

# Cream Puff

## Labradoodles



### Words of Wisdom

#### Motion Sickness

Our puppies get three, 30 minute, car rides. This helps them gain familiarity with riding in a car. However, your puppy may get motion sickness on the ride home and will possibly vomit. This is not because they are sick. The more car rides they get when they're younger, the more they will love riding in a car as they get older!



#### Adjusting

One thing some puppies may exhibit when they go home is a lack of appetite and/or delayed bowel movements. It's very common for the first couple of days so don't be alarmed. However, you'll need to monitor your puppy and make sure they get the water and sustenance they need.

#### Parvo

Parvo is an infectious disease which is spread through contact of feces by an infected dog. The virus is very persistent, staying alive on surfaces for 2-3 months. Once it is in an environment, it is realistically always going to stay there. For this reason you should not take your puppy to dog parks or dog stores, and you should carry your puppy into the vet rather than having them walk in until they are fully vaccinated. These places have a large population of doggy visitors, who can potentially spread the virus. The consequences of Parvo are dire and most puppies, once infected, will not be able to fight it off and will succumb...

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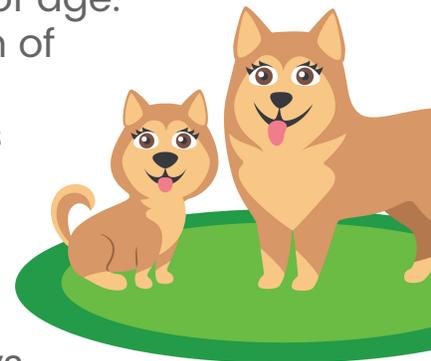


...It is scary, but as long as you use your best judgement and discretion, you should be able to avoid the disease completely. Just be very careful until your puppy has their second and third vaccinations with your vet. Your vet will give you clearance once it is safe to take your puppy anywhere.

## Worms and Parasites

It is an unavoidable part of owning a dog that they can get worms or parasites at any time from stepping on bad soil, sniffing a dog's butt too close, or accidentally stepping in someone else's stool. They can have nothing one day but get it the next.

Our pregnant moms are not allowed to be on medication. This leaves them susceptible to parasites and/or worms during this time. If a mom gets worms or parasites, they will pass it on to their puppies. As a precaution for all of our puppies to ensure they grow healthy and strong, we do three rounds of deworming here at Cream Puff before puppies go home. This is done according to our vet's schedule at 4, 6 and 8 weeks of age. For most of our puppies, these three rounds will clear them of everything. If your vet tests your dog's stool sample it will come up positive for a period of time because of this. Vets are aware of this and will wait 2-3 weeks before retesting.



We have listed the medications we use on your copy of your puppy's Health Certificate: Albon, Panacur and Nemex. We have medicated your puppy for the last 14 days with Albon and the last 7 days with Panacur. Sometimes puppies will need extra medication and if so your vet will provide it. The most common worms and parasites in this area of New Jersey are Giardia and Coccidia. If Giardia, Coccidia or worms come up, please do not be alarmed.

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## Feeding

We free feed our dogs here at Cream Puff Labradoodles. Free feeding means that we supply a bowl of food for the entire litter daily and they are allowed to eat whenever they would like to. We do this to prevent giving our dogs human behaviors. When puppies are free fed they self-regulate, do not over eat, and just graze throughout the day. They are not protective of their food and do not get aggressive over it since they always have access to it. This is the way we like to raise our puppies.



We realize that when puppies go home you may want to change this to scheduled feedings. If you change to scheduled feedings, please look on the back of the bag you purchased. There will be daily portion guidelines based on age and weight. Your puppy's medical record will have both. Since this is a daily feeding portion, you should divide that amount by the number of times per day you plan to feed your puppy.

When introducing new food, please add in the new food slowly and increase the ratio day by day. Changing foods quickly often causes puppies to have diarrhea and this will dehydrate them. If your puppy experiences diarrhea, a simple remedy is to add canned 100% pumpkin (NOT pumpkin pie mix) to their food. This will help to firm up their stool.

## Crate Training

We highly recommend that all puppies be crate trained once arriving to their forever home. We recommend at least 6-8 months of crate training, but prefer a full year.

It is both a happy but difficult and stressful time for a puppy when they go to their forever homes. They are taken from the place where they have grown up with their siblings and other litters their age. They are by themselves for the first time and do not understand...

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...what is happening. They need time to adjust, get to know you and your family, and learn that this is their loving forever home. Some puppies will adapt quickly and only need a few nights of crying to adjust to crate training. Some puppies may take longer and cry for 2-3 weeks. All puppies with proper crate training will eventually love their crate and it will become their safe haven. They will stop crying and be peacefully happy and quiet in their crate. Please give your puppy loving patience, and bear with them while they take time to adjust and settle in.

Here are common mistakes made during crate training:

## ONE:

We give them too much love in the wrong ways. We think of them as humans and give them too much space and freedom. This leads to them thinking they are in charge and it puts more stress on their shoulders.

