



# Villanova Veterinary Hospital

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## New Puppy Info Sheet

### Vaccines & Similar:

- ★ Distemper at 8, 12, and 16 weeks
- ★ Bordetella, around 12 weeks
- ★ Rabies between 12-16 weeks (per state law)
- ★ Lyme, Leptospirosis, and Influenza are all a series of 2 vaccines 3-4 weeks apart. These are considered “lifestyle vaccines” and usually started after distemper series is completed.
- ★ 2 negative parasite (fecal) tests
- ★ 2-3 dewormings during initial puppy vaccine appointments
- ★ Microchipping is always recommended

### Food:

- ★ Puppies should be fed puppy food until 9-12 months, then switched to adult food (mixed together over 3-5 days to prevent intestinal upset). We **do not** recommend raw food diets especially in homes with children or persons with compromised immune systems.

### Training/Socializing:

- ★ Puppy training classes are important for learning basic behaviors and socialization. There are many options in the area, ask us for a recommendation!
- ★ For house training, we recommend crate training at night and keeping the puppy next to you, on a leash if necessary, when not crated. If the puppy urinates in an inappropriate location and you don't see it happen, you've missed that opportunity to correct by immediately taking him/her outside. Yelling or rubbing their nose in it will scare dogs, potentially creating behavioral issues.
- ★ Socialize puppies with dogs you know are healthy and vaccinated. Take them shopping with you to meet people (we have a list of businesses that allow dogs inside, just ask!)
- ★ Aggressive behavior such as resource guarding, growling, snapping, and/or biting (when not playing) in young puppies should be addressed immediately.
- ★ Play with your puppy's feet, ears, and mouth to desensitize the areas.

### Spaying/Neutering:

- ★ Neutering is generally done between 6-12 months of age.

### Prevention Medications:

- ★ All puppies should be on year-round flea & tick and heartworm prevention medications.