

Puppy Start Right Socialization Checklist



Behaviour problems are the leading cause of death in dogs under three years of age. You can think of your puppy socialization programme an immunization programme against future behaviour problems. All experiences must be happy and positive for the puppy.

As an *absolute minimum*, give your puppy exposure to AT LEAST one new thing each day and AT LEAST one item in each group each week.

Weeks of age	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Weeks of age	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Surfaces									Places, cont									
- Wooden floor									- Grooming salon									
- Carpet									- Pet store									
- Asphalt (beware: Too									- Dog show/event									
- Grass									- Camping									
- Wet Grass									- Outdoor café									
- Mud									- Other Places									
- Shallow Puddles									People (not family)									
- Deep Puddles									- Children									
- Uneven Surfaces									- Teenager (m/f)									
- On a Table									- Men									
- On a Chair									- Women									
- Other Surfaces									- Using wheelchair/cane									
Toys									- Jogging/running									
- Large Ball									- Dancing/hugging									
- Little Ball									- Wearing Hats									
- Soft Toys									- Wearing Beards									
- Harder Toys									- Wearing Sun Glasses									
- Noisy Toys									- Unusual Dress									
- Wooden Toys									- Smoking									
- Metal Items									Sounds									
- Keys									- Loud music									
- Other Toys									- Doors open & close									
Places									- Children playing									
- Home Yard									- Babies crying									
- School Yard									- Cars									
- Lake/sea									- Trucks									
- River									- Clapping									
- Boat									- Loud Singing									
- Basement									- Washing Machine									
- Attic									- Dropped Metal Pan									
- Vet's Office									- Neighing Horses									
- Car									- Vacuum Cleaner									
- Garage									- Doorbell/knocking									
- Other people's houses									- Other Sounds									

Weeks of age	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Fast Moving Objects									Food Bowls								
- Skateboards									- Wobbly Bowl								
- Roller Blades									- Plastic Bowl								
- Bicycles									- Metal Bowl								
- Runners									- Cup								
- Dirt Bikes									- Saucer								
- Running Children									- Eat from a spoon								
- Cars & trucks									- Activation toy								
- Other Objects									- Other Food Bowls								
Challenges									Eat Out								
- Climb in/out of a box									- Puppy Pen								
- Go through small tunnel									- Kitchen								
- Climb over obstacle									- Garage								
- Up & down small steps									- Car								
- Play Find-Me!									- Basement								
- Exposed to Large Ball									- A Different Home								
- Umbrella opens/closes									- Elevated								
- Walk on Wobbly Board									- Under Umbrella								
- Jump over a broom									- Other Eat Out places								
- Walk on moving panel									Dogs								
- Other challenges									- Dogs with cropped ears								
Care & Handling									- Dogs with docked tails								
- Carried under arm									- Puppies								
- Carried against chest									- Smaller dogs								
- Held close to floor									- Larger dogs								
- Examine Ears									- Fluffy dogs								
- Examine Nose & Mouth									- Black dogs								
- Examine Between Toes									- Intact females								
- Cut toe nails									- Intact males								
- Brushing & Combing									Other Animals								
- Towel wipe body/paws									- Cats								
- Brushing teeth									- Birds								
- Have temperature taken									- Livestock								
- Bathing									- Horses								
Environments									- Ferrets, chinchillas, rats								
- Thunderstorms									- Rabbits, guinea pigs								
- Fireworks									Weather								
- Kids laughing/screaming									- Rain								
- Vacuum/hair dryer									- Snow								
- Dremel/drill									- Sleet/Hail								
- Motorcycle									- Thunder & Lightning								
Harness, Collar & Leash									- Muddy yard								
- Worn in the house									- Windy								
- Worn on walks									Home Alone								
- Worn in class									- Alone more than 5 mins								

