

## Bringing Puppy Home

I [AZDANESNDOODLES.COM](http://AZDANESNDOODLES.COM), [DOODLESNDANES.COM](http://DOODLESNDANES.COM) (OF SAN DIEGO) (760)505-5851  
Please copy paste the following title on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) search ...

We are NOT associated in any way with azdoodles. Remember we are the only ones with great danes.

The Dog Whisperer - S06E01 - How to Raise the Perfect Dog This video by Cesar Millan is fabulous, please watch before getting your puppy

Congratulations!!! Having a new puppy can be one of the happiest times in a human's life. The better prepared you are both with expectations and equipment, the better the experience will be for your whole family. First and foremost, your puppy is a family member and should be treated as such. He should always have access to the indoors, especially with extreme heat or cold. Get ready for a loving friendship like nothing else. Be realistic- Dogs are expensive, messy, noisy and require your time and attention...and the rewards are worth every single bit!! Be prepared for the bumps in the road, a sleepless night, a chewed shoe (like my brand new, worn once BCBG flip flops), or a pile of poop on the patio. You will be a much happier owner if you have realistic expectations. Like raising children, there are several philosophies and you will have to find what fits for you. I don't think I ever received as much unsolicited advice as I did when I was pregnant. This will likely happen to you with a puppy as well.

Getting ready: We will send puppy home with Costco puppy food (blue bag, the only puppy food.) that he's use to, a blanket or something that smells like us, siblings and mama, a toy and his shot record. The puppy food is available in all of Phx area and a few San Diego Costco's. We have heard that the Orange County Costco doesn't have it. It is available online at [costco.com](http://costco.com)

Vitamins through NUVET improve puppies immune system. There is a link on my website for them as well as shampoo. <http://azdanesndoodles.com/vitamins>

In the car you can hold him (he'd prefer this) or use a crate. If it's more than an hours drive, bring a crate in case you want it for part of the journey. Puppies sometimes get car sick so bring paper towels and a towel in case.

Please be prepared before you get puppy with the following:

Crate, Xpens, toys, collar, leash, tag that says "Needs Meds REWARD", (less likely to steal sick dog), newspaper, bowls, optional vitamins from NuVet copy paste link [www.nuvet.com/29594](http://www.nuvet.com/29594) Hip/Joint s good for large breeds and older dogs, vitamins, all pups and dogs.

A wire crate or 2- it's easiest to go into a Petsmart, Petco etc. and ask what size crate fits a dog that is \_\_\_\_\_,lbs and tell them the size that your pup is expected to be when he's grown. Every brand and type is different. Also please get 2 xpens (exercise pen) You can get both crate and play pens or x pens (which is a metal type fencing usually set up in an octagon.), at Amazon or [ryanspet.com](http://ryanspet.com) (800)525-7387 and they deliver. You don't have to buy from Ryan's, it's just an example. x-pen should be 30" high with or without a gate. In rare cases you'll need to put something like plastic fencing for gardens over the top or get a huge XL great dane crate if he is a climber. From the Ryans Pet Supply web site the pen is called "Midwest Step-Thru Exercise Pen with Door 24" X 30" M55230DR appx \$60 . Toys while you are supervising can be just about any including stuffed animals Unsupervised, it must be safe, no stuffed animals, toys that would easily break off a piece, etc. Kong is a good strong brand. for unsupervised play. I

like to have a separate stash of favorite toys that only come out when pup is left in xpen for alone time or you are leaving him alone.

We use NuVet vitamin wafers (or powder) to bridge the immunity gap for pups.

[www.nuvet.com/29594](http://www.nuvet.com/29594)

Typical Day: This can be adjusted to your schedule. Puppy will be ready to start his day about 6. You will carry him out to potty. Breakfast, back out to potty, playtime in the indoor or outdoor xpen (depending on weather). You will have him in one room with you watching carefully for chewing or signs he'll potty. Every 1 1/2 to 2 hours he goes out to potty. If you leave the house he is in the xpen inside which is set up on top of a layer of dollar store shower curtain with newspaper on top of the curtain. He may sleep as much as he'd like until 3 hrs before bed, no sleep. You bathe or brush, file his nails with a human file, practice waking on a leash inside, play with toys etc. bed time out to potty then into crate. He'll come to you with experience crating 5-6 hrs. after that amount of time in the crate, you take him out to potty and back to crate until you wake up :) In time you add rooms and hours to night crating.

Socialization— This is super Important in the first few months. We recommend that you introduce puppy to 50 people the first weeks you have him home. He can go with you in your arms to pick up your kids, drive-thrus, friend's houses and back yards, walking with puppy in your arms at a mall. For years we have used early neurological stimulation for preparing our puppies to serve as therapy dogs or make relaxed, loving pets. Now we call it Super Dog. This is a military preparation program for service and therapy dogs. There is a link on the website by the picture of our son holding a newborn puppy with a pink cast on his arm. Every day of your little ones life, we hold him, talk with him, pet him and love on him. Once he's 5- 6 weeks old, he ventures outside for play time and potty training. Because we are on the farm, the prey drive is greatly reduced as he is exposed to our goats, chickens, rabbits, cats and 4 H pig smells. That is important for preventing a strong prey drive to distract service and therapy dogs. It also makes it nice to bring puppy home to gerbil and cat family members without worrying that he will go after every animal smell that comes along. You must continue our preparation work by exposing him to other animals and praising a calm disposition.

Training:

\*\*\*\*\*WE CAN'T STRESS ENOUGH HOW IMPORTANT TRAINING IS, ESPECIALLY WITH A LARGE BREED DOG LIKE A Standard doodle or DANE.\*\*\*\*\* As Cesar says "Discipline, Exercise and Affection. In That Order" A dog with boundaries and limitations is a happy dog, as he knows what is expected. The walk is critical for training and alpha position (You are the Pack Leader-top alpha) in the pack. We used to think that since we had acreage for our dogs to run on, we didn't need to walk them. They got plenty of exercise but were lacking the mental, emotional things that happen with "The walk" It is critical for establishing the hierarchy in your pack. When we get a new dog, we now each put him on the leash and walk around a bit. Watch Cesar for more on that.

