



Taking the time to introduce your puppy to a wide range of experiences at a young age is an important step in helping him to grow into a well-mannered and happy companion. This checklist can be used as a scavenger hunt - and it will help you organize fun field trips for your puppy.

Here's how it works:

You can pick and choose what works best for you and your family. Check off each item as you complete it. You can choose whichever activities you wish - and you do not have to complete them in any particular order. I have included some space for you to include some things that may be specific to your situation or environment.

Be sure to bring lots of yummy treats for your puppy! Keep them small! Treat your puppy with each experience and if you are introducing your puppy to friendly strangers, you can ask them to give your puppy treats as well.

Stay focused on your puppy! Watch to ensure that they are enjoying themselves. If your puppy appears frightened (not taking treats, tail tucked, ears back or is pulling away) you may have tried to progress too quickly. Move away from the area/object to a safe distance where your puppy begins to relax again... this will likely be when they begin to take treats again. If you are unable to make progress, end the session and try another day. Always end things on a positive note with a game, special treat or toy!

Remember... go at your puppy's pace... not yours!

Have fun!

People:

- Infant Held By Adult
- Infant In Car Seat
- Infant In Stroller
- Toddler (all genders)
- Children (all genders)
- Teenagers (all genders)
- Adults (all genders)
- Seniors (all genders)
- Different ethnicities (all genders)

People With or Wearing:

- Beard and/or Mustache
- PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)
- Hats (including you)
- Helmets
- Sunglasses (including you)
- Coats (including you)
- Costumes (if possible)
- Woman in Flowing Skirt/Dress
- Canes
- Crutches
- Walker
- Wheelchair
- Backpack/Duffle Bag
- Bicycle
- Skateboard
- Rollerblades
- Jogger

People In Uniforms:

- Police
- Firefighter

- Courier
- Postal Worker
- Ambulance/Paramedic
- Vet Clinic

Events/Activites:

- Walk between parked cars
- Visitors to your home
- Deliveries to your home
- Anything events you do

Places:

- Veterinarian
- Groomer
- Pet Stores
- Box Stores (Home Depot, Lowe's, etc)
- Playground with Children (from a distance)
- Playground without Children
- School
- Different Neighborhoods and Communities
- Car Wash
- Elevators/Escalators
- Revolving Doors
- Automatic Doors
- Parking Lot
- Car Rides
- Public Transit (if appropriate)
- Outdoor Cafe
- Bridges
- Tunnels

Surfaces/Textures:

- Stairs (Open, Closed, Slats)
- Gravel
- Mulch
- Grass (wet and dry)
- Concrete
- Asphalt
- Wood
- Carpet
- Tiles
- Grates/Manhole Covers
- Decks
- Docks
- Sand
- Mud
- Soil/Dirt

Objects/Vehicles:

- Balloons
- Umbrella
- Musical Instruments
- Mirror
- Bus (loading and unloading passengers)
- Transport Truck
- Garbage Truck
- Lawn Sprinkler
- Shopping Cart
- Motorcycles
- Boats
- Airplanes
- Trains
- Helicopters
- Snow Plow
- Snow Blower

- Shovels
- Lawn Mower
- Leaf Blower
- Broom - in use and not in use
- Weed Trimmer
- Children's Toys - if you have kids

Sounds/Environmental:

- Vacuum Cleaner
- Television - at different volumes
- Music - at different volumes
- Dishwasher
- Washer
- Dryer
- Your Household Appliances
- Garbage Disposal
- Ice Maker
- Hair Dryer
- Kettle
- Computer Printer
- Garage Door
- Doorbell
- Thunder
- Phone Ringing
- Flapping Sound (e.g. flag or shaking out a towel)
- Sirens
- Fireworks
- Rain
- Wind
- People Shouting/Being Loud

****Animals:**

- Cats
- Other puppies
- Friendly small Dogs
- Friendly large dogs
- Friendly dark coloured dogs
- Friendly light coloured dogs
- Squirrels
- Birds
- Small pets (hamsters)
- Livestock (cows, goats, horses, etc)

Handling:

- Ears - lift and look inside
- Examine mouth & gums - “brush” gums with your finger/thumb
- Eyes - open (as if needing to put in eye drops)
- Tail - touch and lift
- Legs - touch and hold in your hand
- Feet - touching & lightly squeeze
- Toes - touch & hold (as if trimming nails)
- Nose
- Wipe with towel
- Lift puppy onto table like surface
- Introduce puppy to bathtub - dry at first, then damp, then tiny amount of water

My List:

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**ensure animals that you introduce your puppy to are healthy. Animals such as wildlife, an introduction at a distance is fine.