New Puppy Checklist: Printable

What to have before the puppy comes home, what to do in the first days, and how long a puppy can be alone.

Last checked November 18, 2026. Source: AKC: new puppy checklist, supplies by category; AKC: puppy's first vet visit; AKC: how long a puppy can be left alone, by age.

New puppy checklist

When	Item	Source
Before arrival	☐ Crate and bed	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Bowls, and the food the puppy is eating now (ask the breeder)	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Harness and leash	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Chew toys and teething toys, training treats	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Puppy gate to limit access to a few areas	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Brush, toothbrush and wipes for grooming and dental care	American Kennel Club
Before arrival	☐ Book the first vet exam: breeder contracts usually require one within about three days	American Kennel Club
Days 1 to 3	☐ Take the vet paperwork and a stool sample to the first visit	American Kennel Club
Days 1 to 3	☐ Ask the vet about microchipping and after-hours care	American Kennel Club
Days 1 to 3	☐ Use the crate to set a housetraining schedule	American Kennel Club
Weeks 1 and on	☐ Leave the puppy alone for no longer than: under 10 weeks 1 hour, 10 to 12 weeks 2, 3 months 3, 4 months 4, 5 months 5, 6 months 6	American Kennel Club
Weeks 1 and on	☐ Start dental care early so the puppy gets used to it	American Kennel Club

- Ask your vet about vaccines and parasite care at the first visit. Breeder and shelter paperwork goes with you.