Your puppy will be trained faster if everyone in your home uses the same terminology during training. Keep it simple - use commands which are easily understood by a dog's ear. Say, "No bark!", when he obeys, "Good, No bark." "Sit, Good sit", "Stay, good stay" For correction, we use "tsht" spoken firmly, like Cesar Milan. If puppy doesn't respond, the touch to the neck is followed with the sound again. Your hand forms a letter "C" and "touches" puppies neck in the way mama dog would bite puppy for discipline. It is useful in a multitude of situations and should get puppy's attention right away. Trainers agree that most pet problems which dog owners experience have to do with the lack of training they (the human) receives and the excess freedom the puppies are given in the home. Most of our difficulties have been human error rather than puppy inadequacies. Your puppy comes to you as a sweet, intuitive, intelligent dog and wants to be a pleasing companion. Puppies enjoy training, playtime, and direction and

need firm boundaries. If you take the time to establish your loving authority early on, you will reap the benefits for years to come. This is especially important with a great dane. Due to their size, it is imperative that you and every human in your family are the alpha in the relationship. This has nothing to do with your physical size and everything to do with your presence and calm assertive attitude (Cesar Millan, the dog whisperer is a master at this) By age 5, our children easily had our 200 lb great danes under their complete control. To the point that they could be walked on a piece of yarn. To learn this, Cesar Millan has free videos you can watch on youtube or animal channel. He also sells a lot of instructional material. While we don't agree with everything he does, the overall philosophy of having a dog know his place in the family, being loved and respected as a precious gift while still submitting to the human authority, we share this belief. Also the value of exercise, discipline and affection has proven to work well with our pups and dogs. Cesar Millan, the dog whisperer is a wealth of information. We recommend 30 shows as you will see over 50 behavior problems and how to effectively deal with them. No, he's not perfect, some things he's too rough etc. We have had fast success using his principals and often times never need to "flip a dog on his side or back" to gain control. (especially doodles) With danes we come on a little stronger when they are young. An out-of-control 180 lb dog isn't much fun for anyone. When working with your puppy it is helpful to make sure you follow through on each command. For example, if you ask puppy to sit and he doesn't, gently put his bottom down into a sit position and say "good sit" before going onto something else. You are the boss and must have the control. All dogs benefit from being taught to sit at your feet every time they come to you, but it is essential with the big dogs. They will learn to slow down and begin to sit before arriving which is wonderful prevention for being plowed down.

It's a good idea to read training books or listen to free youtube training videos before your new pup comes home. Getting the kids involved in listening and reading is great too. You can get library books on your children's individual levels. Do role-playing with your children on sit, stay, and come commands, with you being the puppy and your child being the trainer. You will need to teach your children firmness in voice commands. You will be a much happier owner if you have realistic expectations.

If you have an older dog you are bringing puppy home to, respect the older dog's level of tolerance. At first it may be 20 min that the older dog is content with the puppy. Give them time several times a day to be together supervised until you are 100% sure they are safe together and both are happy. It may take a bit of time, but they will likely become great friends. Two dogs tend to exercise more and be generally happier. Start by introducing them in the yard, move to the older dog's least favorite room, the community rooms like the living room and wait a bit before letting puppy in the older dog's favorite room where he sleeps in or near his bed and toys. When you see that the older dog has had enough, put puppy in the x pen or let the older dog go in another room to get away. The same with cats, respect their space. In time they may be cuddles together sleeping. Be sure to let the other dog know that you are the alpha and will not allow him to decide what puppy does, you will.

Children (as well as special needs adults) and puppies are a perfect combination. Many experts say that a dog for a child, is the most valuable experience that a parent can provide. We agree!! When it comes to a child who has no siblings, any learning issues or social challenges, this benefit is multiplied. (For Asperger's and Autistic kids, this is especially beneficial for communication challenges and "reading" of emotion). For this reason, raising puppies as therapy dogs or family pets is our greatest joy. God has blessed us beyond words by allowing us to see our puppies change the lives of military vets, children and families. (Please email me about discounted prices and payment plans for special needs kids and adults). Years ago, our now grown son, Joe, and I took great pleasure in bringing newborn animals to the school district's "special needs" preschool. It was a program with a few typical

kids and rest with special needs children on a wide spectrum, everything from a speech delay to non verbal children in wheel chairs. We saw first hand how nonverbal kids made noises and moved toward speech in their excitement, children with physical limitations pushed through their own limits to interact and behavior issues were tamed with the animals. In the mid 1990's when Joe attended the program his awesome teacher wasn't limited by the existing rules we have now . She had every animal imaginable in that classroom with goats, cows and horses regularly visiting the playground. Can you imagine that today? My goodness the impact those animals had on those sweet little ones' lives. I know that with my own kids I have seen animals positively influence them and grow them as nothing else has. Our human nature tends to show itself in selfish motives. What a delight it is to us to see one of our kids share a beloved toy or put their needs last to first serve one of the pets. One example of this was of our 5 yr old sitting down to eat a snack and saying "Oh wait, I haven't fed my dog", then getting up to do that first.

Though a young child can help with a puppy, it is unrealistic to expect a child younger than 10 years old to be responsible for most of a puppies needs. A puppy is a wonderful tool for teaching responsibility, the need for discipline in life, and compassion for God's creatures. But there will be times when they don't follow through, and you will need to pick up the slack. Be reasonable about how you expect your children to fit into the life of your new pet.

One way to begin your puppy adventure with your children is with a contract between you and your child . As a teacher, children's therapist and mom, I found it helpful to list each specific responsibility with pictures or words. . For example 7:00 a.m. feed puppy 1 cup of dry food in laundry room. Wait while she eats then immediately put her outside. At 3:30 put leash on puppy and walk her for at least 15 minutes practicing the obedience training skills we are learning. 1. Make sure she is at your right side, walk 5 steps, stop and say "Sit," gently put her bottom down into a sit and say "Good sit" 2. stand 10 ft from puppy and say " (name) Abby (kissing sound), come". When she comes, help her to sit. etc At our house cleaning up dog poop is our discipline for our younger boys. If they are not respectful with their words or actions they are assigned piles of poop in increments of 5. I keep a list on the refrigerator. No names mentioned but we've had occasions where a boy has done 30 or 35 piles  
Night time- With our first human baby we were up all night jumping at every peep our daughter made. As we grew older, more experienced and much more exhausted, the younger children learned to be more self-soothing. The same has been true with our puppies. We found that 2 pups are much happier than one, especially at night. If having 2 puppies does not fit for your family, an older dog is a wonderful companion too. Some people get 2 puppies right away, some add a second puppy after the first is trained and some stick with one and all do well. When having a puppy with an older dog, start slowly with having them together, always separating them when you are not home to supervise until you are 100% sure that they are safe to be left together alone. Don't put them together at night until pup is crate trained. Puppy crates with siblings when young. He will begin crating alone for 5 hours with us a few nights before he goes home to you. When he comes to you, continue the 5 hours. The first night everything is new, so if you want to take him out extra times, that's fine. Here's what we do. When pup first goes into crate in dark quiet area, he usually will cry, whine , bark for 5-30 min. Then he is quiet for an hour or so, presumably sleeping. If he wakes after the extended quiet time we take him to potty because he did sleep and everything is so new. After the first few nights we try to stick with 5 hours. Cut off all food 4- 5 hours and water 1-2 hours, no napping 3 hours before bedtime. Take puppy to potty being sure he has enough time to potty a few times if needed.

