



Let the socialisation fun begin!

KALMPETS Early Puppy Raising Program

The transition from breeder to home can be a lot for your puppy to take in! Although it can be tempting to invite everyone around to meet the new pup, or take it to school, etc., allow your new family member a few days to settle in and become familiar with his/her new home and the people in it first.

8 – 12 weeks

During this time it is important that the puppy is introduced to places, people, objects, sights, smells, experiences and noises that occur when living as a member of a human society.

Socialisation is all about the puppy learning how to live in our world and cope with all the challenges our world has to offer. A well socialised puppy is resilient.

It is important to begin to socialise your puppy as soon as you can irrelevant of if he/she is covered with vaccinations or not, as the socialisation window closes at 12 weeks of age.

The focus of socialisation initially should not be on introducing to other dogs, so when taking your puppy out and about stay away from populated dog areas until fully vaccinated.

Socialisation should be fun for your puppy! Take your puppy to locations where he/she can see and experience the following at a distance where he/she comfortable and not worried. Pair food rewards with exposures to build positive associations.

HOW?

Take your puppy to locations where he/she is not going to be overwhelmed with information. i.e. if the focus of your outing is going to be on socialising to people take some food rewards and ask people to give your puppy a treat rather than overwhelming your puppy with pats. If your puppy appears worried or unsure increase your distance and simply reward your puppy for looking at the people.

Allow your puppy to become familiar at a distance where she/he is comfortable. If the puppy appears worried or unsure increase your distance and do not try and encourage your puppy to approach. Wait for your puppy to feel comfortable prior to interacting – this is your puppy's way of learning coping skills!

If you have any concerns about your Puppies behaviour please seek help from a qualified positive reinforcement trainer.



CHECKLIST

KALMPETS Early Puppy Raising Program

INTERACTIONS / HANDLING

Every second day

- Brushing / Grooming
- Check teeth
- Checking pads
- Cleaning ears
- Clipping nails
- Holding puppy
- Hugging puppy
- Touching collar
- Touching ears
- Touching muzzle
- Touching paws
- Touching tail

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

Daily

- Aeroplanes
- Cars / horns
- Crutches / canes
- Doorbell / Knocking
- Fairs
- Fireworks
- Hairdryer
- Household Appliances
- Lawn mower
- Motorbike / Scooter
- Music
- Pushbike / Skateboard
- Sirens
- Thunderstorms
- Traffic
- Trains / Trams
- Trucks
- Vacuum cleaner
- Wheelchairs

SURFACES / PLACES

Daily

- Bitumen
- Bridges
- Carpet
- Concrete
- Escalator
- Grass
- Metal
- Sand
- Stairs
- Water
- Wood



CHECKLIST

KALMPETS Early Puppy Raising Program

PLACES

Daily

- Beach / Lake
- School
- Boarding kennel
- Bushland
- Day care
- Groomer
- Pet Supply Shop
- School
- Shopping Centre
- Sporting Complex
- Veterinarian

PEOPLE

Daily

CHILDREN:

- 0 – 2 Years
- 3 – 4 Years
- 5 – 12 Years
- 13 – 19 Years

ANIMALS

Daily

- Birds
- Cats
- Cattle
- Dogs (all age, breed, sex)
- Horses
- Kangaroos
- Kittens
- Poultry
- Puppies
- Rabbits
- Sheep

PEOPLE Continued

Daily

- Elderly People
- Different Skin Tones / Ethnicity
- People Talking Loudly
- Laughing
- Crying
- Arguing

PEOPLE Continued

Daily

MEN WITH:

- Beards
- Cigarettes
- Flowing Clothes
- Hats / Helmets
- High Vis Clothing
- Jewellery
- Large Jackets
- Sunglasses

WOMEN WITH:

- Cigarettes
- Flowing Clothes
- Hats / Helmets
- High Vis Clothing
- Jewellery
- Large Jackets
- Sunglasses