

**Congratulations
on purchasing your
Valley Gem Dobermann puppy**

Here are some handy hints for taking
care of the new addition to the family
I hope you will be as happy
as I am with this
intelligent, versatile breed
Never hesitate to call me for
any advice or help with your puppy

Kind Regards,
Cheryl Spring

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VALLEYGEM DOBERMANNNS

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**VALLEY GEM.COM.AU
DOBERMANNNS**

Taking care of your Puppy



BARF Biologically Appropriate Raw Feeding

Books can be purchased through the
Royal N.S.W. Canine Council
PH: 02 98343022

We also add to the diet:
Quality prescription dry dog food
tailored to your puppy needs
and Divetalact low lactose supplement powder



Bad

Cow's milk
cooked bones, canned food
processed can foods
chocolate and onions

DIET

The puppies have been on a 'Royal Canine Large Breed Puppy Maxi'. 'Science Diet Large Breed Puppy' or 'Taste Of The Wild Puppy Formula' is also good for puppies .

Taste of the Wild has Pacific Steam Salmon. The fish oil excellent is for dobermans dry coats.

Any changes in a puppies diet are to be done gradually over 14 day period or they will get stomach upsets ..

They have had fresh chicken mince made from chicken backs mixed in with their dry food 3 times day and a bowl of fresh dry food freely available.

Then as puppy grows...

2 meals a day and their bowl of fresh dry food to snack on will be enough till adult when just 2 meals will be fine.

Always have fresh water available 24/7.

Chicken Mince can be sourced at Chicken Wholesalers , some produce and pet shops .

There must be no additives .

For training I use white chicken breast cooked as it will not upset their stomach as dog treats will since they are rich and full of preservatives .

As treats i give pups carrots and apples to play with. Also cow hoof are a good safe fun toy. You can fill it with mince and freeze in summer to be used as a snack play toy .

Treats you buy usually upset dogs stomachs so best to keep things simple and not add hazards.



Children and Puppies

Do not let children play with puppies unless supervised by an adult

Do not let puppies play rough with bigger dogs
Puppies' bones are fragile and easily damaged
Dogs are not aware of their size. You are

Do not wash your dog more than once every two weeks

Always dry a dog well after a bath especially your puppy
Puppies are prone to intestinal blockages

Be Cautious

do not leave anything unsafe around with puppies/dogs

More info on this website:
<http://alexadry.hubpages.com/hub/Symptoms-of-intestinal-blockage-in-dogs>

CARE

Coat

Dobermanns have a short coat. Care is minimal. Grooming is bliss. When bathing use natural, gentle shampoos, such as 'Alooveen Oatmeal Shampoo and Conditioner'.

Harsh shampoos are not good for a Dobermann's naturally-dry coat. There are lots of great natural products on the market.

Nails

Trim your puppy's nails regularly, this way you only need to take a fraction off each time. It's great training for the dog as well.

Ears

Check your dog's ears to make sure they are free of dirt, grime and wax. The ear should look clean, and be free of mites. Use cotton wool and ear cleaners such as Epioptic or Leo ear cleaner.

Eyes

Use cotton wool dipped in cold tea water (teabag dunked in water) to clear the sleep or dust from the eyes. Don't double dip; use a separate cotton bud and tea water per eye.

If there is excessive or irregular discharge from the eyes seek veterinary advice.



Worming

**Your puppie's
next worming is due on:**

Worming Schedule

Puppies younger 3 months
need regular worming every 2 weeks
with Drontal Allwormer

Puppies between 3 and 6 months
need regular worming every month
and after six months every 3 months.

Heartworm prevention can be administered
from 3 months onwards

We recommend Revolution
which does fleas, heartworm and mites

Vaccinations

See enclosed Vaccinations Certificate

We only use C3 and C4 vaccinations as there health
risks associated with the C5 vaccine. To upgrade
your C3/C4 vaccination to C5 you can use
Bordetella Nasal Spray Vaccine usually required by
kennel facilities.

The puppy booster is due at 12 weeks.

After that once a year

Do not allow puppy to be exposed
to places where lots of dogs have been until
10 days after the vaccination

**Keep your puppy off the floor
when visiting a vet**

Only consider when you are in a high Parvo risk an
extra puppy vaccination C3, then once a year.
Consult your local vet

HEALTH

Hygiene

Always keep your puppies yard clean of droppings
to prevent disease and internal parasites

Fleas

I recommend Frontline Spray or for puppies under 8 weeks.
Then spot on products such as Advantage. Frontline Plus or
Revolution are some of the brands available. We do not
recommend flea+ tick collars under 6 months due to the risk
of chewing.

Ticks

I use Frontline Spray until the puppies are 8 weeks old, after
that I use Frontline Plus every two weeks. There are a few
new products on the market e.g. Nextgard or Bravecto
which are pills taken periodically. There was negative
feedback about these products. Best to do your own
research on the net.

De-Sexing

Between 12 and 18 months

Hormones are important for bone growth and development
of your dog. It is important to be responsible pet owner but
desexing your pet early doesn't solve behavioural problems
and can cause health issues. Large breed dogs are best
being desexed after maturity as to not cause urinary
incontinence or orthopaedic issues.



Something about negatives and positives

Give clear consistent messages

Don't ignore bad behaviour and have clarity in your training.

If the puppy is doing something negative don't reward or ignore

or the puppy will never realise it is doing something negative. Remember to target and only shape desirable, calm wanted behaviour.