Crate is for night only — We use only newspaper and the small blanket we gave you the first 5-7 nights so he gets the routine down, then you can add a small bed or blanket . The space he sleeps in should be big enough to turn around and lie down but that's about it. You will

probably be using a metal divider inside the crate to make this small space. We like the metal ones that have a moveable interior fence piece you can make space bigger as puppy grows. Put him in his crate with a piece of clothing that we give you that smells like us with a hug and a promise to return, no toys food or water and say good night. (This is where 2 puppies are always happier) For 1 puppy alone, expect whining for a good bit, but do not cave in and let your puppy sleep with you unless you plan to when he's grown. We recommend first crate training then bring him into your bed. We put puppy in another room for crate training, some people prefer puppy right by them, either is fine. At 8-9 weeks he should be ok for 5-6 hours. We have the latest to-go-to-bed family member put puppy in crate at about 12 am, earliest riser take him out at 5-5:30 am to potty, no playing or chatting, just "Good potty", small drink of water, and back into crate till 6:30-7 when we get up. Every 2-3 days, increase the time by 20-30 minutes until the night matches yours. In the morning check the crate with your hand to see if its wet, if yes, just change it without mentioning it and wash in vinegar. If puppy doesn't potty you can continue to add the 20-30 min every 2-3 days. If he potties, slow down. Our puppies train quickly, especially the doodles because we start training him before he goes home.

Daytime "play pen" or x pen should be different than the sleeping crate. It should be big, at least 4'x4' (Or you can combine 2 x pens which is better if he 'll be alone for a few hours) with newspaper for potty, a blanket to sleep on, toys and food and water. We put a shower curtain from the dollar store down first, then newspaper on top of that then the x pen sits on top of the newspaper, and small blanket or towel. This is a place where puppy is safe and can be left for 4-5 hours when needed. An outdoor space is ok when the weather is nice providing there is no unfenced pool or dangerous things and you can watch him. We have used dog doors with great success. They can easily be installed in a wall. There is also a removable one that fits in the arcadia door. If you don't want puppy to have too much freedom, you can simply put the crate against it and he can come into the house with out having run of the house. To teach him to use the dog door, put him out and call him into house holding flap up several times so that he knows how to get in and out. You can duck tape one or both flaps up if needed. The outside space can be made safer and smaller with an accordion style fence or puppy pen if needed (sometimes called x pens or plat pens) see below. A dog door is an option that allows dogs to go out when needed and we like the freedom it allows your dog. A puppy will train on that in a few days. Just be careful with hawks and coyotes. Some families construct a small area outside the dog door area that is covered for added safety. You can also put a large crate up against dog door on the outside for safety with the bottom tray removed or inside for when you want puppy confined to small space when he comes inside. for dogs under 35 lbs, Midwestern sells a cover, our boys made one with chicken wire and p v c pipe. It's nice to have him potty in an outdoor pen, after a few months of that, if you walk him to same spot a few times even though the pen is gone, he'll likely continue to potty in that place. It's a lot easier to pick up poop from one place in your yard than the whole yard. If you have a basement, put a small fence around the crawl out fire escape so little legs don't get caught. If you live in an apartment or place where your outdoor space is communal, use your balcony with either an x pen set up or home depot has a potty system with artificial grass. That also can be made with a small wooden box, artificial grass on bottom. Once puppy has 3 shots, the communal place is ok.

Potty training takes time, some veterinarians say 6 months to really be completely potty trained. If you are diligent, many of our puppy families' say their pups are trained with your supervision in a month or 2. Some say after a week or 2 that they are into a routine and experience no accidents if they are tuned into puppy. Be realistic about it and remember most accidents are from human error. You can start potty training at 6-8 weeks. Beginning with one spot you'd like to use for potty, take puppy there and say "Go potty." (It helps to have an x pen

around area so you can lead and stick with the routine established. Give pup plenty of time to potty as they often take 10-15 min to go fully) Wait up to 20 min., some pups will potty 2-3 times in a row. After each you calmly say "Good potty." If he does not potty in the pen, then hold him in your arms (preferred) or put in indoor play pen. After 10- 15 min, try again, continue pattern until puppy potties. Once he does, he may have freedom of a room you are in or kitchen space for an hour and a half- 2 hours. You'll learn his rhythm and potty patterns. He will probably poop 3-6 times a day at first. If it's first thing in the morning or if he stops to potty while you are walking outside, carry him out to potty area then he can walk back in with you. You'll learn his ways in no time. Every 4 weeks you can increase size of space he is in with you in the house, but don't give free rein of house until completely trained (6 mo. to 1 yr) If you have an open floor plan the puppy playpens work well for creating safe play areas. Your puppy will sleep a great deal in the beginning, no matter how long he's been, always take him outside upon awakening. After a nap and potty, this is a great time for cuddling and training, it won't be long until it's nap time again. Keeping puppy awake at night 3 hours before you go to bed will help him be tired when he goes in the crate. If you follow a routine, most people say our puppies are trained at night in 2 weeks. One big question is "Why does my puppy potty 5 min after I bring him in?" I can't tell you why, but they don't poop and pee at the same time. They sometimes do it in 2 or three different places and then poop 10 min later. Be sure to give 10-15 min to get the job done. They are distracted by kids and other pets, even more so you in the beginning. In time you will learn your puppy's rhythm. If there are rooms that you don't ever want your furry friend in, start from the beginning that way and keep him out. Once your dog is 100% trained and your ready to let him sleep in a bedroom, most trainers suggest that your dog should sleep on a dog bed beside your bed, but not on the bed. This prevents them from thinking that they are on your level of authority in the pack of your family. Having said that, many of our puppies grow up to sleep in their families' beds.

**Feeding:** We know that you will feed your puppy with excellent health as your goal. At 7-8 weeks, your puppy will need to eat three times a day on a regular time schedule (for example 7 noon and 5) or free feed up until 5 hours before bed. If you find that continual feeding is causing your doodle to become overweight (we have never had that) or the danes sometimes have trouble keeping weight on, scheduled feedings help regulate that. When you feed at specified times it helps keep their weight more stable and it solidifies your role as the alpha, provider of the meal and helps potty training. You may let him free feed while he's young and then later move him to designated feeding times. Scheduled feeding is optimum when you are home as it aids in predicting potty patterns. I'm not sure how much your puppy will eat as he has been eating with siblings. Give the amount the vet suggests (I'd say about 1/2 cup for 5 lbs), give him 20-30 min. then pick it up if you are feeding on a schedule. Most grocery store brands of kibble contain a high percentage of fillers which are least healthy for dogs. Dr Richard Soltero, in Scottsdale, AZ. has written a book about feeding whole natural foods to yourself as well as your pet called *It's like A Miracle*, titled after the response he's gotten from the diet. While it's not feasible for us to feed all whole fresh foods to our dogs, we supplement with some whole foods. (Only our adults) All kibble is not created equally, Costco brand dog and puppy food is rated #7 against the other foods and we have been pleased with it for a long time. We feed the gold bag of puppy food, baby blue grain free salmon and sweet potato or grain free chicken and rice for our adults. Fish oils have been known to be beneficial to prevent scratching in dogs who experience dry skin due to environment, weather or allergies. Great dane puppies have very sensitive tummies. Any stress, a treat found on the floor or food will cause loose stools. A research study on the best feed for Great Danes indicated the least number of puppies getting H.O.D. or hip dysplasia resulted from a diet of high quality adult food with no calcium supplements.

