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Congratulations on your new puppy!

Here at Fairmount Animal Hospital we customize your pet's vaccine schedule to what he/she needs without giving too many vaccines in one day.

Here is an example of a puppy's recommended vaccine schedule:

6 Weeks:

- Physical Examination with a doctor
- DA2PP Vaccine (Distemper, Adenovirus, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus) – this is considered a core vaccine
- Bordetella Vaccine (Kennel Cough) for puppies at risk i.e. going to the groomers, boarding facilities, doggie parks, doggie daycare, puppy obedience classes, Petco/PetSmart
- Deworming Medications: to be repeated in 10-14 days.
- Discuss nutrition, discuss bloat in large breed dogs
- Discuss dental care and handling of feet, ears, and mouth.
- Discuss flea/tick prevention & discuss intestinal parasite control and heartworm disease control.
- Puppy kit (when available) – includes free dosage of K9 Advantix
- Fecal exam to check for intestinal parasites, some of which can be transmitted to humans

9 Weeks:

- Physical Examination with a doctor
- DA2PP Vaccine – core vaccine
- Bordetella Vaccine – if not already given, for puppies at risk
- Lyme Vaccine for dogs at risk i.e. dogs spending time in wooded or grassy areas, dogs outdoors during peak tick season, or dogs living in Lyme-endemic areas of the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, or upper Midwest
- Fecal exam to check for intestinal parasites, some of which can be transmitted to humans
- Deworming Medications; to be repeated in 10-14 days if not already done.
- Continue flea/tick and heartworm/intestinal parasite control
- Investigate puppy preschool and puppy obedience classes

12 Weeks:

- Physical Examination with a doctor
- DA2PP Vaccine - core vaccine
- Bordetella Vaccine – if not already given, for puppies at risk
- Lyme booster – for puppies at risk
- Fecal Exam
- Deworming Medications; to be repeated in 10-14 days if not already done.
- Continue flea/tick and heartworm/intestinal parasite control

16 Weeks:





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- Physical Examination given by a doctor
- Last DA2PP vaccine – unless not previously booster
- Rabies vaccine - this is considered a core vaccine
- Leptospirosis 4SV vaccine for dogs at risk i.e. dogs that play outdoors where exposure to wildlife is possible; dogs that drink from ponds or puddles; dogs that go for walks, hikes, camping, picnicking, hunting or fishing, dogs exposed to deer, skunks, opossums, raccoons, or squirrels. Leptospirosis is the #1 cause of acute kidney failure in dogs and can be transmitted to people
- Fecal Examination to make sure your puppy is adequately dewormed
- Continue flea/tick and heartworm/intestinal parasite control
- Set up spay/neuter appointment
- Start training puppies to the invisible fence now if appropriate
- Set up physical exams for the first year



18-20 Weeks:

- Booster Leptospirosis 4SV vaccine – this might not require a doctor to see your pet and instead a licensed veterinary technician will give the vaccine.

6 Months:

- Spay/Neuter
- We recommend at this time if you would like your pet micro chipped we can do it while they are under anesthesia however this can be done at any point during the puppy/dogs life.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Why do I need to have my pet's vaccines booster?

A: Just like humans vaccines may require boosters to keep them effective.

Q: Why do I need to see the doctor for each visit?

A: A doctor needs to do a complete physical exam on your puppy to ensure the patient is healthy enough for vaccines. The doctor also will make the decision what vaccines will be given on that day.

Q: Will my pet have side effects from the vaccines?

A: Vaccine reactions are not common but most consist of soreness of the vaccine site and lethargy. More severe vaccine reactions are itchy puffy face, hives, vomiting, diarrhea and coughing or difficulty breathing. Please contact your veterinarian with any vaccine reactions.

Other useful information on your puppy!





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Dental Care

- Oral health is important to your pet's health. It is best to train your puppy to accept teeth brushing now rather than wait. This will ensure he/she will let you do it as they get older. Please use the following as a guide to train your pet to allow teeth brushing.
 - The trick is to start slowly and progress gradually. Don't proceed to the next step until your pet is comfortable with the current step. You should start out with frequent, short sessions of less than one minute so your pet doesn't feel overwhelmed. Some pets will adjust quickly, while other may need a few weeks. Remember, if your pet truly will not allow you to do this even after repeated attempts, this may be a sign of oral pain and you should have your pet evaluated by your veterinarian.
 - **STEP 1:** Allow your pet to get used to gently touching his/her face. (CAUTION: If your pet displays any aggressive tendencies, or tries to nip or bite you, stop immediately and consult your veterinarian). Teach your pet that placing your finger by its mouth means good things are coming. Do this by touching the lips and giving small treats. Repeat two to three times daily until your pet is happy and comfortable.
 - **STEP 2:** Lift the lip, touch the gums and reward your pet with praise and a treat. Repeat until your pet relaxes.
 - **STEP 3:** Rub the teeth with a piece of gauze or a finger toothbrush which can be dipped in chicken or beef broth to help your pet adjust to the texture. For cats, you can try a cotton swab dipped in tuna juice. Wait for a time when your pet is relaxed before attempting these techniques. Again, keep sessions lengths short (less than a minute).
 - **STEP 4:** When you are ready to brush, soft bristles are the key. You may use an angled brush specifically designed for a dog or cat. These can be purchased from any pet store, or our animal hospital. You can also use a soft-bristled pediatric toothbrush. **Always use toothpaste created for pets, never human toothpaste.** Wash the toothbrush after each use and replace it about every 6 months. Hold the jaw nearly closed and lift the lip. Hold the bristles at a 45° angle to the outer surfaces of the teeth and brush in a circular motion. You do not need to brush the inside surfaces. Pay special attention to the back teeth, as the premolars and molars usually collect the most tartar. The whole process should take no longer than a minute or two and should be repeated daily.
- Cigarette's and second hand smoke can affect your pet's health just like humans. Please avoid smoking around your pet.
- Diets play an important role in your puppy's health. Here is a list of recommended diets that can be found at your local grocery store/pet store
 - Science Diet, Iams, Eukanuba, Wellness, Canidea, Royal Canin, Natural Balance, Evo/Innova, Blue Buffalo, California Natural, Nature's Recipe, Purina one
 - If you are unsure how your pet's diet compares please ask your veterinarian!
 - Please always switch pet's diet gradually – this process should take about 2 weeks by slowly mixing in the old food with the new food.
 - Puppy food should be fed until about a year of life.

