

New Dog Owner Checklist

Use this to help you prepare for what you should do before and after your four-legged friend arrives.

WEEKS BEFORE	
Set up the crate, bed and food and water bowls	Find a new vet
Remove shoes, toxic plants, electrical cords and breakable items	Stock up on food
Set up baby gates	Determine any health concerns
THE FIRST DAY	
Avoid over-excitement	Offer your dog alternating periods of family time and quiet time in the crate
Immediately show your dog the "bathroom" area and allow plenty of time for relief	Reward good behavior, like chewing on toys or sitting quietly
Begin a regular schedule	
THE FIRST WEEKS	
☐ Visit the vet	Stick to your established schedule
Begin group training and socialization at the park	Prepare to spot signs of loneliness, anxiety and aggression