

# Your New Puppy

## Feeding

Your puppy can be fed 3 meals a day, at approximately 7:30 am; 3:00 or 5:00 pm; and 9:30 pm. Just a tentative schedule, adjust to fit your time frame. You will be given some of our dog food so that you can transfer them over to the dog food you would like to use, please use a five star dog food and look at <http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com/> for the dog food rating. Griffons do rarely ever need their food intake controlled so please free feed the puppy unless it begins to be over weight. Also, note that most Griffons are extremely athletic so they may seem skinny to you or others. If you become concerned about this please send me some pictures of them so I can help advise you.

Another option is to do raw feeding, I have several breeding friends that feed raw and I can get you in contact with some raw feeders if you would like more information.

If you wish to give the puppy an 'extra' food with your dry dog food you may use chicken broth or a good quality can food, this is not necessary. Do not give your puppy cow's milk. Fresh clean water should be available at all times.

## Worming

Your puppy has been wormed with liquid Strongid worm medicine at 2&3, 5&6 weeks. You should have regular feces cultures done by a vet to see if they need wormed.

## Vaccination

Your puppy has been vaccinated with a DHLPP+P at 7 weeks of age. Please continue vaccinations as your vet suggests.

## Heartworm

Puppies can be started on heartworm medicine at 8 weeks. There are several options as to the type of medication that can be given. Most people prefer to give the once a month preventative. We use Revolution as a preventative.

## Training

As Griffons puppies are highly intelligent they are very easy to train. It is recommended that you try to find a puppy kindergarten class to attend. This gives the puppy an interaction with other puppies as well as different breeds and people. He can and should be crate trained. This is a safe way to protect the puppy from accidents at night and also provide a place for him to feel secure. This is not used as a place to punish the puppy, but a place to keep him out of trouble and can be used as a sleeping place. Be kind and gentle with a puppy, as each can be handled to accept his place in the home. Obedience is a fun thing for the dog and also a great help for the owner. Try to find a class for the puppy after 6 months to a year. Both you and the puppy will be glad that you did. Please note that just because I advise you to find an obedience class after 6 months, this

does not mean you should wait till then to start obedience! And that the more mental stimulation you provide the puppy the happier and better behaved the puppy will be.

### **Crate Training/Housebreaking**

For your sanity and the puppy safety you should crate train your puppy from the beginning. By buying a crate whether it is a small or large crate that can be used as he grows it is an investment that you will be pleased that you did purchase later. By starting the puppy out in a crate from the beginning he learns that this is a place that he is safe and happy for a time. Especially when you are trying to house break the puppy. A puppy does not like to use their bed as a restroom. He will let you know that he needs to go out. If you take the puppy outside at that time he will go in a place that you can designate by taking him to the place each time. Then give him some play time so that they are happy and will come to enjoy being in the crate. You can put toys in the crate with a pad for him to lie on. Many start a puppy out next to their bed in a crate so that during the night you can hear him move around, whine or bark. This is your queue to take the puppy outside. Carry your puppy from the crate to outside. If you allow the puppy to run outside he won't make it before there is an accident. Praise him when he relieves himself the idea is that he is being a good dog will catch on fast. In no time he will be going outside. I have put bells on the door that hang down for a puppy to shake to go outside. This is a great idea; as you can ring the bell each

time you go outside, praise the puppy for doing this. Before long he will be ringing the bell to alert you to his needs. You need to be consistent in your training of housebreaking. If they have an accident, pick the puppy up and take him outside, with praise when he is outside. Positive reinforcement is much better to getting a puppy to respond than negative punishment. Taking the puppy outside after he has eaten or had a drink of water is the best time to get him to relieve himself. Take the puppy out when he wakes up from a nap, also the last thing at night. If it is possible to take him out every 2-3 hours the puppy will learn to go outside quickly rather than go on your floor.

### **Habits**

The Griffons are active dogs and will get into things that they should not. We find that you see different personalities and temperaments with different bloodlines. Some are very active where others are more laid back.

The active pups want to stay busy and will find things to get into rather than laying and being still. As with all of them, they are intelligent and figure out a way to get your attention, by being destructive or pulling at your hand/pant, leg/heels, or anything else that they can get in their mouth. This is not showing aggression, they just want your attention. I suggest that you handle this by diverting their attention or giving them the attention they want at that time. It will get worse if you allow this to continue.

