



Breeder
or early care-giver



THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs



DogsTrust

www.thepuppyplan.com



The Puppy Plan



Introduction

Dogs Trust and the Kennel Club have come together, with trainer/behaviourist Carolyn Menteith, to launch a unique new initiative that aims to give every puppy the very best start in life – the Puppy Plan

From the moment a litter of puppies is planned, both the breeder, and then later the new owners, want to do everything possible to make sure that each new life has the chance to grow up to be the very best dog he or she can be. With health testing and responsible breeding, we can do as much as possible to make sure puppies are healthy and 'fit for function' but for the vast majority of dogs, no matter what their start in life, their function will not be as a working dog in the way their ancestors were, but will be that of a much-loved family dog, and we should be doing everything we can to prepare all dogs for that life.

Being a family dog is one of the most difficult jobs we ask dogs to do. We expect our dog to fit into the family – and that might include children, other dogs, cats and much more. He will have to accept loud noises and the unpredictable sounds of his new home, he will have to learn to be left alone when we can't take him out with us, but come everywhere with us when he can, and he needs to learn not to herd the children, chase the cat, knock over granny, steal the Sunday dinner, or threaten the postman (or anyone else).

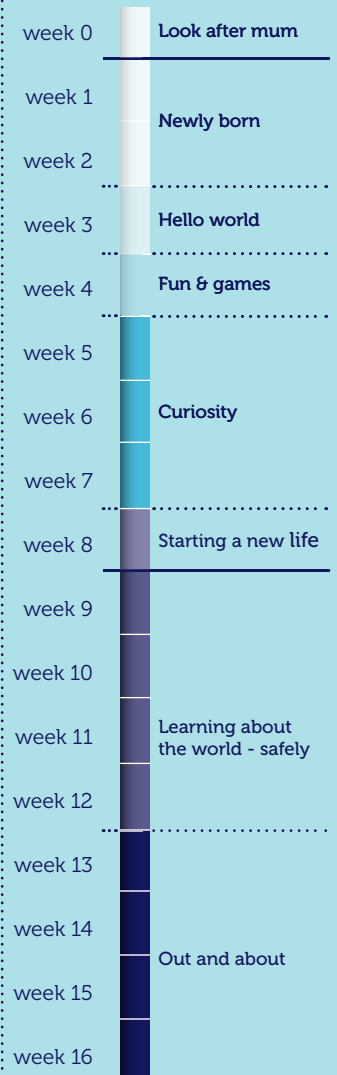
The foundations for all this good behaviour are laid down in the first 16 weeks of a dog's life.

This is an almost magical time when we are able to develop the puppy's brain, and shape the way he will turn out as an adult dog. This is the time when most problem behaviours can be prevented long before they even start, giving the dog a far more certain future – and the new owner far less potential problems.

The Puppy Plan is a step-by-step, simple but comprehensive, socialisation plan that starts with the breeder (or the early care-giver, if different) who works through the first eight weeks (and, we hope, records it every step of the way using diary entries, photos and/or videos), and this then passed onto the new owner to continue.

The first 16 weeks

Up to the first 16 weeks the puppy is learning who his social group is, who he is friendly to, who he plays with and what things he should ignore.



The Science – and why it matters

The brain of a 16-week-old puppy has exactly the same number of brain cells as a newly born puppy – but it is roughly 10 times bigger. This extraordinary increase in size has nothing to do with the brain cells themselves however but the number of connections established between them. These connections can only form as a direct result of all the experiences the puppy has in these first critical four month of life. Isn't that amazing?

Every single thing your puppy sees, hears, feels, smells and tastes, every meeting he has and every new thing he discovers produces literally trillions of new brain connections in those first 16 weeks, and they will last for life. He is learning what things are part of his new life and his new family, what is safe and who his social group is. A puppy who is properly brought up in this period, will be far more likely to grow up to be more

confident, calmer, learn new things easier, be less likely to respond to new things fearfully or aggressively – and in short, be the perfect family dog. In contrast, a dog who has not had this good start in life is more likely to be over-reactive, unable to concentrate, fearful, a slower learner, develop preventable behaviour problems – and in fact have a less well developed brain than his well socialised brother.

