



# WELCOME TO YORKSHIRE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Where your pets are family!

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Puppy Edition

# **Congratulations on your new puppy!**

## **First Puppy Exam (8 weeks)**

- Wellness examination
- 1st puppy DAPP (distemper, parvovirus, parainfluenza, adenovirus) vaccination
- Stool sample to check for worms and parasites

## **Second Puppy Exam (11-12 weeks)**

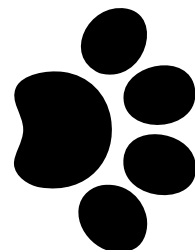
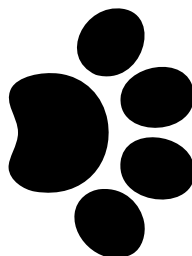
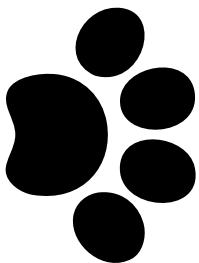
- Wellness examination
- 2nd puppy DAPP vaccination
- 1st Leptospirosis vaccination
- Heartworm preventative
- Bordetella vaccination if going to puppy class or boarding/  
dog day care



## **Final Puppy Exam (15-16 weeks)**

- Wellness examination
- Final puppy DAPP and Lepto boosters
- Rabies vaccination

**Spay/Neuter is to be discussed with your veterinarian.**



# Parasite Prevention

## Heartworm Disease

- A heartworm is a parasitic worm that is passed via mosquitoes and makes its home in your dog's heart; this can be deadly if not treated! The treatment for dogs infected with heartworms is very expensive and can be painful for your pet; that's why prevention is so critical! We recommend protecting your dog year round, even in the winter. Ask your veterinarian for more information on recommended preventatives.



Pro<sup>♥</sup>Heart<sup>®</sup> 6  
(moxidectin)

**NexGard**<sup>®</sup>  
(afoxolaner) Chewables

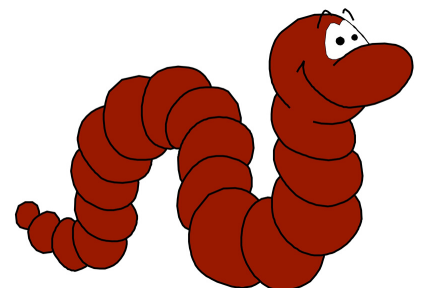
**FRONTLINE**<sup>®</sup>  
GOLD BRAND PRODUCTS

## Fleas and Ticks

- Even in Colorado fleas and ticks are present. Fleas and ticks can lead to a multitude of ailments including anemia, dermatitis, Lyme disease, Ehrlichiosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and more. Prevention is key, especially during warmer months! The preventatives we recommend can work for any pup as we offer both a topical and an oral preventative.

## Intestinal Parasites

- Dogs love to play, and sometimes they can bring home some extra friends. Roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms, whipworms, along with other bacteria and parasites can live within your dog. The best way to prevent and treat these pests is by testing a fecal sample for your dog annually.



# Steps to Potty Training

1. Prevent undesirable elimination by not allowing your dog to wander around the house without supervision and by keeping your dog confined to a small area when you can't observe them constantly.
2. When your dog sniffs the ground or circles around, quickly but calmly take them to the desired elimination area.
3. Feed your dog a measured amount of food at the same time every day. When your dog walks away, or after about 10-15 minutes, pick up the bowl.
4. Be aware that puppies instinctively desire to eliminate after eating, drinking, playing, resting, sleeping, or being confined. These rules apply to most adult dogs as well.
5. Five to thirty minutes after any of the above activities, take your dog to the selected elimination spot.
6. Use a specific verbal cue that you want your dog to associate with desirable elimination, such as "Go Potty" or "Do Your Business".
7. When your dog begins to eliminate, *quietly* praise them.
8. When your dog is done, praise them enthusiastically, pet them and reward with food *immediately*. Don't wait until they head for the house. If they do not eliminate, take them to their confinement area and try again in fifteen minutes.
9. Reward each time with praise, but as your dog learns, give food rewards intermittently.
10. Remember, it is your responsibility to prevent accidents!  
Prevention is key to success, but accidents happen. If your dog has an accident, **don't scold or punish them**. Scolding them will teach them to hide their mess. Instead, remove your puppy from the area and quietly clean and deodorize the spot. Young puppies (8-10 weeks old) need to be taken outside every 30-60 minutes.



# Crate Training



**Crate training may seem daunting at first, but worry not, here are some tips to help you become a crate-training pro!**

**Selecting a crate.** Plastic or wire crates are recommended and should be large enough for your dog to stand up and turn around in.

