

Grooming

Grooming is vital for longhaired dogs. When the hair is left unbrushed, it twists together. If left for long periods of time, more and more hairs twist together forming a 'matt'. These matts can tear the skin as the twisting pulls at the roots. The grooming equipment we stock can help to remove knots and matts, although we would always recommend prevention rather than cure. Smooth and shorthaired dogs should also be groomed regularly - loose hair can irritate the skin,

Apart from regular grooming, your dog may also require the odd bath - not necessarily with shampoos as they remove the natural oils from your dogs coat, sometimes just warm water will do. Ear cleaning and eye bathing may be required (**check with your vet or Pets Corner Staff if you are not sure of any procedures**).

You will need to clip your pets' nails on a frequent basis, particularly if your dog is senior in years (as they grow at a faster rate). A trim every few months should prevent any discomfort when walking. **If left too long, they could affect the shape of the toes and make walking very painful for your pet.**

Safety and hygiene

Not only is the health of your pet important, but his or her safety should always be your concern. You cannot guarantee the safety of your dogs if you let them roam the streets, particularly at night.

We would always recommend precautionary products for all situations as you can never be too sure.

- | Travel crates & carriers for any other journeys
- | Larger dog crates for unsupervised safety in your home

Your dog may have 'accidents', which need to be cleaned up with the minimum of fuss, and preferably not in front of your pet - this doesn't mean shut them in another room! Just distract them. They probably couldn't feel more guilty anyway!

Make sure you clean up with a **pet-safe disinfectant** as human cleaners include the same main ingredient as your dog's accident! Ammonia. We do sell products that repel your pet from one area and another product which could attract it elsewhere.

We are always happy to talk to you about your pet, so feel free to contact us whatever the issue.

The information in this leaflet is intended as a guide only, as animals have individual requirements and temperaments.

Dogs

You can never know too much about the animal you choose for your pet. Everyone has their own opinions about breeding, training, feeding and general care so don't just base your opinions on one persons experiences. Learn for yourself by getting several opinions concerning the area of your concern or interest.

Shopping List

It's a good idea to get as many of the following items as possible when you buy your pet.

- ★ Food
- ★ Dog loo and poop scoops
- ★ Food and water bowls
- ★ Dog flap
- ★ Collar and Lead
- Nail clippers
- ★ Flea and worm treatments
- Microchip and ID tag
- Brush & comb
- ★ Insurance
- Bed
- Book
- ★ Toys and treats
- ★ Car crate or harness
- ★ House crate
- ★ Animal safe disinfectant

★ **ESSENTIAL PURCHASES.**
YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE THESE ITEMS WHEN YOU BRING YOUR PET HOME.

Important Contacts

Pets Corner

or call us freephone on **0800 1696098**

Vets



Find out all about us at:
pets corner.co.uk

If you have any questions about your pet or any points made in this leaflet, please contact us and we will be happy to help.

Careguide Dogs



Think twice!

A new pet can be a fantastic companion, but sometimes the novelty can wear off (some pets live for a very long time). You may find that regular cleaning, feeding and playing becomes a time consuming chore.

Please try to handle and play with your pet as often as possible, you will find that you will be rewarded with a much happier and friendlier pet.

If you are not 100% sure that you or your children will be able to give your pet the attention that it needs then please **think twice**.

Do you have the time?



This does not mean 'how long are you in the house' but how much time throughout each day are you able to devote to training, exercise and general care of your pet? Depending on the 'breed' or 'cross' you choose or acquire.

- 1 Grooming could take at least an hour each day,
- 1 Exercise - in the form of play - can while away several hours, spread throughout each day,
- 1 Basic training (toilet training/what-not-to-chew training), trips to the vets etc. all take up time.

That's at least 20 hours a week, and that's just the basics

Dogs can make excellent pets. They can be very active with great personalities. If raised and trained properly they'll be your friends for life. We've compiled this leaflet to help you help your dogs settle in properly.

General Care

Before you do anything....

Have your dogs checked by the vet and insured if possible. This should identify any problems he/she may have already, and will help with financial support if anything goes wrong in the future.

You may wish to identify your dogs with brightly coloured or decorated **collars**, there are several styles of collars which perform different jobs with regards to training etc. You can attach small **engraved discs** with your details etched on showing contact numbers. Our stores do operate a service for engraving identity tags for collars in a variety of sizes. Choose the size that's suits your dog - not just to cater for your phone numbers and addresses etc. We also carry out **microchipping** for dogs at specific stores - please ask for details.

Sit!

If you find that you have acquired a dog who is not quite as well behaved as you had hoped, there may be a Sit! training class in your area. Our APDT qualified trainers can help you try to overcome your pet's behavioural difficulties. **Ask a member of staff for an information leaflet.**

We do also stock a wide range of **training aids and toys** which added to our staff advice should overcome nearly all undesirable activities you may find yourself confronted with.

Feeding time

Pets Corner specialises in nutrition. **Our staff are trained in all of our food related products to offer you the best advice on feeding to suit your pet, both in complete foods and treats.** We stock foods to cater for all ages and pet lifestyles - active, average or lazy; puppy, large breed, adult or senior. Not only can we select the healthiest, most natural diet for your pet, but **we could also save you around £350 a year!**

You should also choose a **bowl** to suit your dog. Whether ceramic or stainless steel, make sure that the sides are not too high. Plastic bowls are less stable and are more suitable for temporary use. Make sure each dog has a separate bowl to avoid one getting too greedy and the other missing out. If necessary, watch over meals.

Beds and baskets

Choose a suitable **bed** for your pet and choose well, as this should be the place where your pet feels safe and secure. It should be of a size that your pet prefers.

Depending on age and behaviour, you may need to select a non-destructible or waterproof material to avoid damage - accidental or quite clearly on purpose!

Fleas and worms

Regardless of age or behaviour, your pet will come into contact with fleas and worms - in fact, they nearly always pick up worms before they are weaned!



Catch fleas before they do any damage

These two parasites use our dogs as hosts, but they actually live and grow in our houses - in the furniture, the carpet and on other upholstery. This is why it is so important that all the stages of these pests lifecycle are treated at the same time. The best path to follow includes these 4 steps:

- Step 1: Treat your house/flat - aerosol or powder**
- Step 2: Treat your dog - shampoo, aerosol or powder**
- Step 3: Worm your dog - 1 dose or 3 dose**
- Step 4: Protect your dog - flea collar fitted a week after 1, 2 & 3**

Regular vacuuming of the carpet and washing of your dogs' bed and bedding should lower the chances of flea infestations. Also, regular grooming of your dog while out of the house should prevent them bringing unwanted guests inside in the first place! Regular grooming reduces the time your dog spends scratching.