



PUPPY HEALTH & CARE TIPS

WORMING – Puppies should be wormed fortnightly from 2 weeks to 12 weeks of age with a oral liquid wormer. After 12 weeks, the pup will be big enough for tablet wormers and should be **wormed monthly until 6 months** and then **every 3 months** there after. For more detailed worming advice see our 'worms explained' handout.

FLEA TREATMENT – Dogs and cats share the same fleas and because of this it is important that all the animals in the house are treated with appropriate medication. We recommend that your pet is treated every 4-8 weeks with either Frontline combo or Advocate, these are proven to be **safe and effective** unlike many brands you may encounter in supermarkets/pet stores.

If your pet has fleas it is important to **tackle the whole flea problem** (furniture/upholstery) not just the adult fleas seen on your pet. Wash all bedding at 60°C, use flea spray on furnishings/carpet and hot wash floors.

NEUTERING – Unless you are planning to breed from your pet we advise that you have your pet neutered.

Male dogs

Can be neutered from 5 months of age. This is a non invasive procedure that requires an anaesthetic.

Advantages include;

- Reduces risk of testicular and anal tumours, as well as prostate disease.
- Reduces roaming (often results in road traffic accidents/fights) and helps reduce aggression.

Female dogs

Can be neutered from 6 months of age or after their first heat. This ensures that she will no longer be able to have pups and stops her coming into heat.

Advantages include;

- Will not come into heat again – no longer attractive to male dogs or wanting to stray
- Will not develop a life threatening womb infection which is common in dogs.
- If neutered before her first season greatly reduces the risk of mammary tumours.

MICROCHIPPING – The microchip carries a number unique to your pet. This number is registered to a microchip company that stores your details. The chip is injected under the skin during a normal consult, where it will stay permanently and provide identification to anyone who scans your pet.



The law has changed so from January 2012 all dogs must be microchipped. We are offering **FREE MICROCHIPPING** for **EVERYBODY**, sponsored by the dogs trust up until **31st March 2012**

HOUSE TRAINING



Choose an area, ideally grassed, close to the house for toileting.

Learn to predict when your puppy needs to go by watching his behaviour, for most puppies toileting usually occurs;

- As soon as they awaken from ANY naptime
- 10 – 15mins into any boisterous activity/playfulness
- 10-15mins after eating or drinking
- Remember, puppies bladders like themselves are small and their guts work much faster so will require toileting every couple of hours during the daytime whilst very young.

When you expect them to go take them to the area and **wait 5 mins** with them there, do not interact with them just let them wander and watch, if they do not toilet within 5 mins, return inside for a few minutes, **then try again**. When they do go, give lots off praise but **most importantly bring them straight back into the house**, this way they relate the action of going outside with toileting.

Accidents within the house should be ignored and cleaned discreetly using a deodoriser for removing urine scent if the scent is still present the pup will try to toilet in that place again. **NEVER PUNISH FOR ACCIDENTS THIS ENCOURAGES PUP TO TOILET WHEN YOUR NOT LOOKING AND IN HIDDEN PLACES!**

Good luck! ☺

Newry Veterinary Centre