



Canine Consultants
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DENISE'S 40 BEST TIPS FOR PUPPY PARENTS

- 1) Use positive crate or kennel training. It will provide a safe place for sleeping, napping or when you can't supervise.
- 2) Withdraw a pup from a stressful or fearful situation.
- 3) Allow only appropriate chew toys and offer treats sparingly.
- 4) Use a drag line or tie out for supervision of your pup's activities around the house.
- 5) Introduce other family pets slowly, and initially on neutral ground.
- 6) Ignore or turn your back during a pup's bossing displays.
- 7) Never yell or spank a puppy.
- 8) Praise appropriate relieving and just clean up accidents.
- 9) Reward good behavior always with praise and then with a treat (phase out treats once the puppy has got the idea. Occasionally offer a jackpot of treats for special behaviors).
- 10) Transport a puppy in a crate rather than on your lap. Another safe place is behind the co-pilot's seat in wheel well. Use tie out if necessary to secure.
- 11) Don't let your puppy hang his head out the window in a moving car.
- 12) Make a happy voice to encourage your puppy to follow you.
- 13) Never leave your puppy alone for extended periods of time in your home. Get a pet sitter or dog walker.
- 14) Find a good veterinarian and keep vaccinations current.
- 15) Attach identification and dog tags to collar.
- 16) Begin training at home immediately, starting with sit, wait, down, watch me, and come.
- 17) Feed your pup on a schedule and remove bowl after 20 minutes.
- 18) Puppies should earn the right to have "run of the house."
- 19) Take your pup to the relieving area regularly, usually after play, eating, napping and every hour at first.



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TIPS, CONTINUED

- 20) Pups can be taught to relieve on command through repetition and use of a phrase, such as “do your business,” “go potty,” or “get busy.”
- 21) Groom regularly and start early with daily face washing and teeth brushing.
- 22) Use a groomer for toe nail clipping, if unsure. Bathe regularly and use “pet wipes” in between baths.
- 23) A harness is best for delicate or small boned puppies during walks.
- 24) Avoid dog parks until all puppy shots are completed, usually by 16 weeks.
- 25) Formal puppy training classes can begin at the age of 12 weeks.
- 26) Select a premium grade puppy food and feed three times a day until about six months.
- 27) Touch and pet your puppy all over including ears, mouth and toes.
- 28) Be prepared to remove unwanted things from your puppies’ mouth such as sticks, leaves, rocks, dirt clods, etc. Puppy-proof your house by removing temptations and breakables.
- 29) Use “off” command when pup jumps on you, and turn your back. Stand on leash when meeting people in public.
- 30) Speak gently with a happy voice when training and use deep, sharp voice for corrections.
- 31) Discourage nipping, mouthing or biting with a “yelp” or “yip” sound and offer an acceptable chew toy instead.
- 32) Walk your puppy daily on a loose leash and let pup sniff in only designated areas of your choice, not theirs.
- 33) Playing with your puppy is crucial to his well being. Spend time with them on the floor. Avoid rough play if your puppy has a tendency toward aggression.
- 34) Use positive training reinforcement every day to supplement weekly training.
- 35) Keep treat dishes in different rooms of the house, up out of reach. You never know when you will need to reward the perfect behavior.
- 36) Ignore bad behavior and reward good behavior. Your puppy will learn to behave for your attention (dogs do what gets them what they want).



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- 37) Find something that motivates your dog, and learn when to give them that motivation and when to withhold it.
- 38) Consistency, timing and motivation in training are the most important keys to success.
- 39) Make your dog work for its meal or treat (such as; asking your pup to sit, down, stand, shake, come, watch me, get the newspaper, etc.) every day. They appreciate having a job to do, and it will really reinforce your training efforts.
- 40) Maintain your alpha/leadership position by eating first, going through doorways first, sleeping or sitting in a higher position, and ignoring them briefly when you arrive home.