## **Step 1: *Introducing Your Dog To The Crate***

- Put the crate in an area of your house where the family spends a lot of time, such as the family room. Put a soft blanket or towel in the crate. Bring your dog over to the crate and talk to him in a happy tone of voice. Make sure the crate door is securely fastened open so it won't hit your dog and frighten him.
- To encourage your dog to enter the crate, drop small food treats near it, then just inside the door, and finally, all the way inside the crate. If he refuses to go all the way in at first, that's okay – don't force it. Continue tossing treats into the crate until your dog will walk calmly all the way into the crate to get the food. If he isn't interested in treats, try tossing a favorite toy in the crate. This step may take a few minutes or as long as several days.

## **Step 2: *Feeding Your Dog His Meals In The Crate***

- After introducing your dog to the crate, begin feeding him his regular meals near or in the crate. This will create a pleasant association with the crate.
- Once your dog is standing comfortably in the crate to eat his meal, you can close the door while he's eating. At first, open the door as soon as he finishes his meal. With each successive feeding, leave the door closed a few minutes longer, until he's staying in the crate for 10 minutes or so after eating. If he begins to whine to be let out, you may have increased the length of time too quickly. Next time, try leaving him in the crate for a shorter time period. If he does whine or cry in the crate, it's imperative that you do not let him out until he stops. Otherwise, he'll learn that the way to get out of the crate is to whine and he'll keep doing it.

## **Step 3: *Conditioning Your Dog To The Crate For Longer Time Periods***

- After your dog is eating his regular meals in the crate with no sign of fear or anxiety, you can confine him there for short time periods while you're home. Call him over to the crate and give him a treat. Give him a command to enter, such as "kennel up." Encourage him by pointing to the inside of the crate with a treat in your hand. After your dog enters the crate, praise him, give him the treat, and close the door. Sit quietly near the crate for 5 to 10 minutes and then go into another room for a few minutes. Return, sit quietly again for a short time, then let him out of the crate.
- Repeat this process several times a day. With each repetition, gradually increase the length of time you leave him in the crate and the length of time you're out of his sight. Once your dog will stay quietly in the crate for about 30 minutes with you out of sight the majority of the time, you can begin leaving him crated when you're gone for short time periods and/or letting him sleep there at night.

## **Step 4:**

### **Part A – Crating Your Dog When Left Alone**

- After step 3 is achieved, crate using your regular command and a treat. You might also want to leave him with a few safe toys in the crate. You'll want to vary at what point in your "getting ready to leave" routine you put your dog in the crate. Although he shouldn't be crated for a long time before you leave, you can crate him anywhere from 5 to 20 minutes prior to leaving.
- Don't make your departures emotional and prolonged, but matter-of-fact. Praise your dog briefly, give him a treat for entering the crate and then leave quietly. When you return home, don't reward your dog for excited behavior by responding to him in an excited, enthusiastic way. Keep arrivals low key. Continue to crate your dog for short periods from time to time when you're home so he doesn't associate crating with being left alone.

### **Part B – Crating Your Dog At Night**

- Put your dog in the crate using your regular command and a treat. Initially, it may be a good idea to put the crate in your bedroom or nearby in a hallway, especially if you have a puppy. Puppies often need to go outside to eliminate during the night, and you'll want to be able to hear your puppy when he whines to be let outside. Older dogs, too, should initially be kept nearby so that crating doesn't become associated with social isolation. Once your dog is sleeping comfortably through the night with his crate near you, you can begin to gradually move it to the location you prefer. Puppies that are healthy can have their water taken from them a few hours before bedtime to help decrease the frequency of potty trips they need to make during the night.

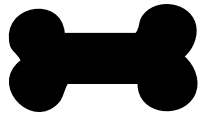
## **Potential Problems:**

### **Too Much Time In The Crate**

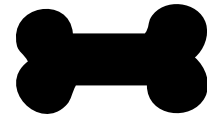
- A crate isn't a magical solution. If not used correctly, a dog can feel trapped and frustrated. For example, if your dog is crated all day while you're at work and then crated again all night, he's spending too much time in too small a space. Other arrangements should be made to accommodate his physical and emotional needs. Also, remember that puppies under 6 months of age shouldn't stay in a crate for more than three or four hours at a time. They can't control their bladders and bowels for longer periods.

