

PUPPY MUST HAVES

30" or 36" crate
Purina ProPlan Sensitive skin and stomach puppy- Salmon & Rice formula
Chews
Leash, Collar, Tag & Microchip
Bowls
Food Storage Bin
Toys
Litter Pan
Lots of Love 😊

The Reasons

MUST HAVES

30in Wire Crate – I prefer Midwest LifeStages. Their 30" iCrate is much shorter. This crate is big enough to house the dog for its entire life and comes with a removable wall that enables you to enlarge the crate as the puppy grows so that your puppy will see it as a den and not potty in it while house training. We like the wire as it is easy to store and take with you, when traveling, and allows for better ventilation in hot summer months.



36" Exercise Pen- Ex pens are great for house training and temporarily sectioning off parts of your house to confine your puppy. They limit the puppy's access to your house when you are unable to keep an eye them 100% of the time which reduces accidents and speeds up house training.



Puppy food

These puppies have been raised on Kirkland's Natures Domain Sweet potato and Salmon. This variety has added probiotics that maintain healthy gut microboime which can effect your dog's physical and mental well being. I also recommend Pro-Plan Sensitive Skin and Stomach Salmon however It became difficult for me to reliably find.



Note: There are many online companies that will home deliver for less than you can get it at Petsmart or Petco and they often do free shipping. When the puppy is 6-8 month he/she will be eating about a large bag a month before that it is easier to just go and pick it up but after that the home delivery is nice.

Things to Chew on - If you don't know what it was when it was alive don't feed it to your dog when it's dead! Over the years there have been a lot of bad things pop up on the market, from poor quality ingredients to items being marketed that are deadly to dogs. Because of this we recommend you only buy treats manufactured here in the USA. Processed chews are BAD for your DOG!



-DO NOT FEED - Greenies, Nylabones or Rawhide - All have been known to cause blockages in the intestines.

[Some Recommended Chewing Items:](#)

Long Lasting - Cow hooves, large knuckle bones, horns, antler (splits - the ones that have been cut to expose the middle),



A few minutes to a few hours - Pig ears, bully sticks, lamb ears.



Treats



For training we mostly use cheap Bar S hot dogs, they are human grade cheap and the dogs love them. Charlie Bears found at Trader Joes are small light colored training treats. Many dogs also love fruit and veggies and shrimp tails just Google if it is poisonous to dogs first but many are ok and very healthy.





Leash - We typically recommend you buy a nice 6ft leash for training. Yes they are a bit pricier but a good quality leash is worth it. Do not let your puppy chew on this or any leash.

Collars - the good the bad and the ugly...

Flat Collars - lots of colors and styles but they will break the coat and can cause matting so make sure you take them off to brush underneath. This is what we train all puppies under 4 months old in but they are a poor choice to train an adult in.

Rolled leather - less likely to break the coat but cheap ones can bleed color into the dogs white collar if it gets wet.

Choke Chain-least likely to break the hair and cause matting but if caught on something might not break away. This is what we train all of our dogs in after 4months of age. These should never be left on your dog while unattended.

Tag - Even with the invention of microchips we still recommend a good old fashioned tag.

Microchip – Microchipping your puppy is highly recommended. If the dog ever gets lost or stolen it is your best opportunity to get them back. Advise your vet when you take your puppy for his second vaccination to have your puppy microchipped.

Food Bowls and Water Buckets

We recommend stainless steel because the plastic pet dishes hold bacteria and can cause a nose fungus and the glass can break easily.

Food Bin

Notoriously dog food bags rip and get all over or if kept in a garage can encourage rodents so we always recommend a food bin. We like the ones with flip lids as opposed to screw on. These can be picked up at Walmart, Target or ordered on Amazon and are relatively in expensive.

Litter Tray

All of my puppies have been raised using a litter tray with Pine Pellets bedding to potty in. I buy either a washing machine pan or a rabbit droppings pan. There are several sizes available. The litter tray is offers the puppy an appropriate place to potty during house breaking. You can also place a tray or scatted the pine pellets in the area outside that you have designated and your puppy's potty spot. He will be familiar with the scent of the pellets and associate this with going potty.



Optional Items List

Crate Games Video

The Reasons

Crate Games Video - I waivered between putting this on the must have list but you can really YouTube a lot of the information that is in it. This video is filled with good games to do during that time before your puppy is fully vaccinated and stuck at home. It also teaches a dog to be calm and that a crate is his/her own personal space (which we all need sometimes). I know many people are opposed to crate training especially when the puppy doesn't like it at first but after 25+ years training I can tell you that having it as a skill just incase is a very good idea and that your window to train a dog to like and behave well in a crate decreases after puppyhood.

