

**INSURANCE:**

Your puppy comes with 30 days of free insurance through Trupanion (Promo Code: BR1DD102023). You will need to activate it either online or by calling them somewhere between the day before your puppy arrives and one day after arrival. It may be easier to activate ahead of time before your new puppy is demanding your attention.

**FOOD:**

Your puppy is eating TLC Pet Food (Puppy Formula). We allow free choice food when we feed 3x daily so that no one misses out on getting what they need. We recommend continuing to feeding 3x daily until your puppy is over 6 months and then can switch to 2x daily.

This will help get a regular potty training routine established. Your puppy should remain on the puppy formula until 10 months old and then can be transitioned to the adult formula.

Soft food can be fed if your puppy is not wanting to eat but is not recommend for long term as it is not good for dental health.

\*Note: Any diet changes should be made slowly over the course of 2 weeks.

**VACCINATIONS/DEWORMING:**

Your puppy has received the age appropriate sets of vaccinations which include: DISTEMPER, CANINE ADENOVIRUS TYPE 2 (HEPATITIS), PARVOVIRUS & PARAINFLUENZA.

The first set of vaccinations are typically done around 8 weeks. The second set is done around 12 weeks. The third set is due around 16 weeks. They can also receive their rabies vaccine at this time. Annual boosters are due starting when your puppy turns 1 year.

There are also vaccinations for BORDETELLA (kennel cough), CANINE INFLUENZA, LEPTOSPIROSIS & LYME DISEASE. If you get the Leptospirosis vaccine we recommend having it done separately from other vaccines as some dachshunds are more sensitive and have reactions to it.

We recommend talking to your vet about which vaccinations are recommended for your area.

Your puppy has been dewormed every 2-4 weeks starting when they are between 4 to 6 weeks using Strongid. We recommend keeping them on a monthly deworming schedule until 6 months. At this time they can be switched to every 3-6 months depending on their needs. This can also be discussed with your veterinarian.

**SLEEP:**

Your puppy has been learning to sleep in their own crate at night. After weaning they start sleeping in a crate with their siblings. They slowly get transitioned into sleeping with only 1 other sibling or another dog. Then we make the transition to sleeping on their own. Having a toy to snuggle with can help. Some puppies require a little extra and a hot water bottle and ticking clock can be helpful. Just make sure there are not small parts that your puppy can chew or swallow. There are special heartbeat toys designed for this purpose.

Your puppy is typically sleeping 8 hours through the night. There can be a bit of a relapse with changes of a new home but generally they will get back to their routine within a few days to a week.

Their bedtime has been around 10 pm and they are up by 6 am. This schedule can be adjusted to suit your family's lifestyle. If your puppy is crying after being put in the crate I recommend waiting a few minutes to see if they settle. If crying persists you can take them out for a bathroom break. I strongly encourage you to make sure it is a potty break only, not playtime, or your puppy may become demanding to play instead of sleep. Each puppy can be different. Some prefer a quiet place where they are not disturbed. Others are happier near you and it can be helpful to place the crate near your bed. I don't recommend letting them sleep in your bed unless that is the long term plan. While this can be helpful in minimizing whining it can lead to more potty accidents (potentially on your bed) and a harder time getting them to sleep in their crate when you try it again.

\*Tip: Keep last meal about 2 hours prior to bedtime. This will help minimize middle of the night potty breaks but also ensure they aren't struggling to sleep due to hunger.

**LEASH TRAINING/WALKS:**

Your puppy has started learning to go for walks on a leash with a harness. I recommend using a harness opposed to collar for walking them while they are learning.

They start out their leash training in the house. We try to go for walks around the neighborhood (weather permitting) and go for morning potty breaks on leash.

**TOYS:**

Dachshunds can be dedicated chewers or toy destroyers, especially during puppyhood while getting new teeth. It is a good idea to supervise their playtime and make sure they don't have toys that they are able to rip off and swallow pieces from. This can cause blockages in their intestines which can result in health problems and costly vet bills.

## **POTTY TRAINING:**

Your puppy started using pee pads while they were still nursing and just starting to venture out of their bed. Typically by weaning time they are using the doggie door to go outside. Pee pads get taken away at this time because they tend to turn into chew toys. I understand that most of the future homes don't have a doggie door option but we have a few suggestions to help:

- Keep your puppy restricted to a smaller portion of the house until they are consistently going outside.
- If possible, keep your puppy off carpeted areas as this tends to translate to "grass" for them.
- Take your puppy outside first thing in the morning when they wake up and immediately after they wake up from a nap.
- Take your puppy outside immediately following a play session.
- Take your puppy outside approximately 10-15 minutes after a meal.
- Take your puppy outside right before bedtime.

Giving praise and/or treats for going potty outside will help your puppy learn that this is the right thing to do.

Establishing a consistent time and location can help speed up the training and reduce accidents.

\*Tip: Make your own lawn: If you live in an apartment, condo or don't have easy access to your own lawn you may want to make your own "lawn" using some sod and a tray. This can be set up somewhere inside or on a balcony for your puppy to use. This can be handy for night time or ugly weather potty breaks when it's more difficult to go outside.