So why is this? All animals are by nature scared of new things. It is this self-preservation instinct that stops rabbits bouncing up to introduce themselves to wolves and getting eaten. For a newly-born

animal to be so cautious and fearful however is counter-productive, as everything is new to them and they would be constantly in a state of stress. So in most wild animals, this fearfulness starts at around three weeks old. What an animal hasn't met by then is regarded as scary and they will avoid it or if unable to do that, may in all likelihood, behave defensively.

In domestic dogs however, this sets in at about five to seven weeks old depending on the breed or type. What the puppy hasn't experienced by then, is far more likely to be perceived as scary. For this reason, it is really important that breeders do a lot of socialisation long before the puppies go to their new home.

Up to the first 16 weeks of age however, the puppy is also learning who his social group is. He is learning who the people and animals are that are his family and that he is social and friendly towards. The new owner has to carry on this socialisation to teach the puppy about his new family and what his life with them is going to contain.

All cells within the body have a time to grow and a time to stop growing, and at 16 weeks old (sometimes earlier), the window of opportunity for the majority of this brain



development rapidly start to close – and so do the puppy's learning opportunities. Puppies who have not had this socialisation and input in these valuable weeks, because of poor breeding practices or a lack of understanding of this process, will always be playing catch-up, and so much of their potential will never be realised.

Many, if not most, behaviour problems can be prevented through good socialisation and early education – these include aggression, noise phobias, separation anxieties, over-reactivity and much more.

The Puppy Plan has been developed to try and prevent behaviour problems, owners giving up on dogs and handing them over to rescue organisations, returning them to breeders, or having them euthanased for behaviour problems (the major cause of death in dogs under two years old).

The Puppy Plan aims to be completely inclusive – no matter where the puppy has been bred, whether pure bred or crossbreed, or the circumstances surrounding their birth. It aims to help every dog be the very best he can be, give new owners the confidence to know their puppy has had an excellent 'primary school education' and raise the standard of puppy socialisation throughout the country – and hopefully the world.

For the breeders or care-givers of puppies in their first eight weeks, the Puppy Plan follows a fairly fixed and quite in-depth schedule, as their job is to give a broad-based early education – as they will not know where life will take the puppy and so they should be ready for anything.



Once the puppy goes to his new home however, the Puppy Plan uniquely can be totally customised by the new owner to make sure their puppy fits into his new life and his new family.



Breeder

or early care-giver



For the breeder, or whoever finds themselves caring for a litter of puppies in their first eight weeks, the aim of the Puppy Plan is to have a nationally-recognised socialisation programme that both provides a framework for socialisation, and also works as a diary that can be passed onto the new owner so that they can see, ideally with photos and/or videos, their puppy's own development. This recorded programme of development allows new owners to feel more involved with their puppy, gives them a proven record of their puppy's socialisation and early lessons, and lets them see just how committed the breeder is to ensuring the best future for their puppies.

The new owners can be confident that their puppy has encountered all the things that they are going to be expected to accept as part of their social group (socialisation) and also all the things they need to learn to accept and ignore – such as loud noises, cars etc (habituation). They will leave with a record of their puppy's early weeks, and they are able to carry on the Puppy Plan exactly where the breeder left off.

It doesn't matter if you are a regular breeder, if you just have a one-off litter, or you are looking after a litter of puppies in a rescue centre, all dogs can follow the Puppy Plan – it is totally inclusive, and whether you are an experienced or a first time breeder, it is simple and fun.

For breeders, this means that your puppies are more likely to be successful in their new homes, turn out a credit to you, are less likely to have problems in their new lives, and are less likely to be returned to you or end up in rehoming centres. Your puppies will be more sought after, because prospective owners will be able to see just how much work you have put into giving them the early education they need. The Puppy Plan also fits into the Kennel Club's Assured Breeder Scheme – which will give owners even more confidence in both the physical and mental health of your puppies, and their fitness as perfect family dogs.

