

Dog Supply Checklist:

1. Commercial brand of dog food and treats
2. Food dish and water bowl
3. Toys, including safe chew toys
4. Brush and comb, including flea comb and nail trimmer for grooming
5. Collar with license and ID tag
6. Leash
7. Carrier (*for small dogs*)
8. Training crate
9. Dog bed or box with warm blanket or towel
10. Dog toothbrush

The No-No List:

Do **not** feed your dog:

1. Alcoholic beverages
2. Chocolate
3. Coffee, macadamia nuts
4. Grapes, raisins, or avocados
5. Moldy or spoiled food
6. Onions, garlic, or chives
7. Poultry bones
8. Salt and salty foods
9. Tomato leaves, stems, or unripe fruit
10. Yeast dough
11. Human medications unless prescribed by your veterinarian

Pesky Parasites:

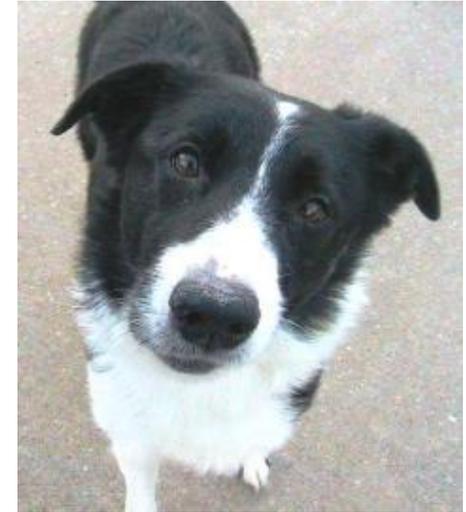
Inspect your dog daily for fleas and ticks, especially during warm weather. Talk to your veterinarian about flea and tick control options for your pet.

Heartworm is a parasite that lives in the heart and is passed to dogs by mosquitoes. Your dog should have a blood test for heartworm every spring and prescribed a preventive medication. The preventive can be taken year round. Your veterinarian will develop an effective heartworm prevention plan based on yours and your dog's lifestyle.

Make sure your pet is screened annually for internal parasites! Dogs are commonly exposed to worms and other microscopic parasites that may cause disease in humans. Proper screening and treatment are essential for the health of your dog and your family.

The key to treatment is correct diagnosis, which is most often done by a microscopic examination of your dog's feces by your veterinarian who can then prescribe the appropriate medication.

CARING FOR YOUR DOG



**Humane Society of
Scott County
2802 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804
(563) 388-6655
www.hssc.us**

Somebody here needs you!

Our Mission:

To provide humane care for all of the lost, abandoned and unwanted pets in Scott County, to adopt these pets to caring, responsible, life-long homes and to educate the community about responsible pet ownership.

Brochure made possible by a grant from
The Riverboat Development Authority

Thank you for choosing adoption - THE LOVING OPTION! We hope you, your family and your dog will enjoy many happy years making memories together. This booklet is intended as a beginning guideline to help you keep your dog happy and healthy. Remember: your dog should see a veterinarian for a full physical examination every year to keep current on vaccinations and prevent serious diseases such as heartworm and other internal parasites.

Feeding Your Dog:

Puppies 8-12 weeks old-4 meals/day
Puppies 3-6 months old-3 meals/day
Puppies 6-12 months old-2 meals/day
Dogs 1 year & older-1 or 2 meals/day

Feed your dog the amounts recommended by your veterinarian or the commercial manufacturer to avoid obesity. Limit people food! Your dog may enjoy small amounts of cottage cheese, cooked egg, fruits and vegetables. Fresh water should be available to your dog at all times! Food and water dishes should be washed frequently.

Grooming and Handling Your Dog:

Frequent brushing reduces shedding and helps keep your dog clean. Most dogs don't need to be bathed more than a few times a year.

Before bathing, comb or cut out all mats from the fur. Thoroughly rinse your dog's coat after shampooing. Be sure to check and trim your dog's nails periodically.

To carry a puppy or small dog, place one hand under the dog's chest with your forearm or other hand supporting the hind legs and rump. Never lift or grab your puppy or small dog by the forelegs, tail or back of the neck.

To lift a large dog, lift from the underside, supporting the chest with one arm and the rear end with the other.

Behavior Expectations:

Teaching your dog the basic commands - sit, stay, come, down, heel, off and leave it - will improve your relationship with your dog and your neighbors.

Start teaching your dog manners! Use bits of food as a reward. Keep your dog on a leash in public.

For your dog's safety and the safety of others, train your dog to obey and come to you. A disobedient dog is not ready to socialize and can become injured or lost.

Your Dog's Health:

Distemper combination vaccines should be repeated once annually for all dogs. This vaccine protects against distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and parainfluenza. A puppy's vaccination program cannot be finished before 4 months of age; some breeds, including Rottweilers, American Staffordshire and pit bull terriers, should be vaccinated until 5 months of age.

Puppy vaccination and socialization go together. Many veterinarians recommend that new owners take their puppies to socialization classes at 8 to 9 weeks of age.

Rabies vaccination is required by law. The vaccine can be given at 4 months of age and is required at 6 months, repeated one year later and then every 3 years. A current rabies vaccination is required to license your pet.

Bad breath is the most common indicator that your dog is in need of a dental checkup. Keep your pet's teeth and gums healthy by brushing the teeth once or twice a week, using dog toothpaste on a dog toothbrush or gauze pad. Poor dental health can result in tooth loss and spread infection to the dog's entire body.