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New Puppy Starter Checklist

Must-haves cover the first week. Add the recommended items as you go.

Must-have

Covers the first week

- [ ] **Food bowl and water bowl**
  Feeding
- [ ] **Age-appropriate puppy food**
  Feeding
- [ ] **Collar and leash**
  Walking
- [ ] **Poop bags and dispenser**
  Cleanup
- [ ] **Puppy pads**
  Potty training
- [ ] **Teething-friendly chew toys**
  Toys
- [ ] **Bed or crate mat**
  Comfort
- [ ] **Blanket or comfort toy**
  Comfort
- [ ] **Enzyme cleaner for accidents**
  Cleanup

Recommended

Add these as you go

- [ ] **Harness for training walks**
  Walking
- [ ] **Treat pouch and training treats**
  Training
- [ ] **Brush and nail clippers**
  Grooming
- [ ] **Toothbrush or finger brush**
  Grooming
- [ ] **Crate and crate cover**
  Crate training, if you are crate training

Why enzyme cleaner is a must-have

Accidents are frequent in the first weeks. An enzyme cleaner breaks down the mess and odor, so it is worth having in the house before your puppy arrives.

Free to share. Please link to allaboutdogparenting.com/resources/new-puppy-starter-checklist/

General guidance from the author's experience, not veterinary advice.

What Changes by Puppy Age

Your puppy's needs shift fast. Use this to know what to have ready at each stage.

Age	What to have ready	Why
Homecoming around 8 weeks	Small crate or crate with divider, blanket, comfort toy, bowls, puppy pads	The first nights are about feeling safe, and potty accidents are frequent.
2 to 3 months	Lightweight collar and leash, soft teething toys, plenty of pads and poop bags, enzyme cleaner	Bladder control is limited, so expect a potty trip every hour or two while awake.
4 to 6 months	Bigger collar or a harness, tougher chew toys, larger crate or removed divider, treat pouch	Adult teeth come in and puppies grow quickly. Training gets more serious.

My puppy's notes

Name: _____ Birthday or gotcha day: _____

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