

HOW MUCH IS THAT DOGGIE IN THE WINDOW

Shelter:

Animals just like people need shelter from the harsh elements such as the hot sun, cold rain and snow storms. A shelter is a safe area to call home. A dog with out a fenced yard or enclosed patio is a dog that is not safe. Dogs that are allowed to run loose will eventually become lost, stolen or worse, hit by a car. It is against the law to allow dogs to run loose unless in a designated park.

Dogs depend on YOU to protect them!

Most dogs would love to cuddle up with their favourite person in a nice and cozy, house. Dogs that live in the house can be taught to behave. Teaching them with kindness and patience will help you to have a happy, well-adjusted dog.

Dog Supplies:

Your new dog will need: 1 food dish, 1 water dish, leash, collar, ID tag, chew toys, brush/comb, bed, and most important food.

There are many kinds of dog foods. Start by buying puppy food and move into adult food. You can buy dry, canned or packaged.

Don't forget about treats for snacks and training. You may also want to buy extra vitamins.

Other things you may need: baby gate, transportation crate or car restraint. You can buy more things as you get to know your dog.

Having the items on this list will help your new dog to feel comfortable and safe during the first few days with you.

Health Care:

A new puppy needs a checkup with a veterinarian, soon after you get him or her home. The doctor will make sure the puppy is healthy. Some puppies may need special medicines. They also need some shots to protect them from illnesses they might catch from other dogs. A new puppy will get several shots over a six week period. These are

called vaccinations. You may have to visit your vet two or three times to get vaccinations while your puppy is young.

When your dog is four to six months old, he will need to get a rabies shot. This will protect him from the disease called rabies. Rabies is contagious between humans and animals. The law requires that all dogs be vaccinated against rabies before they can get a license. While your dog is growing up, he will have to get booster shots for those vaccinations, but only once a year. This is a good time for your doctor to give your dog a checkup and make sure he or she is strong and healthy. As your dog approaches old age, it's especially important that he gets check-up to keep him feeling young and healthy. Unfortunately, most dogs get sick at some point during their lifetime. They could get something as simple as an upset stomach or as serious as cancer.

One of the most important things you can do for your dog is to have your vet perform surgery so that she won't be able to produce puppies. The operation is called 'spay' for a girl dog and 'neuter' for a boy dog.

This is an operation that removes the organs of an animal that make it capable of producing babies.

The operation is done under anesthesia (the pet is asleep) so the animal feels no pain. The operation does not hurt! Your dogs will be healthier, happier, and more obedient if they are unable to produce puppies.

A dog's temperature is between 100.2 - 102.8 degrees Fahrenheit.

A Word About Exercise

Your dog needs exercise, just like you do to keep his muscles strong and his heart healthy. You can run and play in the yard with him. You can play ball, go for walks or go to the off-leash dog parks.

Grooming

Your dog will need regular grooming. You can do it yourself if you have an easy-care kind of dog. You will need to buy shampoo and if your dog has fleas or a skin problem, you'll need special shampoos.

If you have a breed that needs special trimming, you will have to take it to a dog groomer.

Toenails: His nails should be short enough that they don't touch the ground. If they are so long that they are curling under your dog's foot, tell your parents that they need trimming. Your parents should learn to clip your dog's toenails or ask the vet to do it for them. Toenails that are too long curl under your dog's feet and make it difficult, if not painful for him to walk.

Teeth: Check your dog's mouth, only if he is a very friendly dog. His gums should be bright pink and wet (moist). Their teeth should be white and shiny. There shouldn't be any sores on his gums or cheeks or tongue. You should buy special toothpaste for dogs and with a toothbrush, brush your dog's side teeth. Most dogs like the taste of the toothpaste. Brushing your dog's teeth once or twice a week will help keep his her teeth clean and their breath fresh. At four months of age, your dog's permanent teeth will begin to come in. He will soon have 42 brand new teeth!

Ears: Start by checking your dog's ears. Are they clean? Do they have any sores or is there anything strange about them? Do they smell?

