

Pre-puppy checklist

Bringing a four legged friend home is an exciting time and the start of a new adventure that lasts years beyond the adorable puppy stage however there is some preparation needed before bringing your furry friend home.



Here is a list of everything your puppy needs to settle into their new forever home:

Microchipping – is compulsory. Check that your puppy comes microchipped as it is regulation and ensure you obtain the transfer paperwork.

Registration – ensure your puppy is registered with your local council. Remember lost dogs are alone, registration brings them home. It is also your legal responsibility to register them.

Vaccinations – your puppy should come with their first vaccination, once you know the vaccination date call your vet and book in for the next one.

Worming and flea treatment – to prevent them from getting sick, ask your vet for advice.

Collar, lead and ID tags – A soft collar to start, to help get them used to wearing it.

Bedding and shelter – appropriate bedding and shelter for your breed of dog i.e. Large kennel. Consider a crate for puppies.

Two bowls – one for water and one for food.

Food – visit your local vet to get advice on what will suit your puppy best. Puppies have a lot of growing to do within the first 2 years and nutrition is very important for a healthy pup.

Treats – are a must to reward good behaviour and assist with training.

Chew stop spray – this spray tastes terrible so therefore deters the puppy from chewing anything it shouldn't.

A safe and secure environment – puppies are able to squeeze into the smallest places and can even escape a seemingly secure yard. Be sure that you have a small area that is 'puppy proofed' for the first few weeks and slowly open up the back yard as they get bigger. Also get down at ground level and inspect the area as your puppy would – are there drain holes or dangerous items around? If there is something at their level they will be sure to find it.

Grooming and cleaning products – depending on their coat such as shampoo, ear cleaner, comb and nail clippers.

Uncooked Bones – good for keeping your pet occupied and maintains dental hygiene.

Toys – play toys and chew toys are a must with puppies but don't give them all of the toys at once otherwise they lose interest and will start chewing other items.

If you don't want to go through the puppy stage, consider rehoming a dog from Paws from the Pound. Council often have dogs looking for their new forever homes. Any dog from Paws from the Pound come registered with Council, micro chipped and desexed. They have also been assessed for their suitability to enter a new home.

Visit www.isaac.qld.gov.au/paws-from-the-pound to see current dogs suitable for adoption.

Whether you get a puppy or rehome a dog from Paws from the Pound remember that a dog is for life, not just 'until'.



Visit www.isaac.qld.gov.au or call **1300 ISAACS** to find out more