

Puppy Socialising



The first 16 weeks is the critical socialisation period of a dog's life. This is the window of time in your puppy's life that helps determine who they will become as adult dogs. So try to socialize them to as many of the items below as possible. Always exercise caution in socialising both for your dog and for anyone else involved.

People

Males & Females

Ages - babies, toddlers, kids, teenagers, adults, elderly.

All different sizes

As many ethnicities as possible

All different personalities

Dressed in a variety of attire - hats, glasses, coats, costumes, sunglasses.

Crowds

Joggers

People sounds - talking loudly, laughing, crying, shouting, arguing, playing, shuffling, singing.

Noises

Vacuum Cleaner

Sirens

Lawn Mower

Fireworks

Microwave

Car horns

Fan

Thunderstorms

Slamming Doors

Busy Traffic

Washing Machine

Radio & TV

Dishwasher

Motorbikes

Garbage Truck

Trucks

Courier deliveries

Hair Dryer

Door bells

Door knocking

Objects

Dog toys

Kids toys

Umbrellas

Balloons

Sticks

Basket Balls

Skate Boards

Bicycles

Rollerblades

Cars

Trucks

Trolleys

Trains

Parties

Musical Instruments

Barking dogs

Wheelchairs

Walking Frames

Flowers

Crutches, Canes, Walking

Furniture

Sprinklers

Mirrors

Garage doors

Plastic bags

Shopping carts

Brooms

Flags

Animals

Dogs - smaller dogs, bigger dogs, other puppies, males, females, shaggy dogs, smooth dogs

Cats & Kittens

Sheep

Birds

Chickens & Ducks

Horses

Rabbits

Cows

Environment

Vets

Bridges and foot bridges

Houses

Parks

Shops where dogs are permitted

Schools

Pet shop

Playgrounds

Beaches

Car Rides

Stairs

Elevators

Railway Crossings

Swimming Pools

Coffee Shop

Your workplace

Sports field where people are training

Different surfaces - tile, wood, grass, concrete, sand, carpet, gravel, puddles, mud

Different heights - walking on raised surfaces, going into tunnels

Alone

It's really important that puppies learn how to cope on their own where you aren't around. Set up scenarios where your puppy is apart from you or other family pets and gradually increase the length of time. For example leave your puppy in the back yard for 15 minutes, whereas the next day try to leave your puppy in the backyard for 20 minutes instead. Build upon this exercise by changing the duration and the location regularly.

Toys

Squeaky

Rubber

Fabric

Plastic

Eating Bowls

Plastic

Metal

Ceramic

Experiences

Being touched - held, touching paws, muzzle, ears, tail, rear legs

Being tied up

Being brushed

Checking between paws

Toenails clipping

Bathtime

Clean their ears

Walking

Teeth checking & brushing

Cleaning their eyes

Being towed off

Daycare

Wearing a collar

Being bandaged

Boats & watercraft

Agility equipment



Have fun and be creative!