Eyes: Now look into your dog's eyes. They should be bright and clean with no discharge (stuff coming out). Some breeds of dogs have normal discharge from their eyes. Make sure it looks very clear, not thick or creamy colour.

Neck: Now gently put your fingers on his neck especially in front under his chin. It should feel clean and smooth, with no lumps or bumps.

Skin: You can check your dog's body and coat to make sure there are no stones or burrs caught between his toes, in his ears, mouth or skin. Look at their skin to see that it looks healthy and doesn't have any sore spots.

Feet: Now check your dog's feet - all four, one at a time. They should be clean with no burrs or stones between their toes. There should not be any cuts or splits in his pads.

Tail: Feel your dog's tail. It should not be painful to the dog. Just run your hands over the tail, **without pulling**. Now lift up the tail and check for anything strange that looks like it shouldn't be there. Your dog's private parts should be clean.

Whole body: Run your hand over your dog's whole body. There shouldn't be any lumps or bumps. Don't forget the tummy, thighs, and chest.

Update Collar and License

You will need to buy another collar for your puppy after a couple of months, because he will be growing.

Be sure you can always fit at least two fingers between the collar and the dog's skin. If you can't, the collar is too tight and you will need to buy a bigger one.

A license is required in most places by the time a dog reaches the age of six months. The dog must have its rabies shot to get a license.

Always be sure your dog has his collar and license on before you go out for a walk or a trip to the park.

In many cities, licenses for dogs are cheaper if your dog has been spayed or neutered.

Obedience Training

To be a responsible dog owner, you should train your dog. If you need help doing this, you might call an obedience club in your area or look in the phone book for private classes.

They can learn to follow directions, perform tricks, and work at jobs, just like people. Unfortunately, they do not learn these things alone. They need your help, guidance, and patience to be successful.

Like humans, dogs have families. For dogs, these families are called packs. In a pack there is always one leader and several followers. The leader is the dog who makes the rules and watches out for others in the pack. When a dog lives in your house, your family becomes his family, or 'pack'.

It is important that you let your dog know who the leader is. If he doesn't know, he will try to become the leader. It's an instinct (he's born with it). When this happens, a dog may be pushy and not follow the rules. By teaching the dog obedience and giving him things to do, he will realize that the human is the leader and he will follow, instead of lead.

Training your dog is a good thing. It helps you to bond (become closer) with your dog. The more you train him, the more he will

understand you. And the more you work and play with your dog, the more you will understand him.

In the past, dogs were bred to perform specific jobs like herd sheep, find rodents, hunt birds and mammals, and work with firemen and policemen.

But now, many dogs are left with nothing to do all day long. They can become bored and lonely. When that happens, they might chew, dig, or bark too much. Or they might sleep all day, which isn't healthy.

Another reason why obedience training is a good thing to do with your dog is, its fun. Yes, fun! You get to take your dog out in public and meet other dogs and new friends. You both get some exercise and you can learn tricks and other things that are fun to show to your friends.

Vacations

If your family ever needs to go away, you may need to pay for boarding or for someone to come to your house to take care of your dog.

As you can see, owning a dog costs money. Sit down with your parents and be honest about your family's ability to pay for a dog's needs. If everyone knows what to expect, there should be no surprises

Ruby the Chow Chow



She will live for approx. 15 years.
Average weight 55 lbs.

ITEM or SERVICE	1 month	1 year	Lifetime
Adoption Fee			300.00
Dog house			130.00
Water dish			7.00
Food dish			7.00
Leash (young & old)	15.00	15.00	30.00
Collar (young & old)	20.00	20.00	40.00
Dry food	12.00	144.00	2,160.00
Bed			35.00
ID tags			5.00
Treats & training snacks	15.00	180.00	2,700.00
Brushes			20.00
Spaying operations			99.00
City License		31.00	465.00
Toys		50.00	750.00
Micro Chip			58.00
Toe nail clippings	22.00	264.00	3,960.00
Yearly Vaccinations & check-ups		185.00	2,775.00
Eye drops		13.39	200.85
Shampoo	8.00	16.00	240.00
Car restraint			30.00
Yard fencing			1,200.00
MY TOTAL COST			15,211.85