



Socialization Safety Guidelines



Work closely with your veterinarian and keep your puppy current on his vaccinations.



Wait a minimum of 7 days after your puppy's first set of vaccinations before you begin a puppy class or visit a new place.



Pick a puppy class provider that:
A) uses disinfectant to clean waste, and
B) requires proof of vaccination.



Until your puppy is fully vaccinated, avoid areas where dogs of unknown health and vaccination status go to the bathroom.



Only let your puppy interact with other puppies or adult dogs known to be healthy, friendly, and current on vaccinations.



Stay away from dog parks until your puppy is fully vaccinated and at least 6 months old.



Always keep an eye on your puppy and be ready to remove him from situations that overwhelm him.



If your puppy shows signs of communicable illness (e.g. coughing, mucus, or diarrhea), contact your veterinarian and keep your puppy away from other dogs.

Services Offered

FAMILY DOG TRAINING PROGRAM

A unique 6-week private training plan involving the whole family. Family life can be crazy. This training will provide you with all the tools and support to make your dream family dog a reality.

Private Training

From Puppy Preparation to Basic Obedience, one-on-one training in your home, at your convenience. Walk N Train and Board N Train also available.

Behaviour Modification

Canine behaviour can range from the annoying and baffling to heartbreaking. Tailored behaviour modification plans addressing the common behaviour problems such as jumping, barking, house training to more challenging behaviours such as fear, separation anxiety and reactivity.

Contact Us

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Raising Puppy Right.



Hanging Hounds

PRIVATE DOG TRAINING
& CANINE MASSAGE



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What Is Socialization?

Socialization is the process through which your puppy becomes comfortable with his environment.

Up until 3-4 months of age, your puppy's brain is open to everything he comes across, the so called critical socialization window. After that, he's genetically pre-programmed to become wary of new things, making it much harder to shape him into an easygoing, friendly adult dog.

That's why early socialization is so important

Early socialization is like a behavioral vaccination for your puppy. When successfully carried out it significantly decreases the chances of your puppy developing fear or aggression.

But is it safe?

Better vaccinations have dramatically reduced the risk of your puppy contracting a disease from another puppy. We don't recommend taking him to the dog park before he's fully vaccinated, but it's much safer than it used to be for your puppy to play with healthy, partially-vaccinated puppies.

In fact, the risk of a dog being relinquished to a shelter or even euthanized because of a behavior problem is far greater than the risk of him contracting a serious disease from another puppy.

Socialization Dos

- DO** Focus on the essentials. Take your puppy to a variety of places to experience new people, dogs, and situations he's likely to encounter in his life with you.
- DO** Go at your puppy's pace. Work with a dog trainer to learn what's right for your puppy.
- DO** Socialize your puppy individually. Puppies that go everywhere with older, wiser canine housemates don't develop the ability to handle things well on their own.
- DO** Learn to read your puppy. Practice reading your puppy's body language, especially signs of stress. It's easier than you think and will help you a great deal.
- DO** Use every opportunity. Always bring treats and a toy with you so you can create positive associations with new experiences by linking them with food or play.
- DO** Be safe and sensible. Give your puppy the best possible learning experiences while protecting him from harm. Read and follow our Socialization Safety Guidelines.

Socialization Don'ts

- DON'T** Get careless. Stay away from places that could damage your puppy's health or behavior like the dog park or areas frequented by unfamiliar dogs until he is prepared to handle them.
- DON'T** Befriend every dog you meet. Not all dogs are friendly or healthy.
- DON'T** Force the issue. Never force your puppy to face something that scares him or makes him react aggressively. Remove him from the situation and build his confidence slowly.
- DON'T** Transfer stress. Acting nervous when your puppy is having a fearful reaction may increase his fear. Remain calm and make him feel better by engaging him in play or by offering him some of his favorite treats.
- DON'T** Be a homebody. During the crucial socialization time, don't limit your puppy's experiences to his everyday routine at home with you. The greater variety of positive experiences he has, the better his chances of growing up calm and well adjusted.

Visit our website for more information.