



What to expect

Proper Care

Health Issues

Puppy (up to 6 months)	Adolescence (6 months – 24 months)	Maturity (2 years +)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demanding, energetic, growing a lot! • Sleeps, plays and eats a lot!! • Needs lots of exercise – a tired dog is a well behaved dog • Ready to begin housetraining • Immune system still developing - Keep out of public places until at least the second distemper vaccine <hr/> <p>➤ <i>8 Week Exam:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1st Distemper Vaccine ✓ Deworm and Fecal Test ✓ Heartworm & Flea/Tick Prev. <p>➤ <i>12 Week Exam</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2nd Distemper Vaccine ✓ Deworm ✓ Bordetella, Lyme and/or Lepto Vaccines on request <p>➤ <i>16 Week Exam</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Final Puppy Distemper Vaccine ✓ Rabies Vaccine ✓ Fecal Test ✓ Lyme and/or Lepto boosters (on request) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most puppies are happy and healthy! • Worms and intestinal parasites are common • Start heartworm and flea/tick prevention at 8 weeks and test annually! • They'll start losing their baby teeth – no worries! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpredictable! • Short attention span – keep training sessions short and fun • Needs lots of exercise • Starting to lose puppy coat • Becoming sexually mature • Chewing a lot! Keep pet secure and supervised <hr/> <p>➤ 6 Months: Spay/Neuter</p> <p>➤ Annual Exam starting at 1 year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yearly heartworm and fecal tests ✓ Rabies vaccination (every 3 years) ✓ Distemper Vaccination (every 3 years) ✓ Bordetella (every year as needed) ✓ Lyme and/or Lepto boosters (every year only if needed) ✓ Continue Heartworm and Flea/Tick Preventative ✓ Brush teeth regularly (2-3 times a week to be effective) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dogs can develop health issues at any age, but they become more susceptible to diseases as they age • Annual exams help detect problems early. The vet checks heart, lungs, teeth, gums, lymph nodes, eyes, ears, skin, organs in the abdomen, back, neck, hips and legs for signs of pain or arthritis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eager and self assured, slowing to an easy and lazy pace as they age (some much later than others) • Begins settling into size • Begins mellowing and continues maturing • Important to exercise body and mind <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Same as in adolescence ✓ Regular dental exams and cleanings ✓ Annual bloodwork panel and urine test to evaluate organ function ✓ For pets 7 years and older, we recommend twice yearly exams. • <i>See information on our PAWS Program for Pets Over Seven</i> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental problems can lead to health issues and make it hard for your dog to eat. Regular dental exams and professional cleanings may be needed • Osteoarthritis issues develop as a pet ages. Talk to your vet about managing pain with therapies like VOM, Stem Cell therapy, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories and supplements