

# NEW PUPPY JOURNEY



## Congratulations on your new puppy! 1st things you need to do:

- Puppy-proof your home.
- Obtain a crate for training, a harness & leash for walks.
- Book first visit with veterinarian & send records.
- Visit our website to help choose an appropriate puppy diet.
- Consider becoming a member of our Wellness program which covers unlimited visits for the year.
- Make a socialization plan
- Research pet insurance.



## Welcome to DVA! We are thrilled to meet your new family member!

- Bring a poop sample for parasite testing.
- Bring a list of questions.
- We will do a complete physical and discuss all findings.
- We will customize a vaccine and de-worming schedule based on their records - like babies, puppies need a series of vaccines.
- Book your next appointment.
- Start prevention for heartworm, parasites, fleas and ticks.
- If your dog's breed has a high risk for hip dysplasia, we recommend scheduling a consult with our specialist
- Don't forget to enroll in your free trial of pet insurance within 24 hours.



## Following Visits

### Puppies usually need a series of 3-5 visits to get all of their vaccines.

- Your puppy will get a medical progress exam to be sure they are growing and developing properly.
- It is normal to have behavior concerns to discuss at these visits. Bring your list of questions.
- We will administer the next vaccines at each visit until your pup is fully immunized.
- Puppies grow fast! It is normal to need advice on adjusting their diet and new doses for parasite preventatives.
- We will help you decide the best age for your pet to get their spay or neuter surgery. Often blood is taken at one of these visits for pre-anesthetic blood work and tick-disease screening.



## Between Appointments

### Between your visits:

- Enjoy your puppy! This is a special time to bond.
- Your pup may need some extra rest after vaccines. It is perfectly normal for puppies to be a little sore and "off" on the day after their shots. Call us if you are concerned.
- Socialize your puppy so they are ready for what they will encounter in life. The more people and situations the experience now, the better. Training should include nail trimming, bathing and ear cleaning.
- Be patient with training and house-breaking. Puppies are a lot of work. Don't be afraid to reach out for help.
- Review the vaccine handout and decide on "non-core" vaccines based on the anticipated lifestyle of your new family member.
- Download the "PetDesk" app to gain access to your pet's health portal

## Surgery Day

- The spay or neuter surgery is usually the last veterinary visit of puppy-hood. Micro-chipping is usually done now if not done yet.
- Most pet-owners are pretty nervous about their puppy having surgery. We use the safest and most up-to-date anesthesia and pain medicine and treat your fur-baby as our own.
- We use a surgical laser to reduce the discomfort of the surgery. Puppies go home the same day.
- Usually the toughest part of post-op care is keeping them quiet. Feel free to reach out to us if you need advice.



## Spay or Neuter day



*We will see you  
at your annual  
visit!*