## TWO:

We don't give them enough gentle and patient love in the ways they need it. Dogs need time and most of all your utmost patience when training and learning new things. We often think of them as human and become frustrated when they don't respond in the timeframe we would like. We need to keep in mind that they do not speak English and are trying to learn a completely foreign concept without speaking the native tongue.

## THREE:

We don't set down proper and consistent rules and guidelines for them to follow. A dog that comes into your home is looking to see what the rules are and who is setting those rules, because that person is their new leader. If you are not consistent or don't put down any rules for them, they will think your family is without a pack leader and they will force themselves to step up to the plate in order to care for your family. This is not a position you want your dog to hold.



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Tips for crate training:

**ONE:**

Number one rule: Do not answer your puppy's cries. Let them cry it out. For humans this is known as the Ferber Method. Some parents do not use this technique which is okay as their babies are not left home alone. However, your dog will be left home alone in their lifetime and they need to gain the skills of self-soothing and being alone.

**TWO:**

Cover your puppy's crate with a sheet, including the door, and lock the door AT ALL TIMES. This prevents them from getting rewarded for unwanted behavior and also helps your puppy and your family to detach at the right intervals.

**THREE:**

Place the crate as far as possible from your bedrooms, so they do not become emotionally dependent on you.

**FOUR:**

Turn on white noise for your puppy (music, TV, talk radio, a fan).

**FIVE:**

Use a divider to make sure the crate is just big enough for your puppy to curl around once and lie down comfortably. Larger than necessary space may delay potty-training and will not aid in self soothing.

**SIX:**

If your household is blessed with children, please make sure to set a rule that when the puppy is in its crate, they should not be disturbed. Puppies need their sleep to grow healthily. Perhaps make it a rule that only Mommy or Daddy can bring out the puppy to play.

Puppies will cycle and may have a crying fit but after a certain amount of time they will eventually calm down or fall asleep. This calm period, when they are sitting quietly and relaxing, is when you want to take your puppy out for the following steps...

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ONE:

Carry your puppy in your arms out of the crate to the place where they will eliminate. Do not let them walk there as they may pee on the way. Let them do their business. If it's hot outside, please bring a water source for your puppy to drink outside.

TWO:

Walk and exercise your puppy, no marathons though!

THREE:

Bring them inside and provide food and water. They may need to go out again 20-30 minutes after eating.

FOUR:

Train and play with your puppy to your heart's content! AS LONG AS you have active attention on them! Active attention means that you are able to correct your puppy's behavior a second BEFORE or DURING the act they are doing that is displeasing to you. If you correct them a few seconds after, it's useless and similar to giving them permission to eliminate everywhere and chew on everything. Be sure to let them out before they completely tire out.

NOTE: The only time you can have passive attention is when they are falling asleep and not moving around. Feel free to cuddle with your puppy and watch TV or a movie during this time. They are not moving so there will be no behavior to correct. Around 15 minutes after your puppy falls asleep please put them inside their crate to continue sleeping for the next 2 hours and close the crate door.

FIVE:

Go back to step 1 and repeat. Steps 1-5 should be repeated every 2-3 hours for your puppy's first month at home. Next month it will be 3-4 hours and the month after that 5-6 hours. The cycle of steps 1-5 starts when you wake up and ends when you go to sleep.

EXCEPTION:

The first two nights at home only, make the final cycle at 2AM. The first two days are very hard for a puppy and around 3AM they will wake up and cry. Ignore their cries as you have already addressed their needs at 2AM.

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## Teething and Redirecting

Your puppy will be going through two teething stages. Their puppy teeth are still growing in, and at around 12 weeks they will fall out to make space for their adult teeth. This entire time is very itchy for puppies and so they will want to nibble. When puppies play, they do a dance we like to call “Fighting, Fighting! Biting, Biting!”. They nip and chase each other to show affection. You will have to teach your puppy this is not an appropriate way for them to show you affection by using Redirection.



We like to use positive reinforcement redirection which looks like this:

### CORRECTION:

Say and mark the behavior with a firm and stern “NO.” This alerts them that they are doing something that displeases you.

### POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT:

Immediately follow your correction with a positive behavior they can do to earn your praise! In this case, give them a chew toy or something you do want them to nibble on. There are many toys that make crinkle noises or squeak. Please move it around as if it were alive! Puppies do not want a still object, they want to chase! When they start to nibble on it, give them TONS of praise! Our puppies love pleasing humans and will do more of the things they get praise for to make you happy and less of the behaviors that you do not like.

Correction should ideally be done a second before, during, or at the latest one second after the behavior. For this reason, you will need to keep close watch on your puppy to make sure they do not get away with any habits without your knowledge.

## Bathing

Baths can be given as needed/as preferred. Please don't over bathe as your puppy has hair, not fur, and can lose the natural oils...

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...they need. After baths please make sure to blow dry your puppy completely on warm or hot. Air drying a wet dog can lower their body temperature and lower their immune system.

## Grooming

Your puppy has a puppy coat now and will grow into their adult coat at around six months of age. After this time you will have to start taking them to the groomer. Frequency is at your discretion and a popular timeframe for our clients is every six weeks. Even though your puppy does not need grooming until later, you will need to start combing them with a fine tooth metal comb now so they get used to the sensation.