For many breeders it is what they do already – and the Puppy Plan gives a formal way for others to recognise all the work you do to produce the very best puppies you can. For rescue centres, it is also vitally important that puppies get an education in these early weeks as the bad start they have had often leaves them ill-prepared for life as a family dog, and perhaps even destined to come back into rescue.

At every step you will be encouraged to record this process with photos, videos and diary entries, which you can pass onto the new owner when the puppy goes to his new home for them to continue the work you have started.

By the time the puppy is four months old, both the breeder or rescue centre, and the new owners, will know they have given him the very best start in life.



The First 8 Weeks



Name of mum

Name of dad

Picture of mum

Picture of dad

Date of birth

Breed

Puppies

Name

Sex

Feature

Each week of the diary breaks down into two sections. The first explains the development of the puppies at this stage (and so the science behind it), and the second outlines the tasks to do in each week.

Pre-birth information – Look after mum!

The Science

The Puppy Plan starts from before the puppy is born. For anyone planning to breed a litter of puppies, they need to make sure that the mother is healthy and happy and is kept in warm, stress-free conditions. Most importantly they also need to ensure that the mother has a good temperament – as this will be passed onto her puppies (in the same way that if she is nervous, worried, possessive or fearful, this will also be passed on).



Puppies born to mothers suffering from poor nutrition, extremes of temperature, and mental or physical stress, are more likely to show behavioural and emotional problems.

Research has also shown that if the mother is stroked, handled and loved during her pregnancy, the puppies will be more likely to be docile and be born with more of an enjoyment of being handled.

In addition, if the mother has a good relationship with her owners and feels relaxed and secure, she is going to be happy for her puppies to be handled by them (which is vital for the Plan as well as the puppies' development), and will pass on that positive attitude to her puppies – which is vitally important.

This shows the importance of getting puppies from breeders or owners who look on their dogs as their companions and friends – and not just dogs (or even worse, units of commercial enterprise!).

Task

Make sure mum gets all the care and love she deserves.





Week 1 & 2 (0-14 days) – Newly born

The Science

The first two weeks the puppies will be deaf and blind. They can't stay warm on their own (hence why they sleep in a pile), and they are pretty helpless. They can feel, smell and they can taste – at least enough to be able to find mum (and milk) as she is the only important thing in their lives!

The most important thing in these first weeks is that mum is kept healthy, happy and stress free. This will generally be in the house, near to her family but in a quiet corner. Limit visitors she doesn't know well as they may worry her.



While the puppies should be kept stress-free too, a little bit of stimulation at this time has been proved to encourage development and early learning, make them calmer and less distracted when working, and by kick-starting the neurological system early, may even protect them from some diseases.



Don't forget to take photos or videos of these exercises with each puppy to record their progress for their new owner, and you can share them on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/puppyplan

Tasks



From Day 3 to Day 14 do these exercises very gently, not more than once a day, and for no longer than 5 seconds each. Don't forget to complete the checklist to help you keep track and record each time you have done this.

1



Hold the puppy on his back in the palm of your hand

2



Hold the puppy upright (bottom to the ground and head to the ceiling)

3



Hold the puppy upside down (head to the floor and bottom to the ceiling)

4



Tickle him lightly between the toes with a cotton bud

5



Lightly rub his ears in small circles between your fingers

6



Place him on a cold, damp towel

Then put him straight back next to his mum and littermates.

Ensure mum is happy for you to handle her puppies by using treats if necessary to give her positive associations, and do not take the puppies out of her sight. This early handling should all be done close to her.

