

Poultney Veterinary Hospital
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Welcome Your New Puppy!

Did you know?

- Puppies have often received their first distemper vaccine before arriving in your home, but they need to receive a booster every month until 18-20 weeks of age.
- All puppies are born with worms, so we deworm them at least three times. A negative fecal exam does **NOT** mean the puppy doesn't have worms - it means no eggs were detected. We run fecal exams to help identify the types of worms and how heavily the puppy is infested, as well as to check for protozoan parasites.
- Socializing your puppy with many people, places and dogs will help them be confident, friendly pets - see our handout on puppy socialization. We recommend you "practice restraint" multiple times a day so they learn to "relax for release"- We'll show you how.
- We split up the vaccine schedule so it's easier on your puppy's immune system - this does **NOT** increase the total cost but means you will be visiting about every 2 weeks until the vaccine series are finished.
- Here is a guideline for providing proper preventative care for vaccinating your puppy:

About 8 weeks:

- Distemper combo vaccination #1
- Deworming medication- 2 doses will also be sent home for you to give.
- Take home puppy kit with initial dose of flea/tick and heartworm preventative.

About 10 weeks:

- Lyme/Lepto vaccination #1
- Bordetella vaccination #1

About 12 weeks:

- Distemper combo vaccination #2
- Rabies vaccination
- Repeat flea/tick and heartworm preventative

About 14 weeks:

- Lyme/Lepto vaccination #2
- Bordetella vaccination #2

About 16 weeks:

- Distemper combo vaccination #3
- Repeat flea/tick and heartworm preventative

About 5 months:

- Spay or neuter is recommended
- Last Distemper combo vaccination
- Repeat flea/tick and heartworm preventative

For all dogs, we recommend year-round flea/tick and heartworm control, and a yearly blood test for heartworm and tick borne (including lyme) diseases.

We are here to help - Please call us with any questions you may have!!