



Railway Veterinary Clinic

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Routine Check List for Puppies

Feeding

We recommend Hills Science Plan Puppy. Depending on your breed of dog there is Hills Science Plan Puppy Mini, Puppy Large Breed and Puppy regular for medium breeds. Hills Science Plan is specifically designed to provide the correct levels of energy, protein, vitamins and minerals for a growing puppy. There is no need to use supplements, but always ensure there is constant supply of drinking water. There is no need to give milk, as this can actually cause diarrhea. At 12 months of age your puppy can move on to Hills Adult (Regular, Large Breed or Mini) to continue optimum development.

Vaccination

The first vaccination should be given between 6-10 weeks of age. This is followed by a second vaccination 2-3 weeks later. This primary vaccination course protects against Parvovirus, Distemper (Hardpad), Hepatitis, Leptospirosis and Para Influenza Virus. For puppies at 10 weeks of age or over, the initial two vaccinations should be given with an interval of 2-4 weeks between each dose. Kennel Cough Vaccine is also advisable to protect against this highly contagious disease, a yearly intra-nasal vaccination should be given. To maintain your dog's health against disease a yearly booster is required - we will send you a reminder when it is due.

Insurance

We recommend insurance for your pet. Allianz Pet Insurance offers free puppy insurance for 6 weeks. Treating an unexpected illness or accident can be very costly and Allianz pays up to € 3,500 per year towards veterinary fees. Don't put it off until it is too late - it only costs from as little as € 11.77 per month!

Example (Allianz) :

| Dogs | Monthly | Annually |
|---------------|---------|----------|
| Crossbreed | €15.41 | €184.94 |
| Pedigree | €21.58 | €258.93 |
| Select Breeds | €24.35 | €292.24 |

At the moment there are 5 companies providing pet insurance in Ireland, they are:

Allianz: www.allianz.ie/pet

Petinsure: www.petinsure.ie

123.ie: www.123.ie/petinsurance

Pet Insurance: www.petinsurance.ie

Tesco: www.tesco.ie

Worming

This is necessary for all puppies. Initially for puppies we recommend dosing at 2 weeks of age. Depending on the type of wormer we recommend a regime every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age, then every month until 6 months of age. After 6 months of age we recommend dosing every 3 months. Our dosing products are Drontal Plus, Milbemax and Advocate spot-on (does not treat against Tapeworm), Stronghold.

Flea Control

Spot-on treatments are easy to use. A single tube is applied to the back of the neck and gives your dog one months protection. These products are environmentally friendly and are not toxic to the animals. For year round cover simply apply one tube per month. It helps to treat the house as well. Our recommended products are Frontline, Advantix, Prac-Tic, Pro Meris.

Neutering

This is a most important subject. Unless you intend to breed you should spay (females) and castrate (males) all dogs from 6 months of age. If left un-neutered your dog could become pregnant or be the cause of unwanted puppies.

Dental Care

We clean our teeth twice a day - imagine what or mouth's would be like if we didn't - dogs are no exception! It's important to develop a dental care regime at an early age to get your puppy used to it. We suggest 'Logic Oral Hygiene Gel' as it is extremely easy to use. In fact your puppy will probably regard it as a treat! Let your dog lick an inch directly off the tube. The gel coats the teeth and begins the breakdown of plaque. This should be used daily to keep your puppy's mouth in tiptop condition.

House Training

Keep your puppy confined to a small area lined with newspaper or puppy training pads. As the pup gets used to the pads/paper, move it closer to the door, eventually outside. The pup should then start asking to go out to do his or her business. Take your pup outside in regular intervals - if possible once an hour and reward him/her when she does her business outside.

Behavior and General Training

Use a firm 'No' to discourage your dog and remember to be consistent. When the puppies are less than 16 weeks old is the best time for basic training and socializing skills. Don't forget we are at the other end of the telephone, don't let behavioral problems get you down. Our staff would be happy to listen and offer constructive suggestions to help you overcome any difficulties you may be experiencing with your pup.

Microchip

This is when a tiny microchip (about the size of a grain of rice) is injected under the loose skin of the neck. The microchips unique 15-digit code is registered with a pet database. This provides your pet with a secure proof of identity - unlike collar tags that can be lost and can be taken off. If your pet should get lost it would get taken to the local authorities, a charity organisation or veterinary centre. Immediately on arrival the animal would be scanned - and you would be reunited with your pet as soon as possible. It only costs approximately €40 and life long registration.

The above points are a brief summary of some of the beliefs and protocols of this Practice. If you would like to discuss anything or like a bit of advice - do not hesitate to contact us on

091 841 935 - it's what we are here for!