Breeder Checklist



No. of puppies:

Birth Date:

This checklist is to help you keep an accurate record of what tasks you have performed during each week. Ensure that this list is kept complete and up to date to make sure your puppies have the best possible start in life in their new homes.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
WEEK 1							
1 - hold puppy on its back	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
2 - hold puppy upright	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
3 - hold puppy upside down	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
4 - tickle between toes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
5 - lightly rub ears	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
6 - place on damp towel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
WEEK 2							
1 - hold puppy on its back							
2 - hold puppy upright							
3 - hold puppy upside down							
4 - tickle between toes							
5 - lightly rub ears							
6 - place on damp towel							
WEEK 3							
1 - exposure to household sounds							
2 - provide things to look at							
3 - regular handling							
4 - stroke with varying textures							
5 - varying walking surfaces							
6 - introduce other dogs in/out of pen							
7 - introduce cats							
WEEK 4							
1 - introduce different surfaces in pen							
2 - introduce new objects to pen							
3 - separation from litter							
4 - introduce calm restraint							
5 - move pen to different rooms							
WEEK 5							
1 - exposure to more interactive toys							
2 - feed from different bowls							
3 - meet different people							
4 - experience household sounds							
5 - feed separately from the litter							
6 - developing human contact							
7 - introducing the outside world							
WEEK 6							
1 - exposure to more interactive toys							
2 - feed from different bowls							
3 - meet different people							
4 - experience household sounds							
5 - feed separately from the litter							
6 - developing human contact							
7 - introducing the outside world							
WEEK 7							
1 - exposure to more interactive toys							
2 - feed from different bowls							
3 - meet different people							
4 - experience household sounds							
5 - feed separately from the litter							
6 - developing human contact							
7 - introducing the outside world							
WEEK 8							
REVIEW							

Means that there is no need to do anything on these days



Week 3 (14-21 days) – Hello world

This is a really important week – and a busy one!

The Science

In week 3, the puppy's eyes open and, while his vision starts poor, he can see movement (although may not notice stationary objects). He also starts to hear what is going on around him. This is the time to start to introduce the sights and sounds of family life – anything he sees or hears now will be accepted as normal.

He will begin to startle when hearing unexpected sounds but, as his fear response is not fully developed, he will quickly return to normal. This is how we want him to learn to respond to non-threatening events as an adult rather than show the escalating fear that, for example, noise phobic dogs do.

In this week, the puppy is also starting to learn about his social group. He learns to recognise his mother and his littermates, and also to recognise humans as being part of his family too. This is when he starts the bonding process. This is a good time to introduce all other animals in the household (other dogs and cats) and people (including children) who you will want the puppy to look on as part of his family group.

NOTE: Do not introduce small animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters etc. You do not want to teach your dog that these are part of his social group and therefore show play behaviours towards them. While your eventually large dog may enjoy playing with your hamster, the hamster is certainly not going to enjoy it! These animals you puppy needs to learn to ignore.



Don't forget to take photos or videos of these exercises with each puppy to record their progress for their new owner, and you can share them on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/puppyplan

Tasks



Try to do each task once every day and don't forget to complete the checklist to record each time you have done it and to help you keep track.

- 1** Make sure the puppy gets to hear as many sounds as possible. These should include: doorbells, TV, doors opening and closing, vacuum cleaners, music, bangs, clatters, conversation, and an introduction to fireworks and thunder. You can buy CDs with these noises on them or you can download them from the internet if you can't find them all. These shouldn't be playing all the time and do not need to be loud but should happen unexpectedly throughout the days at times when the puppies are awake. You are looking for the puppy to notice them and then quickly return to normal. For most people who rear the puppies in the house with the family, most of these noises will be nothing new but make sure the puppies get to hear the unexpected ones too such as the fireworks and thunderstorms! These sounds need to start at a low level and can increase later in these weeks.
- 2** Provide lots of different things to look at. Roll things across their puppy pen, flash torches (not at the puppies but around the room), change the light levels. Bounce a large soft ball outside the pen. Roll or drag things past the outside of the puppy pen so the puppy gets used to movement he can't chase. Hang a baby's mobile above the pen for 30 mins a day (out of reach).
- 3** Handle, cuddle and pick up the puppies regularly. They need to begin to bond to humans. Mum may be slowly starting to wean the puppies, and so you can let them lick a dab of fish paste or pureed meat off the tip of a finger so they know that humans mean good stuff. Get lots of different people to do this (starting with any new people just sitting on the floor so the puppies can approach them at their own time).
- 4** Stroke the puppies gently with different textured things – woollen glove, a piece of sheepskin, a rubber glove, a very soft babies toothbrush – stimulate their sense of touch.
- 5** Introduce lots of different surfaces for the puppies to walk on (more of this in Week 4).
- 6** Let other dogs (as long as they are calm, friendly and vaccinated) and cats wander around the outside of the pen – and also when you are cuddling the puppies outside of the pen.
- 7** Let the puppies interact with any cats you may have (if possible, and if the cats will not be unfriendly) individually outside of the puppy pen.