Do NOT give puppy ANY treats until several weeks after he goes home because you won't know what causes changes in stools or other things that come up if you have added a new variable. Also, puppy is thrilled with your kind words, love and a hug. By the time your puppy comes home, he will be started on potty training, he'll come to the kissing sound, calmly lie on his back and allow you to hold him on his back in your hands. All of this training has been done with praise and loving, no food treats.

**Spay, neuter** When searching for new daddy dogs, we encountered breeders who fixed puppies, some of them as young as seven or eight weeks. I contacted three different veterinarians to interview them so that we could get their opinion about what would be best for the puppies. They unanimously agreed that it was not only a human driven purpose in fixing a puppy that young, but it was very bad for the puppies' health. A puppy needs hormones until they are at least four months old to have strong bones and teeth. In addition, early spaying causes bladder problems and even hypothyroidism. Studies now lean toward even later spay/neuter thus we suggest 6-8 months of age as optimum. After our research to understand what is best for puppy health, even though we would be paying a breeding right fee, we choose not to get a puppy from a breeder who does this surgery to infant puppies.

**Vaccinations** begin at 6-8 weeks. Until 3 are given they are not fully effective. We give the first shot, your vet will give you a schedule for after that. A puppy plan that includes all shots, spay, neuter etc. and well as insurance is recommended.

**Wormers** we give are Pyrantel pamoate at 2,4,6,8 weeks and Safeguard (fenbendazole) at 6 and 8 weeks. We send a few days worth of Safeguard with you as a prevention to help tummy stay balanced with the stress of moving. We have never had a puppy with worms, but it is a wormer that prevents tummy trouble and even can treat parasites.

**HIP Dysplasia** A disorder (found predominantly in large breed dogs) where the hip joints are not healthy causing pain, inability for a dog to move properly, sometimes even walk. Studies show that while genetics are important to consider, Environments accounts for 50% of the cause. For Danes, avoid running, hiking, jumping and stairs the first year.

**Biting** (chewing on you), teething, nibbling on your hands and chasing your pant legs. All of this is typical puppy behavior but requires redirection and discipline. Puppy should not use you as a chew toy. Please watch this Cesar Milan show for excellent direction on dealing with this. I am not sure exactly where you can purchase this video but here is the title

Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan: Focus: Fears & Phobias DVD

**Vet referrals:** A more "farm philosophy" basic treatment vet, which we have found to be low cost and still very caring, good quality care is Dr. Ryan at Buckeye Vet in Buckeye, Arizona (623)386-2532

AMC OF Chandler, Dr. Druegger and Dr. Stickland have done ultrasounds, surgeries and well care for our animals (480) 339-0406 Chandler, AZ. They have state of the art equipment and are talented surgeons. They are not a low cost facility, but have been very happy with the in the past for diagnosis and treatment, especially with something requiring high tech equipment.

**\*\*\*ALL TRAINERS ARE NOT ALIKE THE WRONG TRAINING IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE!!\*\*\*\***

Training is advised, especially if this is your first pup. The most important part is a good start with the RIGHT trainer.

Arizona — Cat for dogs, Cat Reames (480) 751-8691 We've sent several puppies to her for in home boot camp as well as her visiting puppy's home. Every bit of feedback has been positive. She has a calm loving way with puppies that is something special.

In California Dr Moston mobile vet (760) 739-1092 and Dr Smith in Bonsall (909)838-0999

Emergency Hospital — Veterinary Specialty Hospital San Marcos open 24 hrs 760  
466-0600

Each state and particular place that you want to volunteer will have different requirements for bringing your dog to serve. Before committing to a training program, you may want to ask about requirements at the place you want to volunteer. Then based on what you will need there, find that training. A few good ones are "love on a leash", delta, k9 companions, akc References. We have been so thankful to have found such wonderful families for our puppies. When we first started raising therapy dogs, we wondered what we would do if a family came for one of our beloved puppies and we didn't think they were going to take good care of our little one. After sleeping with mama and pups the first few nights, holding, feeding and cleaning them for 7-9 weeks, it was a little scary to trust someone else to take good enough care of them. What a relief it was to find every family to be delightful, capable and loving of their new family pet. On the web site you can see some pictures and testimonials. Also you can email us for a list of email addresses and phone numbers so you can personally contact past puppy families. We've had 100% happy puppy families since we started and plan to keep it that way. PLEASE BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL ABOUT PARVO. WARM CLIMATES HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH IT AS OUR WEATHER WE DOESN'T EVER FREEZE. DON'T TAKE YOUR PUPPY ANYWHERE PUBLIC WHERE HE WILL TOUCH THE GROUND UNTIL AFTER THE 3RD OR 4TH SHOT (PETSMART, PARKS ETC) EVEN HOLD HIM AT THE VET'S OFFICE, MANY SICK ANIMALS HAVE BEEN THERE. WE HAVE NEVER EVER HAD PARVO ON OUR FARM AND WOULD LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY. PLEASE DO NOT VISIT US AFTER LOOKING AT OTHER PUPPIES, PET STORES OR ANY SHELTERS. WE HAVE NEVER HAD PARVO AND WANT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

Visiting: In an effort to protect our newborn unvaccinated babies, we keep visits to a minimum. Many families have seen our doodles or maybe met one of our pups from Alaska to Florida and want to further investigate. While we appreciate the huge compliment, we stick with only inviting families with a deposit in, to come for a farm visit and choose their puppy. As much as we love showing off these little fluffy bundles, we must consider their health first. We are not a kennel but a family home with puppies right in the house with us. Generally we leave Sundays for church and family and look forward to connecting with you Monday through Saturdays. We do not take for granted the blessing it is that you have chosen our family to be a part of the welcoming of your new furry family member. We are honored to be trusted with such an important role in puppies life and appreciate your patience with our sometimes long wait list. To get on a wait list, email us. v Before Bringing Puppy Home

[AZDANESNDOODLES.COM](http://AZDANESNDOODLES.COM), [DOODLESNDANES.COM](http://DOODLESNDANES.COM) (OF SAN DIEGO) (760)505-5851  
Please copy paste the following title on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) search ...

