

First-Time Puppy Parent Guide

Family Matters

Bringing home a puppy is one of life's greatest joys. They quickly become more than a pet—they become family. The first few weeks can be exciting, exhausting and sometimes overwhelming, but with the right preparation, you'll be setting your puppy up for a lifetime of health, happiness and confidence.

At Amity, we believe every puppy deserves a great start, and every puppy parent deserves the knowledge and confidence to raise them well. After all, **we empower you through education.**

Your Puppy Doesn't Need Perfection

There will be accidents on the carpet, sleepless nights and chewed shoes. That's all part of puppyhood. What matters most is consistency, patience and kindness. Puppies don't know the rules—they rely on you to teach them.

Socialisation Is One of the Greatest Gifts

The first few months of life shape how your puppy sees the world. Introduce them gradually to different people, friendly dogs, sounds, places and experiences. Every positive encounter builds confidence and helps prevent behavioural problems later in life.

Routine Creates Confidence

Puppies thrive on routine. Regular feeding, toilet breaks, playtime, exercise and sleep help them feel secure and make training much easier.

Remember, puppies need plenty of sleep—often 18 to 20 hours each day.

Invest in Training Early

Training isn't about creating an obedient dog; it's about building communication and trust.

Teach simple behaviours using reward-based methods and celebrate small successes. A well-trained puppy grows into a safer, happier companion and strengthens the bond between your family and your dog.

Prevent Problems Before They Start

Routine veterinary care, vaccinations, parasite prevention, good nutrition and appropriate insurance are all investments in your puppy's future. Small preventative steps today can avoid much bigger problems tomorrow.

Choose a Vet You Trust

Your vet isn't just there when something goes wrong. They are your partner throughout your puppy's life, helping you make informed decisions every step of the way. Never be afraid to ask questions—the more you understand, the better decisions you'll make for your puppy.

Enjoy the Journey

Puppyhood passes remarkably quickly. Treasure the muddy paws, the clumsy zoomies and even the occasional mischief. These moments become treasured memories before you know it.

You're not simply raising a puppy.

You're welcoming a new member into your family and building a relationship that may last the next 10 to 15 years or more.

Because at Amity...

Family Matters.

If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your puppy's greatest advocate.