Week 4 (21-28 days) – Fun and games

The Science

In Week 4 the puppy is developing his play behaviour, and also, if given the chance, his problems-solving behaviour. It is also a good time for him to begin to learn how to deal with the inevitable frustrations in life.



In this week, the puppy needs some challenges – things to carry, pull, climb on, move around, tug with his littermates etc. This helps develop strength, coordination, agility – and sharing. Puppies deprived of this can grow up to be poor learners – or certainly slower than they would be otherwise. They also can grow up unable to deal with frustration – which can result in serious behaviour or temperament problems.

It is easy to get concerned if the mother now seems a bit rough at times – maybe walking off when they are trying to suckle, or growls at them or even stands on them but it is important not to be over-protective, as this is also teaching the puppies to cope with frustration and learn bounce-back skills.

This is also the week to start to spend more time individually with each puppy – slowly increasing the time they spend away from their littermates and their mother. This will help prevent separation problems, will develop independence and will encourage bonding with humans.



Don't forget to take photos or videos of these exercises with each puppy to record their progress for their new owner, and you can share them on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/puppyplan

Tasks



Try and do each task once every day and don't forget to complete the checklist to record each time you have done it and to help you keep track.

1



Introduce more different surfaces into the puppy pen. Vet bed, crunched up newspaper, carpet (you can get off-cuts or samples from your local carpet shop), lino, rubber mat – anything and everything you can think of that is safe and will give the puppies lots of different tactile sensations.

2



Add things that the puppies can begin to experiment with - tug toys, Kongs, tunnels, upside down cardboard boxes with holes cut out, large pieces of sheepskin, handle-less bucket or basin on its side, bits of blanket tied at one end to the pen, a bundled up blanket that they have to clamber over... Anything that is safe – and always under your supervision.

3



Take each puppy out of the pen and spend progressively longer time with him away from his littermates – up to 10 minutes. During these times, go through the tasks for Week 3. Don't do them all every time – just one or two each time. Make sure the puppy has some relaxing time too. Continue getting the puppies used to being handled both by you and by other people – including ears, mouth, feet etc. Use tiny but tasty treats to ensure he associates being handled with good experiences.

4



Begin to teach each puppy to get used to being restrained. Kneel on the floor with him and hold him between your knees with your hands linked in front of his chest. Hold him gently for 3 secs and then let him go (as long as he is calm and not wiggling!). Build up very slowly to 30 secs, with plenty of reward, so he gets used to being dealing with the potential frustration of being restrained.

5



Start to move the puppy pen around the house to different rooms with different noises, surfaces, activity levels (this should include the garden or patio if it is summer – but always under supervision).



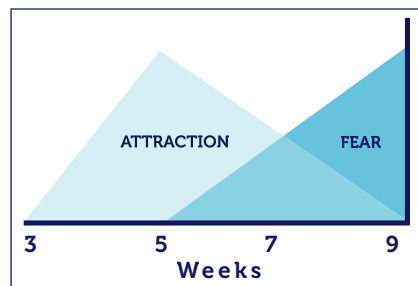
Week 5 - 7 – Curiosity



These weeks are a crucial time for the puppy's brain development. This is when puppies are at their most curious and willing to approach people, but at the same time their natural fearfulness starts to be shaped by their environment.

