Guide to the First Days Together

First of all, we'd like to thank you for choosing this puppy. Bringing a puppy home is always a special moment, but it also comes with responsibility. Until now, this little dog has lived in a safe, familiar environment with its mother and littermates, where everything was predictable.

Moving to a new home is both exciting and stressful. Everything is new: the surroundings, the sounds, the smells — and of course, you. It will take some time for the puppy to understand that it has arrived in a good place.

During the first few days, it is completely normal if the puppy is more reserved, eats less, sleeps more, or seems a bit unsettled. Mild diarrhea can also occur, which is often not an illness but simply a result of stress. In this period, patience and a calm environment are the most important things. Avoid overwhelming the puppy with too many new experiences — there is no need for visitors or busy programs right away. Give it time to settle in and start feeling safe. If diarrhea lasts more than a few days, it may be helpful to support digestion with probiotics or fiber supplements.

It is important to take the puppy to a veterinarian within a few days after arrival. This is not necessarily because something is wrong, but to make sure all health information is checked and up to date. The vet will review vaccinations, discuss deworming and parasite prevention, and assess the puppy's general condition. It is also worth planning ahead regarding upcoming vaccinations. Officially, a puppy can travel abroad 21 days after receiving the rabies vaccine (the earliest at 15 weeks of age). At this time, it is also recommended to check the details in the microchip database, especially the owner's name, phone number, and address.

A puppy's condition can change quickly, so it is important to monitor its behavior. If it becomes unusually lethargic, refuses to eat, vomits, has diarrhea, has difficulty breathing, or shows noticeable behavioral changes, these may be warning signs. A dog's normal body temperature is between 38 and 39.2 °C; above 39.5 °C is considered fever, and around 40 °C requires veterinary attention. After deworming, you may notice worms in the stool — this can be unpleasant but is a normal sign that the treatment is working. In some cases, the puppy may vomit, become lethargic, or develop a fever after deworming or vaccination; if this happens, you should contact your veterinarian.

Regarding feeding, the puppy is currently eating Monster petfood, which we ordered from zoomiez.hu as part of a kennel program. You will receive 2 kg of this food with the puppy. We chose this brand based on good experience with digestion and dental health in our older dogs. The puppies in the litter have shown steady growth, healthy coats, and good digestion. We recommend considering continuing with this food during the growth period, but the decision is entirely yours. If you decide to switch food later, it should always be done gradually over

5–10 days, slowly increasing the proportion of the new food, as sudden changes can easily cause digestive issues.

It is important to aim for balanced growth. The puppy should not be underweight, but it should not become overweight either. Very high-calorie foods can sometimes lead to overly rapid bone growth, which in some cases may contribute to joint problems. Each puppy is different, even within the same litter, so feeding amounts should always be adjusted individually. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation as a guideline, but adjust if necessary. Up to 6 months of age, it is best to divide the daily portion into 3–4 meals; from 6 months, feeding twice a day is sufficient.

During growth spurts, particularly around 4–5 months and 8–9 months of age, it is important to be mindful of physical strain. It is not recommended to introduce jumping exercises before 10–12 months of age. With a fully developed skeleton and musculature, the dog will learn agility or frisbee much more safely and efficiently later on.

During teething (approximately 3.5 to 7 months), it is advisable to be more gentle with tug-type games and to consider supporting the puppy with appropriate supplements. Calcium and phosphorus are essential for the development of strong permanent teeth and bones, but the correct ratio is important, so puppy-specific products should be used. Vitamin D3 helps with calcium absorption, and vitamin C supports the immune system and gum health. In addition, suitable chew items can help with the teething process, reducing discomfort and supporting dental health. Chilled chew toys or even a damp, cooled cloth can soothe irritated gums, and it is worth checking regularly that no baby teeth remain stuck.

For rewards, you can use dog treats, dog salami, or simple meat-based products with minimal additives. Chewing is a natural need, so it is important to provide appropriate options. At this age, softer, digestible chews are recommended, which do not splinter. We do not suggest giving raw or cooked bones yet. More durable chews such as coffee wood or sheep horn can also be used, as they provide longer-lasting engagement while being safe.

For mental stimulation, stuffed or frozen KONG toys or lick mats can be useful, but they should not be left with the puppy unsupervised, as they may be damaged or chewed apart.

When setting up the environment, always keep in mind that the puppy does not yet know what is dangerous. It is your responsibility to anticipate this. The puppy should have its own place to rest, where it can retreat if needed. Observe how it interacts with objects — if it does not chew something, it can remain, but if it starts to destroy it, it should be removed, as swallowed pieces can cause serious problems. Avoid leaving the puppy unsupervised with chewable items, and if you cannot watch it, place it in a safe, secure area. Pay special attention to surfaces like

linoleum, which can be easily torn up and ingested. Crate bars can also pose a risk if the puppy tries to chew or get stuck, so placement and supervision are important.

Training begins from the first day. You do not need to be strict, but consistency is essential. The puppy is constantly learning, and what is allowed now will become the norm later. These dogs are intelligent and learn quickly, so it is important that the owner guides situations rather than only reacting to them.

It is also important to be aware that these puppies have strong instincts. They may chase moving objects, birds, or insects, try to herd other dogs, or fixate on certain stimuli. This is not a problem in itself, but if it occurs in inappropriate situations, it can develop into unwanted behavior. If you notice this, gently interrupt and redirect the puppy's attention, especially in potentially dangerous situations involving vehicles or other moving objects.

If a puppy becomes bored, it will often find its own activities, which may not be desirable. This can include chewing or eating stones, digging, scratching, or even eating feces. These behaviors are not due to bad intent, but rather a lack of sufficient physical and mental stimulation. In such cases, redirection and providing appropriate activities are more effective than punishment.

Based on our experience, until full house training is achieved, it can be helpful to take the puppy outside frequently — even during the night — and reward it for relieving itself in the right place.

Among administrative tasks, it is important to ensure that microchip data is correct and that the information linked to the microchip is up to date. When the pedigree arrives, it should be transferred into your name at your country's kennel club.

Finally, one thought: the puppy may be small now, but very quickly it will become what you help shape it into. With patience, consistency, and attention, you will have a stable, well-balanced dog. If you are ever unsure about something, it is always better to ask than to guess. We are here and happy to help.

We wish you a lot of happiness, success, and lasting memories together.

With love,
Hajni, Fanni and the NSB family 🐾