

SHOPPING LIST: THIS IS WHAT YOUR NEW PUPPY WILL NEED

Once you have completed your doggy education, it is time to shop for your prospective puppy. Many training books, pet stores, and dog catalogs display an awesome and confusing array of doggy products and training equipment. Consequently, I have listed a number of essentials with personal preferences in parentheses.

1. Books and DVDs about puppy behavior and training (instructions for use)
2. Dog crate (Vari Kennel), and maybe an exercise pen or baby gate barrier
3. At least six chewtoys to stuff with kibble and treats (The Kong Company's Kong and Biscuit Ball, Premier's Squirrel Dude and Football, and sterilized long bones are the best.)
4. Doggy toilet (Construct your own — turf in a litter pan)
5. Water bowl (Only buy your pup a food bowl once he is socialized, well-trained, and has impeccable household manners.)
6. Dog food (dry kibble) During his first weeks at home, make sure your puppy receives all food stuffed in chewtoys, or handfed as rewards for socialization and training.
7. Freeze-dried liver for men, strangers, and children to win your puppy's confidence and as rewards for housetraining
8. Edible Chewies
9. Interactive Toys
10. Plush (squeaky) Toys
11. Martingale collar, leash, and maybe a Gentle Leader (Premier Pet Products)