

YOUR PUPPY'S PREPARATION, NUTRITIONAL & SOCIALIZATION GUIDELINES

PUPPY PREPARATION:

Accepting any new puppy into your home is a long-term commitment and one that we believe is not to be taken lightly. Your puppy requires the proper diet, exercise, socialization and, of course, love and attention. Your cute, cuddly puppy will quickly grow into a 90 lb.+ dog. How much time and effort you are willing to commit to your puppy will undoubtedly be reflected in your adult dog's personality, temperament, over-all health and appearance.

Your puppy will put everything it can into its mouth, so an area will need to be prepared where puppy can be safely housed while you're not at home. Things you might want to purchase before you bring home your baby are as follows:

- Crate that will accommodate a 90 lb.+ sized dog, one preferably with an adjustable divider so it can be moved to fit your growing puppy.
- 6 ft. leash or a retractable leash which is a great tool for training the "come" command
- collar
- dog bed
- dog dishes
- grooming brush ("rake" style brush recommended) and dog nail clippers (Vet will do them otherwise)
- safe dog toys (squeaky stuffed animals, hard rubber balls etc.)
- roasted meaty bones with marrow that removes built-up tartar from teeth
- Quality books on training will prepare you and the family to agree on training, rules and boundaries which is important for consistency and will greatly help your puppy understand what is and isn't acceptable behaviour (ie: Is it okay to be on the couch? the bed? Etc.)

CHOOSING YOUR PUPPY:

A thorough LER (litter evaluation test) will be completed between 7-8 weeks of age. A qualified breeder is brought in to help us complete the test in an unbiased manner. The purpose of the evaluation is to give us clues to the temperament, as well as drives of the puppy. This information is helpful when matching puppies with owners. Everyone is welcome to attend this Litter Evaluation.

Puppy choice is based on the order the deposits were received, the information we received on your application, and the results of the Litter Evaluation. It is important to match the right

puppy to the right family and we reserve the right to deny placement of a puppy due to information received from the evaluation that we feel will create a poor match. If it is possible we try to allow you as much freedom in your choice as possible and will provide advice and recommendation when choosing. We want everyone, including our puppies, to be happy.

PUPPY AT HOME:

Expect your puppy to be a bit sad and out of sorts his/her first day or so, remember this is new to them and they are missing mom and siblings. They may not eat well for the first couple of days, but will resume their normal eating patterns quickly. Your puppy will need to be taken out frequently and at least once in the night for a few weeks. We highly recommend crate training for housebreaking and would recommend online information or good training books to help you and your puppy. With correction and careful attention to avoid letting your puppy have accidents in the house, your house training will be easy. Your Shiloh is very intelligent.. Between 10 - 12 weeks your puppy should be able to sleep through the night.

We provide our puppy buyers with support throughout the life of your dog, and consider you part of our "Shamrock Family" and are always available for any questions, concerns or problems that may arise with your puppy. If we don't have an answer, we will find one from our network of experienced Shiloh Shepherd breeders and trainers. We ask for updates and photos so we know how your puppy is progressing. Please keep us informed of any accomplishments and titles your dog may receive in the show ring, obedience trials, herding or agility and/or CGC or therapy certificates. We are proud of our puppies and do not lose our interest in them just because they have left our home.



NUTRITION:

Your puppy's nutrition will have a direct link to his/her continued growth and health, and we ask that you continue feeding the high quality food that your puppy receives in his/her first 8 weeks.

We provide a sample of the puppy food for each puppy going to a new home. If you wish to change him/her to another naturally preserved kibble or to one listed below, it should be done gradually over a week or so, by adding the new food in with the sample food increasing the amount given each day. If NOT done gradually, the puppy will probably have diarrhea. Give puppy dry food for chewing and teething. The following are foods approved by Shamrock Shilohs:

- Nutro Ultra or Nutro Natural Recipe
- Royal Canin German Shepherd
- Docks
- Eukanuba Large Breed Puppy Food
- Innova Puppy Food
- Wellness
- Natures Recipe

Adding a heaping tablespoon of natural yogurt and/or Cottage Cheese, mixed each day with their food, will give calcium supplement. Make sure your dog gets glucosamine/chondroitin/msm supplement daily in his/her food throughout the first two years (min. 1000 mg daily).

Feed your puppy no less than 3 times a day until he/she reaches 9 months of age, then no less than 2 times a day for his/her life. Feed them as much as they want, at least for the first year. When they are full, they are full! Then he/she will stop eating!!

Veggies (NO onions), fruits (carrots, apples) are also great chew toys!

Do not give your puppy any kind of grease (especially bacon), raw egg whites, beverages other than fresh water, (see note below), pork, small cut beef bones or any cooked bones such as chicken, turkey, steak or pork, (cooking is what makes bones brittle and can choke and cause other serious damage to your puppy), chocolate, sugary or starchy foods. The wrong types of FAT (vegetable oil, pork, etc) are very detrimental to our dogs and can lead to heart, circulatory problems.

Water: The most important part of your puppy's environment. **Note: Dogs cannot handle fluoride.**

Provide them with a supply of fresh water at all times (free from fluoride). This is important for your puppy maturing and having a long life span that is free of kidney and liver disease.

SOCIALIZATION:

Your Puppy will be 7 to 8 weeks of age when you receive him/her. **First, the puppy must be taken to the Vet**, checked and given his/her second vaccination shot. **DO NOT socialize your puppy until you have done this. Your puppy may come in contact with Parvo or some other parasite and become seriously ill.** Wait until the puppy gets accustomed to your family and lifestyle (2-3 weeks) before socializing him/her further.

At this time encourage visitors, especially children to be a part of your socializing program. Your puppy will be ready for kindergarten or obedience classes. Take your puppy on frequent outings where he/she will be exposed to other people, animals, and situations. Failure to socialize your puppy properly may cause shyness, insecurity or damage his/her ability to socialize properly with people as well as other animals.

As your puppy gets older, continue its socialization through shows, obedience classes, outings to the park, walks. Take your puppy with your family for rides in the car. Also educate yourself regarding the various aspects involved in your puppy's inherited behaviour traits, so that you can help him/her to attain his/her full potential. For your consideration, our dog club, the International Shiloh Shepherd Dog Club (ISSDC) provides you with tons of Shiloh information, news, stories, show information, and upcoming events.

Your puppy is a genuine part of your family!!! ENJOY!!!!!!