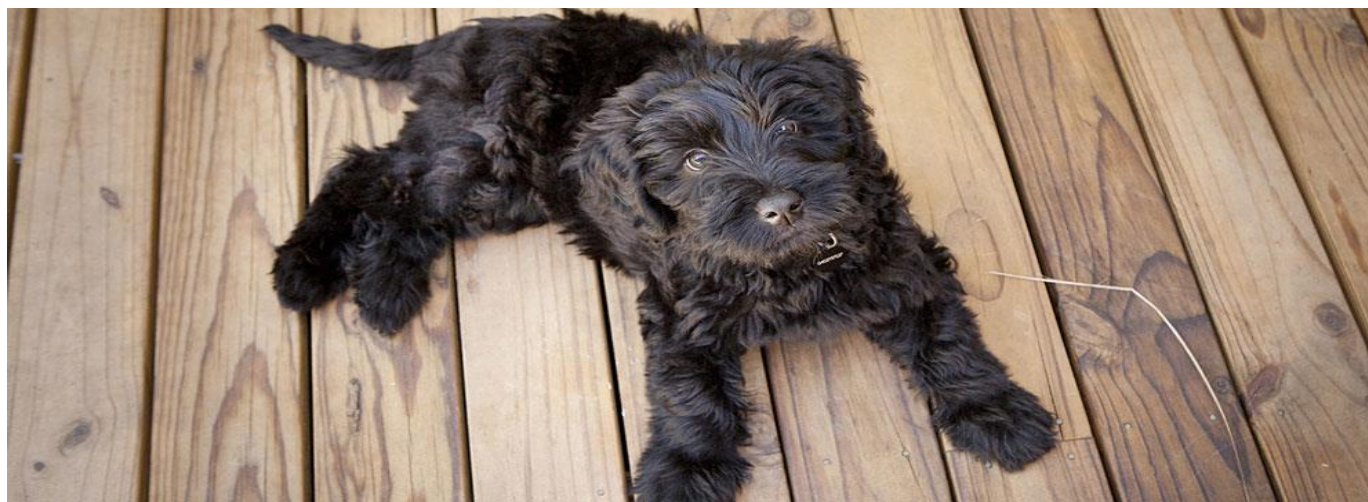
Vaccinations will be administered by our local Vet at 6 weeks of age. Your puppy will be vaccinated against Parainfluenza Virus, Canine Distemper, Canine Hepatitis Virus and Canine Parvovirus. Dogs that go into boarding kennels require an additional vaccination to protect them against kennel cough (C5). Additional vaccinations will be necessary for your puppy when he is 12 weeks old and also at 16 weeks of age then annually for life. Until your puppy has had his puppy vaccinations do not let him run around on the ground in public.



The Worming Schedule

Your puppy will be wormed at two, four and six weeks of age. Dogs need to be wormed every two weeks until 12 weeks of age then every month until 6 months of age then every three months for the rest of their lives. Your puppy will be due to be wormed again when you pick him up. Consult your vet for a product that protects against intestinal worms. There are many different products on the market. Also talk

to your vet about a suitable product for treating heartworm. It is not common for one tablet to treat all different types of worms, including heart worm. I am currently using Milbemax by Novartis Animal Health for our puppies. Once the puppies exceed 5 kilograms, I treat our dogs with "Popantel" rather than milbemax. Regular worming will help to keep your puppy healthy and reduce the risk of worms transferring to you and your family.



GROOMING BASICS

Brushing and Combing

Although it will be some time before your soft puppy's coat begins to matt and require clipping, it is important that Your puppy becomes used to the feeling of being groomed. This will become a regular part of his care. Brush your puppy regularly using a slicker brush over the entire coat. A slicker brush is used to remove the fine tangles that emerge close to the skin. Use the comb for particularly knotty areas of coat. Follow this with a fine tooth comb, paying particular attention to areas that develop friction knots. For example, the flank, the rump, the neck and behind the ears. After brushing, you may like to spray his coat with some water and conditioner mixed together. Scrunch the damp curls to take away the frizz. Routine grooming in this way will prevent matts and knots from developing and your puppy will become accustomed to the grooming process Somewhere between 8 and 12 months of age, your puppy's coat will change to its adult coat. At This time, extra brushing will be required to remove the moulting puppy coat.

Some of the Tools

These are some of the tools and accessories we use to maintain the labradoodle look



**Style It Slicker
Brush**



**Oster finishing
Comb**



**Wahl Italian
Scissors**



Clipping and Trimming

The photo above is a good example of the best method to achieve and maintain that cute teddy bear look. Your puppy will need to be trimmed around the face periodically. Trim slightly flat over the top and then softly angle towards the ears. There should be a natural curved flow between the eyes and ears. Snip a line from the corner of the eyes on an angle and also snip a line straight across the bridge of the nose. The fur on the muzzle should flow on either side like a waterfall. The chin is trimmed to a soft rounded arch like a smile. To have the typical "doodle look, you will need to clip the coat three or four times a year. Think about timing the clips in Autumn and Spring, Summer and Winter. You can keep the coat a little longer in the Winter and shorter in the Summer.

Bath Time



Labradoodles are prone to sensitive skin and dermatitis. Frequent bathing could strip the natural lanolin oils from your puppy's coat. I advise only bathing on a "need-to" basis or approximately once a month. I use an oatmeal shampoo called "Aloveen Dermcare" and the matching conditioner. This brand contains oatmeal which is gentle on the skin and coat and leaves your puppy smelling fresh.

