

Puppy socialisation checklist

Introducing your puppy to new things when they are young will help them become a well-adjusted, calm and sociable adult. Puppies are most accepting between 4-12 weeks old, so start socialisation early, keep sessions short, make them fun and remove your pup from the situation if they seem worried.



Places & surfaces

- Fields
- Pavements
- Woodland
- Hills/mountains
- Park
- Sand
- Mud/ soil
- Tiles
- Wooden decking
- Bridges
- Tiles
- Forest
- Rugs/carpets
- Stones
- Water (always keep your puppy safe around water)



Sounds

- Fireworks
- Thunderstorms
- Windy weather
- Dogs barking
- Animals sounds
- Baby crying
- Children shouting
- Music
- Cars and motorbikes
- Car horn honking
- Tractors/farm traffic
- Ambulances
- Aeroplanes
- Helicopters
- Knocking at door



Household items

- Spray bottles/aerosols
- Vacuum cleaner
- Hairdryer
- Dusters
- Washing machine
- Kettle
- TV
- Radio
- Microwave
- Blender/food processor
- Curtains
- Doorbell/buzzers
- Musical instruments
- Noisy toys
- Drills and other tools



Transport

- Cars
- Trains
- Bus
- Motorbikes
- Vans and Lorries
- Tractors



Animals

- Birds
- Horses
- Cows & Sheep
- Cats
- Rabbits
- Squirrels



Outdoor equipment

- Umbrellas
- Canes/walking sticks
- Wheelchairs
- Zimmer frames
- Mobility scooters
- Skateboards/scooters



People

- People of different ethnicities, sizes and ages
- People wearing protective clothing (helmets etc.)
- People in a range of clothing (hats, glasses, etc.)
- Babies and children (under close supervision)



Training

- Wearing a collar
- Walking on lead (+/- harness)
- Toilet training (different surfaces)
- Car travel (or bus/bike travel)
- Sit
- Recall
- Alone time
- Crate training



Health check & grooming

- Opening mouth
- Ear and eye check
- Foot check
- Back end check
- Brushing teeth
- Clipping nails
- Brushing