The Science

This increase in fear is a gradual process over the next couple of weeks (see chart showing how attraction grows then decreases, while the fear response increases) and so now is the time to introduce all manner of sights, sounds, and people – and also more interesting toys and experiences as this will ultimately determine how well balanced the puppy will turn out as an adult.



In some more reactive breeds, this fear response and hazard avoidance starts early and increases rapidly. They need the tasks below working on as early in this period as possible whereas the less reactive breeds (generally the retriever types) have a later onset of hazard avoidance and so you can be a bit more relaxed.

To give you a rough idea, the hazard avoidance in the wild wolf (who shares our dogs' ancestors) starts at 19 days old. In the average dog it starts at 49 days old. The German Shepherd Dog (one of the more reactive breeds) it starts at 35 days old and in the Labrador (one of the least reactive) it starts at 72 days. These are of course all approximate, and each individual dog will be different – but it gives you an idea of how hard you are going to have to work in these two weeks!

This is also the time to start to teach the puppy to be happy on his own away from his littermates, and to bond even more to humans.

As you can imagine, this means that these two weeks are quite busy!

Tasks



Don't forget to take photos or videos of these exercises with each puppy to record their progress for their new owner, and you can share them on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/puppyplan



Try and do each task once every day and don't forget to complete the checklist to record each time you have done it and to help you keep track.

1



Put more interactive toys into the puppy pen at times when you can supervise. These can include wobbly objects, tunnels, bits of cloth to climb over or burrow under, suspended tennis balls larger balls that can be rolled about, empty plastic bottles with some pebbles in them that will roll noisily, boxes that can be climbed on or in, trays filled with stones or shallow water... Anything you can think of to introduce new stimuli to the puppies.

2



Once the puppies are eating solid foods happily, feed them from different bowls – plastic, metal, foil trays, frying pans...

3



Over the next couple of weeks, try and make sure the puppy meets as many different types of people as possible – women, men, children, people with beards, hats, high heels, hoods etc – and that they have positive experiences with them (games, treats etc).

4




Having heard all the usual household objects, it is time for him to experience them - this includes the TV, vacuum cleaners, ironing boards... anything that will form part of his life as a dog in a busy household. As always, make sure these experiences are positive - rewarding the puppy for ignoring them not playing with them (or you end up with a dog who hunts the vacuum cleaner!).


5



On occasions, feed the puppy separately from his mum and littermates – and a little bit away from you (in a crate, behind a baby gate etc). Start to teach him that good things can happen when he is on his own. Also on occasions, feed him from your hand – he also needs to learn that having humans around his dinner is always a good thing.



6  Spend time with the puppy encouraging him to follow you, playing with him, making eye contact with him, stroking and handling him, picking him up and holding him – and generally getting him used to and enjoying human contact. Make sure all these interactions are positive for the puppy, using treats if necessary.

7  Take the puppy out individually to sit in the car, drive round the block, see and smell things that will be part of his daily life (traffic, trains etc). As he is unvaccinated (although will still have immunity passed to him from his mother) he should be carried but he should have all these experiences in these really important two weeks when his confidence is at its highest and his fear responses are at their lowest.



Don't forget to take photos or videos of these exercises with each puppy to record their progress for their new owner, and you can share them on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/groups/puppyplan

Note: As soon as you have a new owner lined up for the puppy, ask them to send something that smells strongly of them and their house (perhaps an old sweatshirt they have slept in for a few nights). This can be introduced to the puppy to sleep on/with, have with him while he is eating etc so he begins to familiarise himself with the smell of his future new home.

IMPORTANT: Always be very aware of the puppy and that he is having a good time. If he looks worried in any way, take it more slowly. Each puppy must be treated as an individual – and all this socialisation has to be fun and rewarding for him.