### **Whining**

- If your dog whines or cries while in the crate at night, it may be difficult to decide whether he's whining to be let out of the crate, or whether he needs to be let outside to eliminate. If you followed the training procedures outlined above, your dog hasn't been rewarded for whining in the past by being released from his crate. Try to ignore the whining. If your dog is just testing you, he'll probably stop whining soon. Yelling at him or pounding on the crate will only make things worse. If the whining continues after you've ignored him for several minutes, use the phrase he associates with going outside to eliminate. If he responds and becomes excited, take him outside. This should be a trip with a purpose, not play time. If you're convinced that your dog doesn't need to eliminate, the best response is to ignore him until he stops whining. Do not give in, otherwise you'll teach your dog to whine loud and long to get what he wants. If you've progressed gradually through the training steps and haven't done too much too fast, you will be less likely to encounter this problem. If the problem becomes unmanageable, you may need to start the crate training process over again.



# Nutrition



## **Puppies at two months old**

- At two months, the focus should be on aiding the development of your puppy's skeletal structure. For this they need calcium and phosphorus in carefully regulated amounts; these help their skeleton grow effectively, which is essential for their overall health and particularly important in larger dogs, whose bones carry a lot of muscle and body tissue.

## **Puppies at four months old**

- Your puppy's skeleton is still developing at this stage, so they still need the right nutritional balance of calcium and phosphorus in their diet.

## **Puppies at seven months old**

- By this time your puppy will be starting to build their body mass, so their nutritional requirement now is for protein. However, it needs to be the right sort: A high-quality and easily digestible protein to make it easy for their bodies to absorb and "re-use" the amino acids, building healthy body tissue and antibodies. The protein to calorie ratio should be higher in a puppy's diet than in an adult dog because they're growing rapidly.

## **Puppies at ten months old**

- X-small and small breed dogs will be nearing their adult stage by 10 months old, whereas larger dogs still have a while to go. All dogs at this point need nutritional support for their joints, particularly large and giant dogs, as their muscles will be filling out and exerting pressure on their skeleton. Glucosamine and chondroitin are two important nutrients; these help to nourish the cartilage and the fluid which helps with normal joint function. Without these, growing puppies can end up suffering from joint problems later in life.

## **Adult dogs and nutrition**

- As an adult, your dog will need a carefully balanced diet to avoid gaining weight. It's estimated over a quarter of all adult dogs are obese, and this can place undue pressure on bones, joints, and organs, reducing your dog's quality of life. If you've given your puppy the right, nutritionally balanced food through those critical early months, while following recommended feeding amounts, by the time it reaches adulthood it should be a healthy and happy dog.

# Dental Care

It is so important to start caring for your dog's teeth when they are young! You should start by getting your puppy used to hands in their mouth; this can be done by checking their teeth and starting home care early on. Check out these other tips to keep your pup's mouth in tip-top shape!

## Puppy Dental Stages:

- Starting around 4 months of age, your puppy will start to lose all of their teeth! It is important to give them soft chews to help relieve some of the discomfort without causing any damage.

## Appropriate Chew Toys and Bones:

- Oravet chews
- VetOne enzyme-coated chews



## Inappropriate Chews Toys and Bones

- Nylabones
- Animal bones of any type
- If a bone will hurt to drop on your pinky toe, it is too hard for your dog's teeth and can cause permanent damage!

## At-Home Dental Care:

- Start your pup young! We recommend brushing your puppy's teeth daily. To get started, ease your puppy into brushing with lots of praise, treats, and love. Don't force your puppy to sit still for too long, it is better to get them used to brushing slowly than to create a negative association by forcing them to accept it.

## Professional Cleaning:

- We recommend annual dental cleanings starting at one year of age. Prevention is the only way to avoid future dental disease!



# Toxic Substances

Human food is not for pets, but here is a list of some especially dangerous foods, plants, and household substances:

## Dangerous Foods:

- Almonds
- Apricots
- Avocados
- Balsam pears
- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Grapes
- Plums
- Potatoes (raw with green skin)
- Macadamia nuts
- Mushrooms
- Onions
- Raisins
- Yeast



## Dangerous Plants:

- Aloe
- Azaleas
- Baby's Breath
- Lilies
- Rhubarb
- Spinach
- Tomato leaves/stems
- Tulips
- Mistletoe
- Mushrooms
- Wild cherry



## Dangerous Household items:

- Alcohol
- Acetaminophen
- Antifreeze
- Bleach
- Cleaning Products
- Compost Piles
- Fertilizer
- Gasoline
- Ibuprofen
- Insecticides
- Nail polish and remover
- Rat Poison
- Sleeping pills
- Vitamins
- Xylitol



# Helpful Resources

## ***Local Emergency Clinics***

### **Animal ER Care (AERC)**

Phone: (719) 260-7141

5520 N Nevada Ave #150, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

### **Powers Pet Emergency (PPER)**

Phone: (719) 476-5771

5886 Tutt Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80923



## ***Specialists***

### **Southern Colorado Veterinary Internal Medicine (SCVIM)**

Address: 5520 N Nevada Ave #110, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Phone: (719) 272-4004