We are NOT associated in any way with azdoodles. Remember we are the only ones with great danes.

The Dog Whisperer - S06E01 - How to Raise the Perfect Dog This video by Cesar Millan is fabulous, please watch before getting your puppy

Congratulations!!! Having a new puppy can be one of the happiest times in a human's life. The better prepared you are both with expectations and equipment, the better the experience will be for your whole family. First and foremost, your puppy is a family member and should be treated as such. He should always have access to the indoors, especially with extreme heat or cold. Get ready for a loving friendship like nothing else. Be realistic- Dogs are

expensive, messy, noisy and require your time and attention...and the rewards are worth every single bit!! Be prepared for the bumps in the road, a sleepless night, a chewed shoe (like my brand new, worn once BCBG flip flops), or a pile of poop on the patio. You will be a much happier owner if you have realistic expectations. Like raising children, there are several philosophies and you will have to find what fits for you. I don't think I ever received as much unsolicited advice as I did when I was pregnant. This will likely happen to you with a puppy as well.

Getting ready: We will send puppy home with Costco puppy food (blue bag, the only puppy food.) that he's use to, a blanket or something that smells like us, siblings and mama, a toy and his shot record. The puppy food is available in all of Phx area and a few San Diego Costco's. We have heard that the Orange County Costco doesn't have it. It is available online at [costco.com](http://costco.com)

Vitamins through NUVET improve puppies immune system. There is a link on my website for them as well as shampoo. <http://azdanesndoodles.com/vitamins>

In the car you can hold him (he'd prefer this) or use a crate. If it's more than an hours drive, bring a crate in case you want it for part of the journey. Puppies sometimes get car sick so bring paper towels and a towel in case.

Please be prepared before you get puppy with the following:

Crate, Xpens, toys, collar, leash, tag that says "Needs Meds REWARD", (less likely to steal sick dog), newspaper, bowls, optional vitamins from NuVet copy paste link [www.nuvet.com/29594](http://www.nuvet.com/29594) Hip/Joint s good for large breeds and older dogs, vitamins, all pups and dogs.

A wire crate or 2- it's easiest to go into a Petsmart, Petco etc. and ask what size crate fits a dog that is \_\_\_\_\_,lbs and tell them the size that your pup is expected to be when he's grown. Every brand and type is different. Also please get 2 xpens (exercise pen) You can get both crate and play pens or x pens (which is a metal type fencing usually set up in an octagon.), at Amazon or [ryanspet.com](http://ryanspet.com) (800)525-7387 and they deliver. You don't have to buy from Ryan's, it's just an example. x-pen should be 30" high with or without a gate. In rare cases you'll need to put something like plastic fencing for gardens over the top or get a huge XL great dane crate if he is a climber. From the Ryans Pet Supply web site the pen is called "Midwest Step-Thru Exercise Pen with Door 24" X 30" M55230DR appx \$60 . Toys while you are supervising can be just about any including stuffed animals Unsupervised, it must be safe, no stuffed animals, toys that would easily break off a piece, etc. Kong is a good strong brand. for unsupervised play. I like to have a separate stash of favorite toys that only come out when pup is left in xpen for alone time or you are leaving him alone.

We use NuVet vitamin wafers (or powder) to bridge the immunity gap for pups.

[www.nuvet.com/29594](http://www.nuvet.com/29594)

Typical Day: This can be adjusted to your schedule Puppy will be ready to start his day about 6. You will carry him out to potty. Breakfast, back out to potty, playtime in the indoor or out door x pen (depending on weather). You will have him in one room with you watching carefully for chewing or signs he'll potty. Every 1 1/2 to 2 hours he goes out to potty. If you leave the house he is in the xpen inside which is set up on top of a layer of dollar store shower curtain with newspaper on top of the curtain. He may sleep as much as he'd like until 3 hrs before bed, no sleep. You bathe or brush , file his nails with a human file, practice waking on a leash inside, play with toys etc. bed time out to potty then into crate. He'll come to you with experience crating 5-6 hrs. after that amount of time in the crate, you take him out to potty and back to crate until you wake up :) In time you add rooms and hours to night crating.

Socialization— This is super Important in the first few months. We recommend that you introduce puppy to 50 people the first weeks you have him home. He can go with you in your

arms to pick up your kids, drive-thrus, friend's houses and back yards, walking with puppy in your arms at a mall. For years we have used early neurological stimulation for preparing our puppies to serve as therapy dogs or make relaxed, loving pets. Now we call it Super Dog. This is a military preparation program for service and therapy dogs. There is a link on the website by the picture of our son holding a newborn puppy with a pink cast on his arm. Every day of your little ones life, we hold him, talk with him, pet him and love on him. Once he's 5- 6 weeks old, he ventures outside for play time and potty training. Because we are on the farm, the prey drive is greatly reduced as he is exposed to our goats, chickens, rabbits, cats and 4 H pig smells. That is important for preventing a strong prey drive to distract service and therapy dogs. It also makes it nice to bring puppy home to gerbil and cat family members with out worrying that he will go after every animal smell that comes along. You must continue our preparation work by exposing him to other animals and praising a calm disposition.

Training:

\*\*\*\*\*WE CAN'T STRESS ENOUGH HOW IMPORTANT TRAINING IS, ESPECIALLY WITH A LARGE BREED DOG LIKE A Standard doodle or DANE.\*\*\*\*\* As Cesar says "Discipline, Exercise and Affection. In That Order" A dog with boundaries and limitations is a happy dog, as he knows what is expected. The walk is critical for training and alpha position (You are the Pack Leader-top alpha) in the pack. We use to think that since we had acreage for our dogs to run on, we didn't need to walk them. They got plenty of exercise but were lacking the mental, emotional things that happen with "The walk" It is critical for establishing the hierarchy in your pack. When we get a new dog, we now each put him on the leash and walk around a bit . Watch Cesar for more on that.