A Common Cause: MOISTURE CAN CAUSES EAR INFECTION

Labradoodles have droopy ears and also have varying amounts of wool within the ear canal. These physical attributes result in a lack of airflow around the ear and trapped moisture within the ear canal. Signs that your labradoodle may be suffering from an ear infection include shaking of the head, scratching of the ears and a funky kind of smell.



Labradoodles are prone to ear infections.



A precaution is to keep the ears clean and dry.

Some Practical Steps:

- Take care when bathing your puppy to prevent water in the ears. Dry the ears thoroughly with a cotton ball. or the edge of a towel.
- Keep the hair around the ear shaved and pluck excess wool from within the ear with fingers or tweezers. Plucking prevents moisture becoming trapped in the ear and thus prevents infections. Go slowly and pluck a few hairs out at a time.
- Ear powders are on the market that can be used to dry the hair on the inside and make it easier to grip the wool. We stock a great product through our online store - "Elsie's Ear Powder."
- The use of Epi-Otic before and after swimming or getting wet may assist to irrigate the ear canal and keep ears nice and clean.
- Regularly check the ears for sign of infection and take your puppy to the vets for treatment if you suspect an ear infection.

PUPPY TRAINING

The Critical Period

The critical socialisation period in puppies is from 6 to 16 weeks.



The experiences your puppy has during this period, whether good or bad will have the greatest impact for life. Your puppy will have socialised with our dogs and will have had opportunities for supervised play with them. It is important that your puppy meet and learn to socialise with other dogs and be able to tolerate other dogs in his "space. It is also vitally important to socialise your puppy with children, older people, babies, males and females of all ages. Hats and umbrellas, bikes and motorbikes will all be new and unfamiliar.

Provide a Range of Stimulating Play

Your Puppy will need lots of opportunities for play and exploration. Labradoodles are very smart and need to be mentally stimulated to prevent boredom, misbehaviour and minimise destructive play. Have on hand a variety of interesting objects with which your puppy can learn, explore and amuse himself - balls; squeaky toys; soft plush toys; rubber chewing toys; lengths of rope and crinkly items like plastic milk bottles. Outdoor areas can be modified to provide blocks of wood to balance upon, sandpits to dig in, tunnels to negotiate and small ramps to climb. Our dogs love to splash in the blue clams filled with water.

The importance of ongoing training

Labradoodles, similar to their poodle and labrador ancestors are very intelligent and highly trainable. They thrive on stimulation. I strongly recommend obedience classes. Training teaches good behaviour. Your dog is made to feel like an important and valuable part of a relationship by obeying commands. Dogs gain fulfillment and reward by playing their part during training sessions. In return for your efforts with correct training, you will have a loyal, trustworthy and protective member of your family. It is highly advisable to enlist the help of puppy school or other form of dog training. Our daughter Bree has established a dog training business and may be able to assist with ongoing training. Her business is "Blue Ribbon Dog Training" and I have included a link to her website

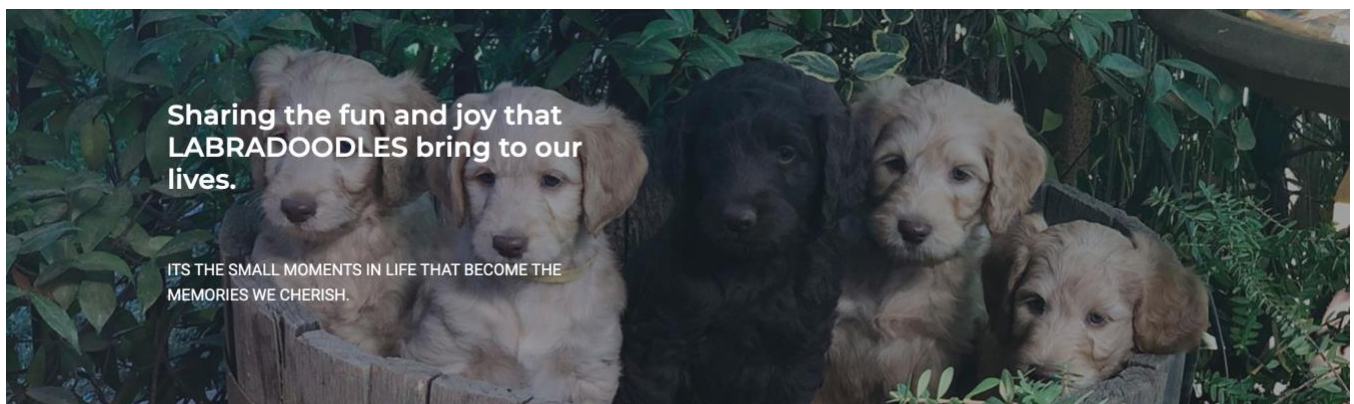
<https://www.blueribbondogtrainingaustralia.com>

AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL -

Enjoy your gorgeous labradoodle

****HAVE FUN****

This is what labradoodles do best



Sharing the fun and joy that
LABRADOODLES bring to our
lives.

ITS THE SMALL MOMENTS IN LIFE THAT BECOME THE
MEMORIES WE CHERISH.