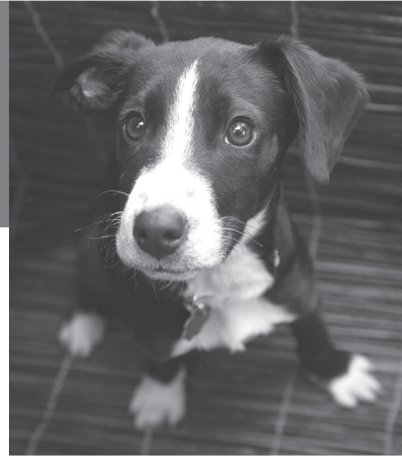


# FILMORE & FIONA'S ADVICE!

## PUPPY SEASON IS UPON US

MANY PEOPLE WILL BE WELCOMING NEW DOGS INTO THEIR FAMILIES THIS SPRING ARE YOU PREPARED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUR NEW PACK MEMBER?



## NEW PUPPY CHECKLIST:

**A LEASH AND COLLAR** ~ Your puppy will need to go on frequent walks to get exercise and to become housetrained.

**ID TAG** ~ Some dogs are terrific escape artists. Even if you trust that your dog will not run away, it is always better to be safe than sorry!

**A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP** ~ The safest place for a new puppy is a dog crate. Your puppy can't get into trouble when she is safely tucked away at night. Crate training also helps with housetraining. A puppy is very reluctant to urinate or defecate in the place where she sleeps. Make sure her bowel and bladder are empty, before "crating" overnight. She may whimper the first couple of nights. Be patient. Before you know it she'll be tucking herself into bed on her own. Start crate training by giving her treats and her favorite toy. A crate should never be used to punish or isolate a puppy or dog, for long periods of time.

**TOYS TO PLAY WITH AND CHEW** ~ There are excellent durable dog toys available. When your puppy is teething she will really need to work her jaws. Better a dog toy than your new pair of shoes! Look for 100% rubber, nylon or latex dog toys. Nylabone and Kong are just two of many safe toys recommended.

**GROOMING SUPPLIES** ~ Get your puppy used to brushing, baths, and nail clipping. Keep ears and eyes clean with a simple saline solution, 1 tsp. table salt to 1 cup of tepid water.

**A GOOD QUALITY PUPPY FOOD** ~ to meet her nutritional needs. Your puppy has a lot of growing to do!

**A DOGGY SCHEDULE** ~ Who in your family will walk the puppy in the morning, at lunch and in the evening? When it comes to walking your dog, the more people the merrier! A dog loves nothing better than to walk with her entire family, an important "bonding ritual" for you and your pet.

**A VETERINARY APPOINTMENT** ~ PLEASE SPAY/NEUTER YOUR PET (as per your veterinarian's advice). It is also important to vaccinate your puppy, as it is at risk of contracting a wide range of diseases.

**ENROLL IN PUPPY OBEDIENCE CLASSES** ~ This is especially important for first time dog owners. The best part is that doggy school is fun for both you and your dog!

**PATIENCE** ~ Steady positive reinforcement creates a confident, well socialized being. NEVER STRIKE OR SHOUT! Only negative, fear-based behaviours will evolve.

## ENJOY YOUR NEW PUPPY!

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT SHE'LL BE THE LOYAL, LOYING COMPANION YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HAVE ALWAYS WANTED. ~