Your puppy will be trained faster if everyone in your home uses the same terminology during training. Keep it simple - use commands which are easily understood by a dog's ear. Say, "No bark!", when he obeys, "Good, No bark." "Sit, Good sit", "Stay, good stay" For correction, we use "tsht" spoken firmly, like Cesar Milan. If puppy doesn't respond, the touch to the neck is followed with the sound again. Your hand forms a letter "C" and "touches" puppies neck in the way mama dog would bite puppy for discipline. It is useful in a multitude of situations and should get puppy's attention right away. Trainers agree that most pet problems which dog owners experience have to do with the lack of training they (the human) receives and the excess freedom the puppies are given in the home. Most of our difficulties have been human error rather than puppy inadequacies. Your puppy comes to you as a sweet, intuitive, intelligent dog and wants to be a pleasing companion. Puppies enjoy training, playtime, and direction and need firm boundaries. If you take the time to establish your loving authority early on, you will reap the benefits for years to come. This is especially important with a great dane. Due to their size, it is imperative that you and every human in your family are the alpha in the relationship. This has nothing to do with your physical size and everything to do with your presence and calm assertive attitude (Cesar Millan, the dog whisperer is a master at this) By age 5, our children easily had our 200 lb great danes under their complete control. To the point that they could be walked on a piece of yarn. To learn this, Cesar Milan has free videos you can watch on youtube or animal channel. He also sells a lot of instructional materiel. While we don't agree with everything he does, the overall philosophy of having a dog knows his place in the family, being loved and respected as a precious gift while still submitting to the human authority, we share this belief. Also the value of exercise, discipline and affection has proven to work well with our pups and dogs. Cesar Millan, the dog whisperer is a wealth of information. We recommend 30 shows as you will see over 50 behavior problems and how to effectively deal with them. No, he's not perfect, some thing he's too rough etc. We have had fast success using his principals and often times never need to "flip a dog on his side or back" to gain control. (especially doodles) With danes we come on a little stronger when they are young . An out -of control 180

lb dog isn't much fun for anyone. When working with your puppy it is helpful to make sure you follow through on each command. For example, if you ask puppy to sit and he doesn't, gently put his bottom down into a sit position and say "good sit" before going onto something else. You are the boss and must have the control. All dogs benefit from being taught to sit at your feet every time they come to you, but it is essential with the big dogs. They will learn to slow down and begin to sit before arriving which is wonderful prevention for being plowed down.

It's a good idea to read training books or listen you free you tube training videos before your new pup comes home. Getting the kids involved in listening and reading is great too. You can get library books on your children's individual levels. Do role-playing with your children on sit, stay, and come commands, with you being the puppy and your child being the trainer. You will need to teach your children firmness in voice commands. You will be a much happier owner if you have realistic expectations.

If you have an older dog you are bringing puppy home to, respect the older dog's level of tolerance. At first it may be 20 min that the older dog is content with the puppy. Give them time several times a day to be together supervised until you are 100% sure they are safe together and both are happy. It may take a bit of time, but they will likely become great friends. Two dogs tend to exercise more and be generally happier. Start by introducing them in the yard, move to the older dogs least favorite room, the community rooms like the living room and wait a bit before letting puppy in the older dogs favorite room where he sleeps in or near his bed and toys. When you see that the older dog has had enough, put puppy in the x pen or let the older dog go in another room to get away. The same with cats, respect their space. In time they may be cuddles together sleeping. Be sure to let the other dog know that you are the alpha and will not allow him to decide what puppy does, you will.

Children (as well as special needs adults) and puppies are a perfect combination. Many experts say that a dog for a child, is the most valuable experience that a parent can provide . We agree!! When it comes to a child who has no siblings, any learning issues or social challenges, this benefit is multiplied. (For Asperger's and Autistic kids, this is especially beneficial for communication challenges and "reading" of emotion). For this reason, raising puppies as therapy dogs or family pets is our greatest joy. God has blessed us beyond words by allowing us to see our puppies change the lives of military vets, children and families. (Please email me about discounted prices and payment plans for special needs kids and adults). Years ago, our now grown son, Joe, and I took great pleasure in bringing newborn animals to the school district's "special needs" preschool . It was a program with a few typical kids and rest with special needs children on a wide spectrum, everything from a speech delay to non verbal children in wheel chairs. We saw first hand how nonverbal kids made noises and moved toward speech in their excitement, children with physical limitations pushed through their own limits to interact and behavior issues were tamed with the animals. In the mid 1990's when Joe attended the program his awesome teacher wasn't limited by the existing rules we have now . She had every animal imaginable in that classroom with goats, cows and horses regularly visiting the playground. Can you imagine that today? My goodness the impact those animals had on those sweet little ones' lives. I know that with my own kids I have seen animals positively influence them and grow them as nothing else has. Our human nature tends to show itself in selfish motives. What a delight it is to us to see one of our kids share a beloved toy or put their needs last to first serve one of the pets. One example of this was of our 5 yr old sitting down to eat a snack and saying "Oh wait, I haven't fed my dog", then getting up to do that first.

Though a young child can help with a puppy, it is unrealistic to expect a child younger than 10 years old to be responsible for most of a puppies needs. A puppy is a wonderful tool for teaching responsibility, the need for discipline in life, and compassion for God's creatures. But

there will be times when they don't follow through, and you will need to pick up the slack. Be reasonable about how you expect your children to fit into the life of your new pet.

One way to begin your puppy adventure with your children is with a contract between you and your child. As a teacher, children's therapist and mom, I found it helpful to list each specific responsibility with pictures or words. For example 7:00 a.m. feed puppy 1 cup of dry food in laundry room. Wait while she eats then immediately put her outside. At 3:30 put leash on puppy and walk her for at least 15 minutes practicing the obedience training skills we are learning. 1. Make sure she is at your right side, walk 5 steps, stop and say "Sit," gently put her bottom down into a sit and say "Good sit" 2. stand 10 ft from puppy and say " (name) Abby (kissing sound), come". When she comes, help her to sit. etc At our house cleaning up dog poop is our discipline for our younger boys. If they are not respectful with their words or actions they are assigned piles of poop in increments of 5. I keep a list on the refrigerator. No names mentioned but we've had occasions where a boy has done 30 or 35 piles

Night time- With our first human baby we were up all night jumping at every peep our daughter made. As we grew older, more experienced and much more exhausted, the younger children learned to be more self-soothing. The same has been true with our puppies. We found that 2 pups are much happier than one, especially at night. If having 2 puppies does not fit for your family, an older dog is a wonderful companion too. Some people get 2 puppies right away, some add a second puppy after the first is trained and some stick with one and all do well. When having a puppy with an older dog, start slowly with having them together, always separating them when you are not home to supervise until you are 100% sure that they are safe to be left together alone. Don't put them together at night until pup is crate trained.

Puppy crates with siblings when young. He will begin crating alone for 5 hours with us a few nights before he goes home to you. When he comes to you, continue the 5 hours. The first night everything is new, so if you want to take him out extra times, that's fine. Here's what we do. When pup first goes into crate in dark quiet area, he usually will cry, whine, bark for 5-30 min. Then he is quiet for an hour or so, presumably sleeping. If he wakes after the extended quiet time we take him to potty because he did sleep and everything is so new. After the first few nights we try to stick with 5 hours. Cut off all food 4- 5 hours and water 1-2 hours, no napping 3 hours before bedtime. Take puppy to potty being sure he has enough time to potty a few times if needed.

