

True or False Statements

How to Look after a Puppy

A puppy can be a truly delightful addition to the family but they can also be a great deal of hard work. Puppies have to be toilet trained, taught basic commands, exercised, fed a healthy balanced diet and given plenty of love. Patience will be essential as puppies are known to chew favourite shoes, toys and items of furniture.

What you need:

- Collar and lead
- Water and food bowl
- Warm, comfy bed
- Brush
- Safe chew toys
- Patience!

What you need to do:

1. Choose the most appropriate breed of dog to suit your family requirements. How large will the adult dog be? How much exercise will it need? Will you have time to walk the dog everyday?
2. Make sure your home is a safe environment for a puppy. Keep electrical cables out of reach. Lock away cleaning/chemical products. Ensure low-level windows are locked.
3. Invest in a child gate to secure your puppy in a safe place whilst it is unsupervised.
4. As soon as possible, take your puppy to the vets for a health check and the necessary vaccinations.
5. Once vaccinated, give your puppy lots of opportunities to visit different places and to socialise with other dogs.
6. It's worth taking your puppy to dog training classes; here you will both receive plenty of help and support.
7. Take your puppy out into the garden as often as possible to encourage it to go to the toilet outside. It can take as long as 4 to 6 months before a puppy is fully house trained. There will be many mishaps along the way – be prepared!
7. Don't forget to play with your puppy and most importantly, give it lots of love and attention.

Top tip:

If handled correctly, the rewards can be great as puppies soon grow into loving, loyal and obedient companions.

- Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
You need to think carefully about what breed of dog you want.		
Your belongings may get damaged.		
Your home is automatically a safe place for a puppy.		
Dog classes are known to be unhelpful.		
A child gate is useful when puppies are on their own.		
Puppies shouldn't be allowed to meet other dogs.		
There will be mishaps when toilet training a puppy.		
Dogs can be loyal and obedient companions.		