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Effective Leadership Puppy Raising Club Structure – Leadership Structure, Club Requirements, Meeting Attendance, Club Decision Puppy Raising Club Fundraising Safe and Ethical Environment – Youth Safety, Confidentiality, Incident Reporting, Visits to Volunteer Homes, Puppy Reviews, Reasons for Puppy Removal, Reporting cfrs, Humane Treatment, Other Dogs or Animals in Domestic GDB Harassment PolicyChild Abuse Reporting Laws GDB States ABC Living with Dogs is a manual of care and resource training for people who have dogs. The guide compilations most best friends resources in a single publication. You can download and view the manual in PDF format to learn about getting started with a new dog, basic training, health and care, socialization and enrichment, puppy care and training, coping with behavioral problems, recommended resources and much more. To view the content and browse your way through the manual, click on the bookmark symbol on the left in pdf. Download the entire document (PDF 9.8 MB) Dan Baker / Manual Congratulations! If you are reading this, you probably have or are still a puppy. Owning a dog can significantly improve the quality of your life, help you lose weight, increase overall happiness, and keep you safer. However, getting a puppy is not all sun and, well, puppies. Like a newborn, a puppy is a small, unconscious shit and pee machine. They need your help to become a happy, safe, sweetest boy or girl. If you had a dog growing up, forget everything. Getting a puppy as an adult will be more difficult, costly, and yet also more rewarding than you remember. We're here to help you navigate the first few months of this wild journey. Prepare, bring. The research goal is to give the dog forever-home. The best way to do this is to be strategic. Look honestly at your lifestyle; what dog breed is the match? Do you run and hike tons or prefer indoor workouts and couch time? Are you ready for a high-energy dog? One with specific health problems? Do your research, take quizzes online, and play matchmaker before taking or visiting breeders. (The TSA also wants you to adopt unwanted bomb-sniffing puppies and it's adorable.) Chris DeGraw / Manual Get ready to spend money Dogs are not cheap. Adoption fees, vaccines, food, starter supplies, toys x 1000, and a once-in-a-while case giardia and a \$600 bill from a veterinarian. Dogs are a big expense, so if you are not in a place where you want to donate funds to a puppy, consider a goldfish ... or plant. Set up the bathroom (before admission) When you bring a small puppy home, you want to devote space to making them feel safe, comfortable and cozy. A good place to do this is the bathroom. It's close to your bedroom and you're allowed to get dirty. Grab these items and set up the bathroom the day before admission: Adjustable bathroom gate Comfortable bed - not too big Extra towels and towels (there will be vomit, pee, and cheeks) Urine pads Cuddle stuffed animal Radio Shampoo napkins and real puppy shampoo Urine spray Small water and food bowls Pumpkin puree for irritated stomachs. Not pie filling, but unsweetened in the grocery baking aisle Cheap collar and leash growing out of bringing home a puppy can feel like a newborn baby. You do not want to leave the house or bring a puppy to a busy store. TatyanaGl/Getty Images When you finally need to leave, keep your puppy in the bathroom (a.k.a. his safe room) with a pair of pee pads on the opposite side of the bed, water and radio turned on. Background noise will make your puppy feel less alone and less inclined to whining, bark, or move the corner of the wall. The radio also helps in putting the puppy in the bathroom at night, soothing them so you sleep *a little more* healthy. Life revolves around Potty Breaks The first few weeks with a puppy's revolving potty door breaks. Set your puppy up for success by being out every 30 minutes... Your goal is to take them before they have an accident. Yes, it feels like a lot and is difficult when you are tired at night, but the more you can teach a puppy to relieve it outside, the easier potty training will go. Dan Baker / Manual When your puppy is out and going to the bathroom, say 'go potty' and cheer them on. Soon - realistically, a couple of months - you should be able to say 'go potty' and your dog will know what to do. Do not scream or ins discipline if they have an accident. Seriously, it's your fault you didn't pull them out. Set the potty pads in your room, and if they start urinating inside, place them on the mat and cheer them on. In the morning, expect a mess of urine and poop. Consider it an initiation. And remember, they're very small and they can't help themselves. Every 30 minutes it becomes an hour, an hour and a half, two hours and more. Puppies develop bladder control after about 6 months. Pick up water bowls To allow your puppy access to fresh water throughout the day. Refresh the water and keep the bowl clean, but remove the water (i.e. 7 pp.m. in the evening). Your puppy will be fine and have less clutter in the morning. Remember: Your puppy is very young patience. Getting a puppy and owning a dog requires a world of patience. Remember that if your puppy is not sitting, shaking, and rolling in the first week (which will never happen), it is because they are very young. Even after your puppy is 8-12 months, be patient. Dan Baker/Manual Sign up for Real Training Real, one-on-one training with a dog behaviorist and professional training is essential. Spend the extra money. Real training gives your puppy the tools it needs to be safe and happy for the rest of your life. And no, you're not an expert, and your instincts are probably wrong. Research and Top-rated behaviorist trainer do one-on-one training with you and your dog. This type of training is not much more expensive than the chain pet store class and will ballpark around \$500. Once you start training, you realize that 90% of dog training is human training. Again, set the puppy to succeed as an adult dog by training. It'll keep you safe. Learn your guides There are so many, so many types of guides. Once again, you're not an expert. With a trainer will help you determine the right guide for your puppy. Whether you are prone to throwing, distracting, or chipping, you will want a specific clue. Your trainer will also teach you how to use the guide correctly. Nathan Anderson/Unsplash Either way, you'll need a collar to keep their AKC microchip ID, name and number if they get lost, and rabies tags. You will also need a leash or two. We recommend the United By Blue wofe (\$16) and woed dog leash (\$28). They also make amazing folding dog bowls. Keep one in your car and one in your daily work bag. Did I mention Patience? To repeat, be patient with your puppy. They want to learn and be the sweetest boy and girl. Reward good behavior, good bad behavior (the moment it happens), and remember that this is literally the hardest and most important time in the development of your dog. But you're going to get through this. Clean your ears and brush your teeth Learn your little puppy that it is ok to have people touching the ears, teeth, nose, stomach and paws. Normalize contact for a calmer experience at the vet, with children, and interact with strangers. Print the introduction list Show your puppy the world. Keep an eye out for things that scare your puppy too much (which we don't want), introduce them slowly to tons of people, places, sounds, weather types and experiences. Print out a 'list of things to introduce your puppy' – easy to find online – and check off each item. If your six-month-old puppy is freaking out while on a walk, try noticing the 'new' thing you see. It can be a balloon, a person with crutches, the roar of a motorcycle etc. Alona Rijavecva / Getty Images Fanny Pack Life Whether you believe in fanny packing as a fashion statement, this accessory is a must for a walking puppy. Rushing out to the toilet or exercising, the devoted dog fanny packs with poo bags, treats, and all other needs mean that you can reward your puppy for good behavior while always picking up his shit. Don't be the guy who leaves dog poop on the street. Keep your dog's fanny column at the door at the leash. You don't have to let everyone say Hi You're a guy with a puppy, people want to say hello. They'll sing, scream, freak out to say hello to their cute dog, but it's your decision to let them. You never have to say yes. If you are in training or if your dog is ill, politely say no and between the person and your dog. A lot of people don't understand or offend, but he's your dog. The dog is not a cute accessory. He or she is a life companion that you are setting for success. Dan Baker / Manual You will be shocked by how many people are trying to secretly cuddle a puppy around or scream to play with them. A simple way to discourage people is by saying, 'They have worms/diarrhea.' No one wants to touch it. Or if you're allowing your puppy to sit back and stay ahead of the reward with the game. The rest is learn-as-you-go. If you've come this far, we're sure you'll be the best dog dad ever. Editors' Recommendations Guide Dogs of America aims to enrich and inspire the lives of our clients and help them live without borders. Training philosophy Our dogs are trained with a balanced reinforcement combination that promotes an optimal relationship with their human partners. Training methodology In the early stages of training, our dogs are patterned for different reactions. We use positive reinforcement to shape the desired behavior. Our guide dog companions are trained to work with their human partners as a team: They travel safely and confidently from one destination to another; Stop at changes in height; and avoid obstacles in their path. As training progresses, we allow our dogs to learn through self-exploration and self-discovery. This builds motivation and confidence for good decision making. As all guide dogs will have to make decisions and decisions based on the environment around them, we highlight and support good decisions and discourage bad or inappropriate ones. About our Guide Dogs of America qualified instructors meet or exceed the standards set by the International Federation of Guide Dogs. Before qualifying as a guide dog mobility instructor, our trainers will complete three years of apprenticeships and undergo a rigorous evaluation and testing process at GDA. We also require them to complete annual further education courses in blindness, mobility or dog care and training. Dogs.