Hitting a dog is no discipline

To deliver a physical negative:

make a quick grab-and-release around the top of puppy's neck and at the same time give a verbal negative

Always remember to give praise for the right decision

Give payment where it's due

Teach your puppy what a negative is

Use your 'negative cues' cautiously; don't progress through the levels too rapidly as puppies are easy to offend
Use a harsh dominant tone of voice saying 'ahh' or 'no'
When puppy ceases the undesired behaviour verbally praise him in a bright and happy tone of voice

Let your puppy know he's made the right decision

If your verbal negative doesn't work then go to the next level which is a physical negative, but always try a verbal first

Remember if puppy continues its negative

behaviour your level isn't high enough
Proceed to a higher level until the puppy makes the right decision
Then reward accordingly

Be firm and fair and you'll have a calm

easy-to-live-with compliant companion that knows where he or she stands

TRAINING

Toilet Training

Puppies need, and become house trained quickly from regular toileting.

Take the puppy to a grassy area:

Every time your puppy awakens, after meals and approximately two hours.

It is best to have your puppy in a safe, fenced, grassed area during the day.

Toilet regularly. Especially at night when puppy is indoors, and you will soon have a house trained puppy.

Be diligent in the early stages with your puppy, and the message will be well imprinted.

Valley Gem puppies have been toileted regular from 5 weeks of age. It is very important to continue this training.

Crate Training

Crate training is not punishment but a personal space, safe for a puppy to have 'quiet time' and a rest.

I highly recommend crate training, penning. It enables a puppy or dog to have a safe quiet space of their own and to have independence, which stops separation anxiety and domineering problems. Crate training can be any contained area; normally a large cage within the home near a living area or a room portioned by a gate.

The Easy Click Dog Pen can be purchased on this link:

www.vebopet.com.au.

Place water, their bedding, toys, bones and food inside the cage. It is great for toilet training throughout the night.

Obedience

Valley Gem Dobermanns are highly intelligent dogs, willing to please their master. Be a firm and fair leader. Do not promote dysfunctional behaviour in your dog. Promote desired behaviour with praise. Remember Dobermanns are naturally dominant Dogs.

Be a good leader!

Use structure and boundaries. If you don't know how to solve a problem do not hesitate to call me for advice. Training is important with all dogs, especially large breeds such as Dobermanns.



Transporting your Puppy

if travelling by car to pick up your puppy don't forget to have a container with of fresh water with you and a bowl for the puppy to drink from and make the puppy comfortable with a few towels.

Use a harness instead of a collar and be safe with putting your puppy on the leash at the toilet stops. Avoid any high density doggy areas or dog parks as your puppy has not had its 12 week parvo vac as yet.

Bring an esky, we supply some puppy food and snacks to make it easy when you arrive home and his meals are the same on the first day in the new home.

If travelling by plane bring some fresh sheets for bedding, we'll take care of the water and blanket for the trip to the airport.

Toys

Indestructible play toys can be purchased online.

Avoid toys like squeekers, rope toys or which contain foam. The large breed puppies are very robust an can tear a toy or foam mattress to pieces which could be swallowed and trigger complications like bowel obstructions.

Why a harness?

You will need a harness size medium which will fit puppy until big. We train puppies to start to walk in harness to avoid toughen and desensitizing their necks.

A young puppy doesn't understand training nor corrections properly and we do not want to shape behaviour like pulling on the leash.

Correction starts around 14-16 weeks. Before that we only want the puppy to move forward. What we do is develop them by different associations and make progress gradually. Its called placement training and is the key to easy trainability.

The puppy associates training with good fun instead of causing problems with moving too fast and expecting too much.

PLAY

Pen

Have a safe pen indoors made for your puppy. It avoids the puppy to shadow you 24/7 and it will strips its independence. An outdoor pen is also handy for toilet training if your yard is too big and unsafe for small puppies. The photo shows a metal tube heavy duty exercise playpen made snake proof.

Training pens are available from <http://www.vebopet.com.au>



Harness

Get yourself a long puppy leash of about two metres with small clips which is more then sufficient for the small pup. the length of the leash is important for training. Don't use chains, a light leather or webbing leash will do. K9PRO have a good selection of leashes online. <http://www.k9pro.com.au> A soft webbing puppy harness from the Kramer brand is perfect and is easy to take on and off. A medium size will suit your puppy for some time.

We don't approve of using collars on puppies in training until they are approx. 14-16 weeks depending on the puppy. This will be explained in the pickup training session of your puppy.

Training Collar

When mature a martingale training collar will be used or either a nice soft flat collar with a buckle, we suggest to avoid plastic clips because they break easily. Any form of collar or harness is only used when handling the dog and never left on the dog to avoid accidental hanging or injury.



Why this bed?

Loose and exposed fabric is the enemy!
The beds have no fabric exposed where it can be chewed, the seams are secured inside a channel within the frame, so your fur child can't get to it with their teeth.

This vinyl is coated in polyester to foil those persistent diggers and is easily cleaned. We recommend this option to our professional customers and regular households alike.

If it can't be seen or touched, it can't be chewed!

This means no gaps in fabric, no edges to yank on or grooves to get teeth into.

For more info

Scan the QR Code or click the image below to visit the CHEWPROOF MATS website:



SLEEP

Beds

The dog beds I use are chew proof beds X LARGE they are safe and the pups can not learn to be destructive as these type of high energy large breed dogs are very prone to being destructive which makes them prone to bowel obstructions until grow up around 18mths .

So I advise people just to have safe hazardous free environments then they will not get into bad habits have a bed they can destroy pluck and fuck your just setting them up for failure and potential hazard.



I use blankets and or sheets, depending on the weather, for puppies until they're 12 weeks and are able to chew the material. From then on its only the dog bed without the blankets.

