

Puppy Socialization Checklist

Body Handling

- Check inner & outer ears
- Examine mouth & teeth
- Carefully open eyelids
- Softly poke nose with a capped pen
- Lightly squeeze paws
- Touch the tail
- Handle paws & trim nails
- Gently pinch skin
- Wipe body with a towel
- Put on a harness
- Grab by the collar
- Hug the puppy
- Pick the puppy up
- Hold puppy in your arms
- Cradle on their back

Surfaces

- Carpet
- Concrete
- Tile
- Wood
- Artificial grass
- Metal surfaces
- Stairs
- Mud & dirt
- Wet grass
- Icy pavement & snow
- Rocky, uneven terrain

Objects

- Pots & pans
- Mops/brooms/vacuums
- Canes & crutches
- Balloons
- Umbrellas
- Blankets (being shaken)
- Bags blowing in the wind
- Sidewalk signs
- Statues

New Environments

- Car rides
- Vet office
- Pet store
- Dog groomer
- Daycare
- Crate or kennel
- Other people's houses
- Busy sidewalks
- Crowded parks
- Beach or lake
- River or stream
- Shopping centers
- Parking lots
- Street markets
- Dog-friendly restaurants
- Commercial buildings
- Retail stores
- Balconies
- Elevators & escalators
- Skate parks or bike paths
- Sporting events

Sounds

- Doorbells/knocking
- Sirens
- Cars honking
- Fireworks
- Wind, rain & thunder
- Construction machinery
- Smoke detector
- Security alarm
- Opened garbage can lid
- Vacuum cleaning
- Dishwasher/laundry
- TV/videogame noises
- Babies crying
- Toddlers laughing
- People cheering
- Other animals

Unfamiliar People

- Women
- Men
- Tall men
- Men with beards
- Men with deep voices
- Infants (crawling)
- Toddlers (walking & squealing)
- Children (playing)
- Teenagers
- Elderly
- Homeless people
- Different ethnicities
- People in sunglasses
- People wearing hats
- People in costumes
- People in uniform
- People running
- People using a cane

Other Animals

- Puppies
- Adult male/female dogs
- Senior dogs
- Kittens
- Cats
- Farm animals
- Pocket pets (hamsters, guinea pigs, etc.)

Things with Wheels

- Wheelchairs
- Shopping carts
- Baby strollers
- Skateboards
- Bicycles
- Motorcycles
- Cars
- Trucks
- Buses
- Airplanes
- Luggage