### **Colorado Canine Orthopedics (CCO)**

Address: 5528 N Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Phone: (719) 264-6666

### **Animal Allergy and Dermatology**

Phone: (719) 358-2636

Address: 5520 N Nevada Ave #100, Colorado Springs, CO 80918

### **Animal Emergency and Specialty**

Address: 17701 Cottonwood Dr, Parker, CO 80134

Phone: (720) 842-5050

### **Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Hospital (VRCC)**

Address: 3550 S Jason St, Englewood, CO 80110

Phone: (303) 874-7387

# What About Pet Insurance?

It can be tough to sift through the legal jargon included in many pet insurance informational packets. After you do some research online and find a few companies you might like to work with, it's time to dig a little deeper. Use this list of questions to find the level of care that's just right for you and your pet.

1. Is the company licensed in your state? Which of their policies are available in your state?
2. Does the company have a good reputation? What do the Better Business Bureau or other independent organizations have to say about it? How long has the company been around?
3. Are the policies and information provided reasonably easy to understand? Are the people you talk to knowledgeable and helpful?
4. Does the company offer customer service during reasonable hours?
5. Can you see any veterinarian you want?
6. Have premiums increased over the past few years? If so, by how much?
7. What happens to coverage and premiums as your pet gets older?
8. Are there any reasons you wouldn't be able to renew your policy?
9. What type of coverage and co-insurance does the policy require?
10. Is there a "usual and customary charges" clause? How are those limits determined?
11. What kinds of care are excluded or limited? Are congenital or hereditary diseases covered? What about cancer? Is dental care covered?
12. Are conditions diagnosed within one year excluded as preexisting conditions the next?
13. Are benefits available for wellness or preventive care for your pet?
14. Can you choose a deductible? Can you change the deductible from year to year? Is the deductible annual or is it applied to each medical incident?
15. Are the waiting periods before coverage begins reasonable?
16. Is there a maximum age for enrollment?
17. Are there limits per incident, per year, per lifetime, or per body system? What are those limits?
18. Is a physical examination required for enrollment or renewal?
19. How quickly are claims processed and paid?
20. Are there any billing fees or discounts?

	<b>ASPCA</b>	<b>Embrace</b>	<b>Figo</b>	<b>Nationwide</b>	<b>Petplan</b>	<b>Pets Best</b>
<b>How is wellness, non-illness or non-injury care covered?</b>	Preventive Care coverage is available	Wellness Rewards (which works like a Health Savings Account) reimburses for everyday veterinary, training and grooming costs	N/A	Plans with wellness (like Whole Pet Plan) or plans with a wellness rider are available	N/A	Two tiers of routine care coverage are available
<b>Are veterinarians paid directly?</b>	Not typically	Yes, when requested by the policyholder and agreed to by the veterinary practice	Not typically	No	Yes, when requested by the policyholder and agreed to by the veterinary practice.	Yes, this is an option
<b>Does the plan offer a trial period to pet owners?</b>	Money-back guarantee within 30 days of policy effective date	30-day money-back guarantee	30-day free look of insurance and Pet Cloud service	Money-back guarantee	30-day trial period in states that allow it; 30-day money-back guarantee where applicable	Trial period, except in New York
<b>Do plans use a No benefit schedule?</b>	No, except for Wellness coverage	No	No	Varies based on plan	No	No, except for routine care coverage
<b>Are therapeutic diets covered?</b>	Yes, if specifically prescribed to treat an eligible condition	Yes, with optional Wellness Rewards program	No, except in cases of therapeutic diets during treatment of bladder stones or urine crystals	Yes, on the Whole Pet Plan if prescribed to treat an eligible condition	No, only nutritional or herbal supplements for a coverable accident or illness	No
<b>What dental work is covered? Are prophylaxes covered? If so, under what circumstances?</b>	Dental cleanings are covered if they're for treatment of a covered illness, such as periodontal disease	Dental work for fractured teeth is covered. Prophylaxis is covered in the Wellness Rewards plan	Non-routine dental work can be eligible for coverage. Routine dental cleanings or prophylaxes are not covered	Varies depending on the plan and wellness rider	Dental procedures for injuries and illnesses, such as periodontal disease, are covered	BestBenefit plans include coverage for dental injuries. In addition, periodontal disease is covered with limitations
<b>Are exam fees for accidents or illnesses covered?</b>	Yes	Yes	With optional coverage	Yes	Yes	Yes