This is the time to start to teach the puppy to get used to wearing a light collar – only for a few minutes a day while they are thinking about other things building it up over the next couple of weeks. Do not leave collars on when they are in a crate or play pen, or when unsupervised.

The Magic 7 Checklist

The puppy's early learning is nearly over – and it is time to check that you can tick all the Magic 7 boxes! These tasks should be done by the puppy on his own away from his mum and littermates.

By the time he is seven weeks old he should have: Completed

- 1** Met 7 different types of people
- 2** Been on 7 different surfaces
- 3** Played with 7 different types of toys
- 4** Heard 7 loud and unexpected noises
- 5** Been in 7 different locations – and eaten in 7 different locations
- 6** Done 7 different problem solving activities (for example climb into a box, over a blanket, go through a tunnel, get a toy from under something....)
- 7** Been out and about to see 7 different places or things

Make a note of who or what each of the 7 things in each group have been so the new owner knows exactly what their new puppy has met before. If you do more than 7 things in any section that is great!



Week 8 – Starting a new life

For most puppies, week 8 will be their last week before going off to their new life – as this is when most breeders send their puppies off to their new homes. They have learnt all about how to be a dog from their mother and littermates, they have had an excellent education from you the breeder or caregiver, and now it is time for them to learn how to be a family dog in their new home.

This period however coincides with an increase of fear in puppies – most puppies will begin to start to show fear to things that they haven't been introduced to up until this point (although some of the more reactive breeds or types of puppies may have started this significantly earlier). This increase in fear to new things is the reason why you have been working so hard in the past few weeks to make sure as many things as possible are now accepted by the puppy as 'just being part of life'.



From now on, new stuff will be regarded with much more suspicion/fearfulness. One important window of opportunity for development is closing.



This is a week to go over all the things the puppy has been doing/has met in the past seven weeks – but not a week to introduce new things.

This is also the time to take your last photos and videos to get your Puppy Plan into order ready to hand over to the new owner so they can see how much you have done, and continue where you left off. It is time to say goodbye to him and send him off to his new life, knowing that you have done everything possible to ensure he has a fantastic future ahead of him.

If you plan to keep all or some of the puppies beyond this time, make sure you continue with the next section of the Puppy Plan (New Owner booklet), working each puppy individually, until they are ready to go to their new homes.



Important Notes

The material documented is intended for information purposes only and is not a substitute for professional advice.

The Puppy Plan will suggest socialisation advice, but since each dog varies in slightly different ways, your questions may require more tailored information which only a suitably qualified professional can give in a one-on-one consultation. Puppy Plan is not meant to be a substitute for the “face to face” advice of a qualified behaviourist who would have the advantage of being able to see your puppy and being able to ask more detailed questions as may be needed.

Therefore, if a particular problem develops with your puppy then we do recommend that you seek further advice from your veterinary surgeon – who may identify or eliminate medical issues and then refer you to a qualified canine behaviourist for further and specific tailored advice and guidance.

Puppy Plan shall not be liable nor responsible for any person or organisation with respect to any loss or damage arising from the information or the use of the information on its website or within printed materials. Puppy Plan promotes responsible dog ownership but ultimately of course it is your responsibility to attend to your dog’s needs including socialisation which is so important for your dog’s safety and happiness and we assume no liability by offering any advice on its website and published materials.

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Reference

This is by no means an exhaustive list – nor does it mean that everything in every publication or article mentioned is in the Puppy Plan, or is fully agreed with!



Carolyn Menteith DipCABT, KCAI is a qualified and experienced dog trainer and behaviourist with over 20 years experience working professionally with animals both nationally and internationally.

As well as working with dogs and their owners to help them have a happy life together, Carolyn has written several books, many articles, and has appeared on a variety of TV and radio programmes as a dog expert.

Carolyn also works with a variety of rescue and welfare organisations, and has written and presents the Dogs Trust iPhone app ‘You and Your Puppy from Dogs Trust’, as well as presenting some of their dog training films online.

Additional input from Robert Falconer-Taylor BVetMed, DipCABT, MRCVS

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