I have had a couple of suggestions from other puppy owners... One has found that giving an

apple to chew on has worked well, another has given ice cubes or give them their favorite toy, you may even have to take time to play retrieve too. There is also a ball that you can stuff treats into or food. This will keep them busy and they do enjoy pushing the ball around. There are many ways to handle this situation. You need to take the puppy in hand by some means so he knows that he is not allowed to continue the behavior.

I find that when they are starting to eat, some start to growl at the others. I shake those gently by the scruff of the neck and tell them NO. This is a solution that can be used to correct the nipping. They learn No early and Okay too. When you get your new puppy you can continue using those words. The laid back puppy is the one that is easier to handle for someone that would like a pet in the home. For those that have children, this type of puppy works well. All will hunt; just some are bolder than others. The softer puppy is has to be handled differently than the bolder pup. When he gets into trouble, as he will do, he does not need as hard of a correction as the bolder pup. You can use your voice strongly and they will respond.

Each pointing griffon hunts differently. The bolder puppy is out and going strong at an earlier age. The softer puppy checks cover closer and will stay in sight longer. As he gets older he will find his range. Both have a tendency to check back to know where you are located. They enjoy people so they are not the type of dog to take off and be gone for long periods of time.

They also love water. Most are in the water at a very young age and take to it well. All have the nice web feet that you see with the dogs that are good strong swimmers. They prefer the colder weather as to the hot, but deal with both.

### **Hunting**

The Griffons do have a strong natural instinct. If you are interested in hunting your new puppy; start by walking your puppy in an area that would be a natural setting for hunting. Any type of woods that he can run and smell new things is great when they are young. You will see the puppy show interest in many things; do not worry if they scare up any ground game. They will be having fun and also learning the difference in many things. Most Griffons only need to be handled easily and their instincts will take over. They do not need to go to a professional trainer. The Griffon does better for you as the owner. He will hunt for you and enjoy that time in the woods. Also allow him to play in the water. They all seem to love the water and as they get older it will make it much easier for retrieves on land and in water.

### **Play and Contact**

Of course as a young puppy, you will want to spend time with him. Be sure not to give a puppy anything that you do not want destroyed anytime, such as shoes. He will feel that anything that is given to them is okay to be carried and tossed around. Any type of sheep skin toy is best. Make sure that any other type of toy does not have loose eyes or parts that could be swallowed. If you have children, be

sure to supervise the child and puppy's play time together in the beginning until each will understand the respect that they must have for each other.

### **Grooming**

I suggest that you strip your dog, brush, and bath your puppy regularly. When they start to shed with the change of seasons you should strip your dog. Be sure that you keep his ears clean, use at least 90% or above alcohol (1 Pint) add a tablespoon of Boric Acid Powder to the alcohol. This can be used to swab inside of his ears and the canal that can be seen. You can also use this mixture in a spray bottle to spray in the ears weekly. This helps to keep them clean plus eliminates any mites or infections that might try to live in the ears. Your vet can recommend something.

Invest in a nail trimmer, and then use it. Trim the end of the nails as regular as needed. This could be weekly or monthly. Trim the tips of the nails weekly as a dog's nails will grow, same as a human. Watch for breakage or cracks in the nail if they are too long. A file can also be used to smooth the rough edges. Doing this from the time that he is a young puppy will make it much easier to groom him properly in a short time.

Give a puppy something to chew on, such as a knuckle bone or one from your local grocer. Do not give him cooked chicken bones as these can splinter and perforate the intestines. You can give uncooked chicken necks or uncooked turkey necks (as an adult). This keeps the teeth

clean, give one a day. By giving the puppy a bone to gnaw on he will be able to extract his puppy teeth without any problems. The teething process can start any time from 3- 4 months. Be sure to check his teeth during the teething period, so that each tooth will break through the gum and not be abscessed. If you see a tooth coming out and the baby tooth is still in the gum have your vet check to see if intervention is needed.

Do not trim or shave the coat in the summertime. The coat is a double insulator. It acts as a cooling agent in the summer to keep him cooler and a warming agent in the winter to keep in warm. Your dog will shed his coat when necessary. Be sure to have plenty of water available at this time and a place for them to get out of the sun. With the temperatures that can be high, a dog can have a heat stroke and die very fast, so please do not leave your dog out for very long unattended.

Find our suggested grooming tools at <http://zoombrewersgriffons.weebly.com/grooming.html>

I hope that you enjoy your new puppy and if there is any questions or problems that I can answer feel free to contact me at

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