



Caring Hands Animal Hospital
 12733 Braemar Village Plaza
 Bristow, Virginia 20136
 703-368-7300



Puppy Care

Your new puppy's health is very important to us. To help you get started with proper nutrition and care for your pet, we recommend a full physical examination as soon as possible. We will discuss training, nutrition, and important vaccinations that are necessary for your puppy's health to protect him/her from various diseases.

<p>♥ First Visit with Dr.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on general health and training • Complete physical exam • Fecal examination • DHPP vaccine • De-worming • Dispense heartworm and flea/tick prevention 	<p>♥ Second Visit with Dr.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recheck physical exam • DHLPP vaccine • Bordetella vaccine • De-worming • Dispense heartworm and flea/tick prevention 	<p>♥ Third Visit with Dr.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recheck physical exam • DHLPP Vaccine • Rabies Vaccine • Lyme Vaccine • Dispense heartworm and Flea/tick prevention 	<p>♥ Technician Appointment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lyme vaccine booster
---	---	--	---

FECAL EXAMINATION: A lab analysis of a stool sample will check for coccidia, roundworms, hookworms and whipworm eggs. Evidence of tapeworms may be seen in the stool as well. Puppies are usually de-wormed at their first visit and again in 2-3 weeks. Lab analysis of a stool sample is repeated annually.

DIET: Dogs less than a year old should be fed a premium quality food formulated for puppies. Unless a veterinarian advises, vitamin supplements are not necessary. Table scraps should be avoided, as these may be high in fat, nutritionally deficient and upset the balance of a good diet.

FEEDING: For very young puppies, dry food may be mixed with warm water. Puppies should be fed at least 4 times per day until 6 weeks of age, then 3 times per day until 12 weeks of age, and 2 times per day thereafter. Large breed puppies (adult weights >50#) should be fed a large breed puppy food. Most dogs can be switched to adult food at about 1 year of age, but some larger breed puppies need to be on puppy food even longer.

DHLPP VACCINE: Given every 3-4 weeks of age until your puppy is 16 weeks of age or older. Prevents Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Parainfluenza and Leptospirosis. The DHLPP vaccine is given annually until the age of 3 and then every 3 years. The leptospirosis vaccine is always given annually.

HEARTWORM PREVENTATIVE: The doctor will recommend a monthly tablet to prevent heartworm infestation, which is a serious threat transmitted to dogs by mosquitoes. This preventative also helps to prevent intestinal worms.

FLEA/TICK PREVENTATIVE: The doctor will recommend a monthly preventative for fleas and ticks, which can carry disease and pose a nuisance to your household.

BORDETELLA VACCINE: Given annually for at risk dogs. Helps protect against kennel cough.

RABIES VACCINE: When adult, given every 3 years. Prevents rabies and is required in Virginia between 12 and 16 weeks of age.

LYME DISEASE VACCINE: When adult, given annually. Helps protect against Lyme, a tick-borne disease.

SPAYING of females and **NEUTERING** of males is recommended for all pets not intended for breeding. Breast tumors, testicular disease, cancer and certain undesirable behaviors may be significantly reduced. While surgery is recommended when your pet is about 6 months old, it can be performed at any age.

MICROCHIP: A form of identification recommended to ensure the safe return of your pet if lost.

