

Puppy Development from 8 Weeks to 12 Weeks

Problem solving and Prevention

Prevention exercises and management are important to avoid the dog to learn undesirable behavior. Prevention of behavior problem is easier than treatment of behavior.

1. Schedule and Routine,

- a. Feed the puppy a specific times
- b. Walk the puppy on leash at least twice at day
- c. Train the puppy twice (5 to 10 mins) at day using positive reinforcement
- d. Provide a variety of toys and rotate to maintain novelty

2. Rules of the House,

Rules of the house help provide consistency and predictability

Biting and Mounting,

- a. It is a normal behavior of a growing puppy.
- b. Bite inhibition is learned from interaction with littermates
- c. Anticipate when the behavior is going to occur and provide appropriate outlets and management.
- d. Reward calm behavior. Behaviors that are reinforced will increase in frequency.

Chewing

- a. It is a normal exploratory behavior of puppies and adolescent dogs. Chewing may be associated with teething or recreational exploration of the world with their mouth.
- b. Interrupt the behavior by calling your puppy's name in upbeat tone or clap your hands.
- c. Offer an appropriate chew toy

Crate Training

Crate training will teach the puppy that he has a safe and secure area of his own in which to relax. Also it will keep the puppy safe when it can't be supervise.

- a. A crate is a valuable tool for house training an management
- b. Going in to the crate should be always fun.
- c. Never punish your dog by sending him to his crate
- d. Always give the puppy a treat for going to the crate
- e. Supply the puppy with appropriate toys when he is in the crate
- f. If the puppy is vocalizing while he is in the crate, wait until he is quite down before you let him out or give any attention.

Basic Training

1. Proper training is important for the dog's physical and emotional well being
2. Training should be fun for you and the dog
3. Use positive, and upbeat tone of voice when training

Sit

Down

Leave it

Drop it

Intro to loose leash walking

Socialization

1. Socialization is not about simple exposure, but making exposure fun and positive with liberal use of treats
2. The goal is for the dog to have appositve learning experiences with a variety of stimuli.
3. Avoid traumatic experience.
4. Don't wait for the puppy to show signs of fear before initiating treats

People

Meeting a variety of people should be in a fun manner

Puppies should meet as much people possible of different ages, sex, and ethnic backgrounds. Children in costumes, seniors with handicaps, people in uniforms etc.

Surface

Puppies should encounter grass, gravel, concrete, asphalt, sand mulch, dirt, metal, and wood.

Environments

Puppy should be expose to a multitude of environments. Take trips to difference places just for fun.

Sounds

- a. If the puppy is not exposed to sound when he is young, may become frightened or overwhelmed by everyday sounds. The sound of thunder or a bus passing by can be frightening if the puppy is not properly exposed.
- b. Commercially CD designed specially to expose puppies to this kind of sound are helpful.

