

Veterinary recommendations for puppies



Congratulations on adopting your puppy!



Here are some **essential points** to ensure your companion's health and quality of life. Our team is available for annual check-ups and emergencies.

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DELORIMIER & ROSEMONT | JEAN-TALON AVIDM inc.

Annual Check-up and Vaccines

Upon adoption, schedule a general exam and start vaccinations. Vaccinations will continue monthly until your puppy is 16 weeks old, with a booster one year after the last dose. **DHPP/DAPP (Core Vaccine)** provides protection against several serious and contagious diseases, such as:

- **Distemper:** Can be fatal, with symptoms affecting the digestive, respiratory, and nervous systems.
 - **Hepatitis/Adenovirus:** A severe infection of the liver or respiratory system, often fatal in unvaccinated puppies.
 - **Parvovirus:** A serious and highly contagious digestive disease that can persist in the environment for up to a year.
 - **Parainfluenza:** Part of the group of pathogens causing kennel cough, which often presents with coughing, gagging, and nasal discharge.
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- **Rabies:** A zoonotic disease (transmissible to humans) caused by bites. It can cause severe neurological symptoms and is fatal. Many cities require up-to-date rabies vaccinations to obtain a pet license.
 - **Leptospirosis:** A bacterium transmitted by the urine of wild animals (foxes, raccoons, etc.), causing serious kidney and liver damage. This zoonotic disease can contaminate water, grass, and soil, putting animals at risk.
 - **Bordetella (Kennel Cough):** Similar to a cold in humans, usually with symptoms like coughing, gagging, and nasal discharge. While often self-limiting, it can develop into pneumonia. Required by some boarding facilities and groomers.

- **Lyme Disease:** Transmitted by ticks. This vaccine complements parasite prevention and prevents the development of Lyme disease in dogs heavily exposed to ticks. Use in conjunction with effective oral or topical tick prevention.

Deworming

Until 6 months old, it is recommended to deworm your puppy monthly. This helps treat various life stages of parasites and prevents reinfection from eggs or parasites in the environment.

Parasite Prevention

Monthly parasite prevention is prescribed to protect against ticks, fleas, and internal parasites/worms during warmer months. Ticks are common, even in cities, and can transmit various diseases.

From June to November, a heartworm treatment is added, as heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes. Blood tests are required every 3 years if treatment is administered regularly, screening for heartworms as well as three tick-borne diseases: Lyme, anaplasmosis, and ehrlichiosis. If a dose is missed, a blood test will be required before the usual 3-year interval.

Spaying/Neutering

The recommended age for spaying/neutering varies by breed and size. This procedure helps prevent behavioral and health issues related to the reproductive system.

Your veterinarian can provide a cost estimate before scheduling the procedure. Call the clinic to book an appointment. The veterinarian will also prescribe a calming and anti-nausea medication for your puppy's comfort before surgery.

Microchipping

The microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is injected between your puppy's shoulder blades. It allows identification if your pet gets lost, as it can be scanned by veterinary clinics and shelters. Note, it has no GPS function. Keep your information up to date on the microchip company's website.

Microchipping is now required in many cities to obtain a pet license.

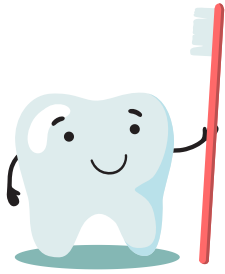
Diet

A high-quality diet is essential for your dog's health. High-quality nutrition is crucial for your dog's health. It is recommended to feed your pet a diet that meets the nutritional profile standards established by the AAFCO (Association of American Feed Control Officials). Look for the "AAFCO Statement" on the bag, confirming that the food provides "complete and balanced nutrition for growing puppies.

Until growth is complete, it is recommended to feed puppy a specialized veterinary diet that promotes optimal development. Later, a veterinary dental diet is advised for healthy dogs to prevent future dental issues. For personalized advice, consult your veterinarian.



Dental Care



Dental health is often overlooked in pets.

Daily brushing is recommended to prevent dental disease.

Be sure to use pet-specific toothpaste (such as CET enzymatic toothpaste available at the clinic). Small toothbrushes are also available to better suit the size of their teeth.

A veterinary dental diet is also suggested for healthy adult dogs.

Desensitization

Your puppy, being in a learning phase, can be gradually and positively introduced to various situations, sounds, smells, objects, and handling. We recommend daily handling of your puppy's paws, ears, mouth, and body. This will help your dog better accept interactions with people and ease future veterinary exams. Combine these manipulations with treats to create a positive association, making your puppy more cooperative during vet visits. Once your puppy is comfortable with paw handling, you can start trimming their nails every 4–12 weeks, depending on how quickly they grow.

Pet Insurance

Pet insurance can cover part of medical expenses, including dental care and some alternative therapies. You can get a quote online from various insurance companies.

Have a question? Visit www.cvetmontreal.ca or contact us

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