Crate is for night only — We use only newspaper and the small blanket we gave you the first 5-7 nights so he gets the routine down, then you can add a small bed or blanket. The space he sleeps in should be big enough to turn around and lie down but that's about it. You will probably be using a metal divider inside the crate to make this small space. We like the metal ones that have a moveable interior fence piece you can make space bigger as puppy grows. Put him in his crate with a piece of clothing that we give you that smells like us with a hug and a promise to return, no toys food or water and say good night. (This is where 2 puppies are always happier) For 1 puppy alone, expect whining for a good bit, but do not cave in and let your puppy sleep with you unless you plan to when he's grown. We recommend first crate training then bring him into your bed. We put puppy in another room for crate training, some people prefer puppy right by them, either is fine. At 8-9 weeks he should be ok for 5-6 hours. We have the latest to-go-to-bed family member put puppy in crate at about 12 am, earliest riser take him out at 5-5:30 am to potty, no playing or chatting, just "Good potty", small drink of water, and back into crate till 6:30-7 when we get up. Every 2-3 days, increase the time by 20-30 minutes until the night matches yours. In the morning check the crate with your hand to see if it's wet, if yes, just change it without mentioning it and wash in vinegar. If puppy doesn't potty you can continue to add the 20-30 min every 2-3 days. If he potties, slow down. Our

puppies train quickly, especially the doodles because we start training him before he goes home.

Daytime "play pen" or x pen should be different than the sleeping crate. It should be big, at least 4'x4' (Or you can combine 2 x pens which is better if he 'll be alone for a few hours ) with newspaper for potty, a blanket to sleep on, toys and food and water. We put a shower curtain from the dollar store down first, then newspaper on top of that then the x pen sits on top of the newspaper, and small blanket or towel. This is a place where puppy is safe and can be left for 4-5 hours when needed. An outdoor space is ok when the weather is nice providing there is no unfenced pool or dangerous things and you can watch him. We have used dog doors with great success. They can easily be installed in a wall. There is also a removable one that fits in the arcadia door. If you don't want puppy to have too much freedom, you can simply put the crate against it and he can come into the house with out having run of the house. To teach him to use the dog door, put him out and call him into house holding flap up.several times so that he knows how to get in and out. You can duck tape one or both flaps up if needed. The outside space can be made safer and smaller with an accordion style fence or puppy pen if needed (sometimes called x pens or plat pens) see below A dog door is an option that allows dogs to go out when needed and we like the freedom it allows your dog. A puppy will train on that in a few days. Just be careful with hawks and coyotes. Some families construct a small area outside the dog door area that is covered for added safety. You can also put a large crate up against dog door on the outside for safety with the bottom tray removed or inside for when you want puppy confined to small space when he comes inside. for dogs under 35 lbs, Midwestern sells a cover, our boys made one with chicken wire and p v c pipe. It's nice to have him potty in an outdoor pen, after a few months of that, if you walk him to same spot a few times even though the pen is gone, he'll likely continue to potty in that place. It's a lot easier to pick up poop from one place in your yard than the whole yard. If you have a basement, put a small fence around the crawl out fire escape so little legs don't get caught. If you live in an apartment or place where your outdoor space is communal, use your balcony with either an x pen set up or home depot has a potty system with artificial grass. That also can be made with a small wooden box , artificial grass on bottom. Once puppy has 3 shots, the communal place is ok.

Potty training takes time, some veterinarians say 6 months to really be completely potty trained. If you are diligent, many of our puppy families' say their pups are trained with your supervision in a month or 2. Some say after a week or 2 that they are into a routine and experience no accidents if they are tuned into puppy. Be realistic about it and remember most accidents are from human error. You can start potty training at 6-8 weeks. Beginning with one spot you'd like to use for potty, take puppy there and say "Go potty." (It helps to have an x pen around area so you can lea and stick with the routine established. Give pup plenty of time to potty as they often take 10-15 min to go fully) Wait up to 20 min., some pups will potty 2-3 times in a row. After each you calmly say "Good potty." If he does not potty in the pen, then hold him in your arms (preferred) or put in indoor play pen. After 10- 15 min, try again, continue pattern until puppy potties. Once he does, he may have freedom of a room you are in or kitchen space for an hour and a half- 2 hours. You'll learn his rhythm and potty patterns. He will probably poop 3-6 times a day at first. If it's first thing in the morning or if he stops to potty while you are walking outside, carry him out to potty area then he can walk back in with you. You'll learn his ways in no time. Every 4 weeks you can increase size of space he is in with you in the house, but don't give free rein of house until completely trained (6 mo. to 1 yr) If you have an open floor plan the puppy playpens work well for creating safe play areas. Your puppy will sleep a great deal in the beginning, no matter how long he's been, always take him outside upon awakening. After a nap and potty, this is a great time for cuddling and training, it wont be long until it's nap time again. Keeping puppy awake at night 3 hours before you go you go to bed will help him be

tired when he goes in the crate. If you follow a routine, most people say our puppies are trained at night in 2 weeks . One big question is "Why does my puppy potty 5 min after I bring him in?" I can't tell you why, but they don't poop and pee at the same time. They sometimes do it in 2 or three different places and then poop 10 min later. Be sure to give 10-15 min to get the job done. They are distracted by kids and other pets, even more so you in the beginning. In time you will learn your puppy's rhythm. If there are rooms that you don't ever want your furry friend in, start from the beginning that way and keep him out. Once your dog is 100% trained and your ready to let him sleep in a bedroom, most trainers suggest that your dog should sleep on a dog bed beside your bed, but not on the bed. This prevents them from thinking that they are on your level of authority in the pack of your family. Having said that, many of our puppies grow up to sleep in their families' beds.

Feeding: We know that you will feed your puppy with excellent health as your goal. At 7-8 weeks, your puppy will need to eat three times a day on a regular time schedule (for example 7 noon and 5) or free feed up until 5 hours before bed. If you find that continual feeding is causing your doodle to become overweight (we have never had that ) or the danes sometimes have trouble keeping weight on, scheduled feedings help regulate that. When you feed at specified times it helps keep their weight more stable and it solidifies your role as the alpha, provider of the meal and helps potty training. You may let him free feed while he's young and then later move him to designated feeding times. Scheduled feeding is optimum when you are home as it aids in predicting potty patterns. I'm not sure how much your puppy will eat as he has been eating with siblings. Give the amount the vet suggests (I'd say about 1/2 cup for 5 lbs), give him 20-30 min. then pick it up if you are feeding on a schedule. Most grocery store brands of kibble contain a high percentage of fillers which are least healthy for dogs. Dr Richard Soltero, in Scottsdale, AZ. has written a book about feeding whole natural foods to yourself as well as your pet called It's like A Miracle, titled after the response he's gotten from the diet. While it's not feasible for us to feed all whole fresh foods to our dogs, we supplement with some whole foods. (Only our adults) All kibble is not created equally, Costco brand dog and puppy food is rated #7 against the other foods and we have been pleased with it for a long time WE feed the gold bag of puppy food, baby blue grain free salmon and sweet potato or grain free chicken and rice for our adults. Fish oils have been known to be beneficial to prevent scratching in dogs who experience dry skin due to environment, weather or allergies. Great dane puppies have very sensitive tummies. Any stress, a treat found on the floor or food will cause loose stools. A research study on the best feed for Great Danes indicated the least number of puppies getting H.O.D. or hip dysplasia resulted from a diet of high quality adult food with no calcium supplements.

