

Dixie Darlings Puppy Protocol:

Below is our Puppy Protocol. It contains information on their food, vitamins, potty training and more. Your puppy comes with 24/7/365 lifetime tech support, frustration counselor or drinking buddy, whichever you need depending on the development stage. If you have any questions at all don't hesitate to ask! There are no stupid questions, we have a great sense of humor and we've seen/heard it all, or pretty close to it. If I don't know the answer off-hand, I will do my best to find the answer or point you in the direction to help you find it.

- Food: The puppies are currently eating All Stages Life's Abundance. It can be ordered directly via the Link: <https://lifesabundance.com/Dixiepugs>
The All Life Stages Healthy Start is a great starter pack
1/2 -1/3 cup three times a day to start and gradually increase as their appetite increases as they grow.
Being in a new environment causes stress, and not eating is common, making it easier for puppy to eat will help with this transition, moistening their kibble with a little warm water makes it softer. This only needs to be done for a day or two if they aren't eating normally. **Avoid introducing too many new foods and treats until they are at least 12-16 weeks old, their little digestive system can't handle too many new things too close together.**
**Puppy will go home with about 1 weeks' worth of food in their goody bag. If you choose not to feed them Life's Abundance once they are home, make sure you introduce their new food slowly by mixing ¾ of the provided food with ¼ of the new food beginning on day 2 or 3 then gradually over the next 7-10 days decrease/increase the ratios of the two foods until they are solely on their new food. Please keep in mind, we recommend certain foods because we have fed them or are currently feeding them to our dogs, and have raised many litters on the foods we recommend. Other foods we recommend are Nature's Select Cold River Recipe (www.DeliverMyPetFood.com), and Origins -Six Fish or Tundra.
- Nu Vet Vitamin Supplements:
½ tablet until 5 pounds then 1 tablet daily

For your convenience, you may order directly from the manufacturer by **calling 800-474-7044** and using **Order Code: 72705**, or ordering **online** at www.nuvet.com/72705 . You can also save an additional 15% and assure you never run out of NuVet by choosing the "AutoShip" option at check out.

Please remember that our Health Guarantee goes hand in hand with keeping your new puppy on NuVet for the first 12 months. All of our dogs (12) and all litters, take NuVet daily, and we see how much of a difference it makes.

- Coconut oil (optional)
½ teaspoon with kibble daily (can warm oil in microwave to mix evenly with food)
As of 10 pounds 1 tsp in kibble daily
- Bathing and claw clipping:
We use Blue original Dawn as it's proven to be gentlest on their skin and doesn't strip too much natural oils from their coats.
Keep their claws short by trimming them with clippers yourself or having your vet do it every 3 weeks during their follow up shots. If you have a good trustworthy groomer that's always a good option as a lot of pugs will wiggle and turn while you try to clip.
- Potty training
Provide 3oz of water for puppy with meals and every 1.5 hours through the day
Take puppy out using "go potty" command every 45 min for first week then gradually increase time between potty to 2 hours (use about 2 weeks to get there)
If you are going to be out and are not crate training, then leave only 4-6 oz of water available. A puppy's bladder can only hold about 1oz of fluid at a time, this translates to 4oz of "raw" fluid and will keep puppy hydrated for about 3 hrs.
- Washable Pee pads are a life saver the link below are the ones we use.
https://smile.amazon.com/Medline-Washable-Underpads-incontinence-reusable/dp/B000FED594/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?ie=UTF8&qid=1546458580&sr=8-1-spons&keywords=washable+dog+pads&psc=1
- Belly Bands! If you have a male, BB's are a life saver and a huge frustration suppressant. I line them with slim generic incontinence pads and don't have to worry about finding little puddles along my baseboards. These really come into play once they start marking, before neutering. (We recommend waiting until puppies are at least 12-18 months old before spay/neuter). Here is a link to the ones we use:
https://smile.amazon.com/gp/product/B00Q0K9078/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_search_asin_title?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- Puppy will need 3 more sets of shots, 3-4 weeks apart. Puppies get their first set of shots with us at 7 1/2 weeks of age.

- Pugs are a social breed. When you are home you should allow your pug to be with you, despite accidents that will happen as they do with all puppies. Keep an eye on the warning signs. When puppy starts sniffing and going in circles take puppy outside and use the potty command. Remember to praise and reward during the learning process. Pugs are food motivated, don't allow them to train you! For the first week or two a treat each time they potty is fine, we use Zuke's Mini's they are small and soft and aren't empty calories.
- Crating is a personal choice. We prefer to use exercise pens vs. crates for young puppies as it gives the babies a little more play room, especially if you are at work and can't come home throughout the day to check on them.
- Bedding and toys- We always include "safe" toys in their take home bag when you come to pick up your new baby. These are the same toys they play with while they are with us so they know they are "allowed" to play and chew and be rough with them while they learn about the rules at their new home, and you introduce them to their new toys in their new space. The puppies have standard pillow sized beds that are soft and fluffy and easy to wash, that will also hold up to being washed almost daily with a non-slip waterproof bottom.
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/213347582339427/>

The link above is for our family group on Facebook. It's for families to keep in touch, post copious amounts of pictures and videos, stay in touch with litter mates, ask questions etc. we hope to see you there!