Do NOT give puppy ANY treats until several weeks after he goes home because you wont know what causes changes in stools or other things that come up if you have added a new variable. Also, puppy is thrilled with your kind words, love and a hug. By the time your puppy comes home, he will be started on potty training, he'll come to the kissing sound, calmly lie on his back and allow you to hold him on his back in your hands. All of this training has been done with praise and loving, no food treats.

Spay, neuter When searching for new daddy dogs, we encountered breeders who fixed puppies, some of them as young as seven or eight weeks. I contacted three different veterinarians to interview them so that we could get their opinion about what would be best for the puppies. They unanimously agreed that it was not only a human driven purpose in fixing a puppy that young, but it was very bad for the puppies' health. A puppy needs hormones until they are at least four months old to have strong bones and teeth. In addition, early spaying causes bladder problems and even hypothyroidism. Studies now lean toward even later spay/ neuter thus we suggest 6-8 months of age as optimum. After our research to understand what

is best for puppy health, even though we would be paying a breeding right fee, we choose not to get a puppy from a breeder who does this surgery to infant puppies.

Vaccinations begin at 6-8 weeks. Until 3 are given they are not fully effective. We give the first shot, your vet will give you a schedule for after that. A puppy plan that includes all shots, spay, neuter etc. and well as insurance is recommended.

Wormers we give are Pyrantel pamoate at 2,4,6,8 weeks and Safeguard (fenbenzidole) at 6 and 8 weeks. We send a few days worth of Safeguard with you as a prevention to help tummy stay balanced with the stress of moving. We have never had a puppy with worms, but it is a wormer that prevents tummy trouble and even can treat parasites.

HIP Dysplasia A disorder (found predominantly in large breed dogs) where the hip joints are not healthy causing pain, inability for a dog to move properly, sometimes even walk. Studies show that while genetics are important to consider, Environments accounts for 50% of the cause. For danes, avoid running, hiking, jumping and stairs the first year.

Biting (chewing on you), teething, nibbling on your hands and chasing your pant legs. All of this is typical puppy behavior but requires redirection. and discipline Puppy should not use you as a chew toy. Please watch this Cesar Milan show for excellent direction on dealing with this. I am not sure exactly where you can purchase this video but here is the title

Dog Whisperer with Cesar Millan: Focus: Fears & Phobias DVD

Vet referrals: A more "farm philosophy" basic treatment vet, which we have found to be low cost and still very caring, good quality care is Dr. Ryan at Buckeye Vet in Buckeye, Arizona (623)386-2532

AMC OF Chandler, Dr. Druegger and Dr. Stickland have done ultrasounds, surgeries and well care for our animals (480) 339-0406 Chandler, AZ. They have state of the art equipment and are talented surgeons. They are not a low cost facility, but have been very happy with the in the past for diagnosis and treatment, especially with something requiring high tech equipment.

**\*\*\*ALL TRAINERS ARE NOT ALIKE THE WRONG TRAINING IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE!!\*\*\*\***

Training is advised, especially if this is your first pup. The most important part is a good start with the RIGHT trainer.

Arizona — Cat for dogs, Cat Reames (480) 751-8691 We've sent several puppies to her for in home boot camp as well as her visiting puppy's home. Every bit of feedback has been positive. She has a calm loving way with puppies that is something special.

In California Dr Moston mobile vet (760) 739-1092 and Dr Smith in Bonsall (909)838-0999  
Emergency Hospital — Veterinary Specialty Hospital San Marcos open 24 hrs 760 466-0600

Each state and particular place that you want to volunteer will have different requirements for bringing your dog to serve. Before committing to a training program, you may want to ask about requirements at the place you want to volunteer. Then based on what you will need there, find that training. A few good ones are "love on a leash", delta, k9 companions, akc

References. We have been so thankful to have found such wonderful families for our puppies. When we first started raising therapy dogs, we wondered what we would do if a family came for one of our beloved puppies and we didn't think they were going to take good care of our little one. After sleeping with mama and pups the first few nights, holding, feeding and cleaning them for 7-9 weeks, it was a little scary to trust someone else to take good enough care of them. What a relief it was to find every family to be delightful, capable and loving of their new family pet. On the web site you can see some pictures and testimonials. Also you can email us for a list of email addresses and phone numbers so you can personally contact past puppy families.

We've had 100% happy puppy families since we started and plan to keep it that way. PLEASE BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL ABOUT PARVO. WARM CLIMATES HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH IT AS OUR WEATHER WE DOESN'T EVER FREEZE. DON'T TAKE YOUR PUPPY ANYWHERE PUBLIC WHERE HE WILL TOUCH THE GROUND UNTIL AFTER THE 3RD OR 4TH SHOT (PETSMART, PARKS ETC) EVEN HOLD HIM AT THE VET'S OFFICE, MANY SICK ANIMALS HAVE BEEN THERE. WE HAVE NEVER EVER HAD PARVO ON OUR FARM AND WOULD LIKE TO KEEP IT THAT WAY. PLEASE DO NOT VISIT US AFTER LOOKING AT OTHER PUPPIES, PET STORES OR ANY SHELTERS. WE HAVE NEVER HAD PARVO AND WANT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.

Visiting: In an effort to protect our newborn unvaccinated babies, we keep visits to a minimum. Many families have seen our doodles or maybe met one of our pups from Alaska to Florida and want to further investigate. While we appreciate the huge compliment, we stick with only inviting families with a deposit in, to come for a farm visit and choose their puppy. As much as we love showing off these little fluffy bundles, we must consider their health first. We are not a kennel but a family home with puppies right in the house with us. Generally we leave Sundays for church and family and look forward to connecting with you Monday through Saturdays. We do not take for granted the blessing it is that you have chosen our family to be a part of the welcoming of your new furry family member. We are honored to be trusted with such an important role in puppies life and appreciate your patience with our sometimes long wait list. To get on a wait list, email us.