



NGESONG Lhasa Apsos
Information Booklet

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A PUPPY STORY

I am a puppy, this means that my intelligence and capacity for learning are the same as an 8-month-old child, I will chew everything I can get my teeth on. This is how I explore and learn about the world, it is up to you to guide me to what is mine and what is not. I am a puppy so don't expect me to hold my bladder for longer than 1-2 hours. I cannot feel that I need to go till it is happening. I cannot tell you I want to go, I cannot pull faces, I just don't have bladder control till I'm a bit older around 8-9 months old. Please don't punish me if you haven't let me out to my area for a while. If I make a mess of your carpet or tiles with a tinkle or poop, IT IS YOUR FAULT NOT MINE, remember I'm only a baby puppy and you love me or you wouldn't want me in your and my new home. As a puppy I need to go to the potty after I play, eat, drink and sleep every 2-3 hours. My mum use to helped me now I need your help for a while please. I will sleep most of the night but to help, me give somewhere to sleep like the travel cage I came to you or some other place that I will feel comfortable in, if I need to hide when I get scared and you are not around a lovely corner with a blanket will do. This will help me so you will not get mad at me, I am trying but still learning. I am a puppy so I love to play in short periods of time, I will chase imaginary monsters, have puppy dreams where I growl, attack your toes for fun. I need guidance in what I am allowed to play with so please put away those expensive Nikes or socks and underwear, they all smell nice to me. You won't smack a small child so please don't hit me. I am delicate and very impressionable. You treat me harshly and I will grow up fearing you and be wanting a new home. I am after all a puppy with feelings and drives, I am not perfect and I know you are not either, I will love you anyway so please teach me with love and patience.

All My Love Your New Puppy

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Congratulations on your choice of a Lhasa Apso The Lhasa Apso is still classed as a relatively rare dog in Australia All NGESONG Lhasa Apso Dogs are Pedigree Pure Breed. This means their Pedigree Linage can be traced back many generations, here in Australia and overseas. Your puppy will be registered in Queensland with the CCCQ (Dogs Qld) the state of their birth and will be also listed with the Australian National Kennel Club (ANKC) in the Pedigree register. You now have a wonderful little Lhasa Apso puppy to raise. If you properly train and socialize it as a puppy, it will grow up to be an asset to your life. If we could put ourselves in the place of a Lhasa Apso, we would find our little self in the world of giants. Never let it be said that a Lhasa considers itself small, for it does not! Your new Lhasa has come into very strange surroundings. It has left its Mother and all of its brothers and sisters and is now on its own. Therefore, it needs time for adjusting and you will as well. Now, if you are like the rest of us, you want to show off your beautiful new companion. It would be wise however, to limit company at least during the first week, so that your new Lhasa can become used to its new surroundings and its new family. Your Lhasa puppy needs a sense of security in its new home. One method, and a good one, to provide this security is to use the air crate in which a puppy arrives so it may sleep or to which it may go to escape. Put a blanket or towel in the crate, all ours that go to their forever home are sent with a small blanket that has the family smell on it, so as to give some comfort. Do not isolate your puppy. Block off a corner of the kitchen or family room and place the crate in that area so as they can escape to when they feel frightened, if it hides under the couch do not worry (be very careful if you have recliners, my advice is to not use them again for quite a while unless the dog is in your arms), but DO NOT forget to give your new precious pup all the cuddles you can. Be sure that the area chosen is one from which the puppy can observe the family and in which the family can observe and interact to the puppy. You may want to make a small pen, or you can purchase a wire pen. Put plenty of papers on the floor with water dish, toys, and chew bones in the area. Prop the door of the air crate open, or even remove it while the crate is used in the pen. To prevent the puppy from feeling lonely, while you might be away from home and unable to take with you, turn on the radio or television for company, we have it running all day, every day. Puppy training in many ways is easier than training an adult Lhasa Apso, in that puppies have just not yet had a chance to learn how to respond to their environments. This means you get to teach your puppy how to behave properly right from the beginning. It is sometimes easier to do things right or according to the house rules, if the individual does not already have a history of behaving in a certain way. A great example is the acts of the puppy jumping up to greet people. Training your dog to obey you can be accomplished by frequent; five to ten-minute sessions. These sessions should be repeated two to three times each day. It is best to schedule these before you feed your dog. He will be more attentive to what you are asking of him, and he will associate these sessions with a meal reward. Before giving a word command to your dog, speak its name to get its attention, then speak a one-word command, sit, stay, heal. I use a finger to help enforce a command, your pup will soon learn by the raising of a finger the word NO. Remember to praise your dog when he/she gets it right; this will encourage the dog to perform correctly the next time. Be patient, it will take many training sessions before your dog responds the way you want, but soon will associate the word with its meaning or finger signal. Puppies training tip: - If you can structure the environment in such a way that the puppy is never rewarded for jumping and make sure the puppy is consistently rewarded for sitting instead, you will have an adult Lhasa that doesn't jump when greeting people. In fact, an adult Lhasa with this type of history will impress your friends by sitting when it greets guests.

Walking on a Leash

Your puppy should be taught to walk freely on a leash and have good manners. Start first with a soft nylon collar and switch later to a light weight choke collar. Leave the collar on for short periods only, then when the pup is accustomed to wearing a collar, attach a leash that can be dragged behind. Next, pick up the leash and begin to lead the puppy with occasional firm tugs, interspersed with a lot of pats and "good boy or girl." Accustom your puppy to walk on the left side, to move out smartly and stay abreast-neither lunging nor lagging. As the exercise progresses, exert a little more force with each tug. A slip (choke) collar should be removed after an exercise. A dog alone wearing a slip collar is in danger. The dog's foot could become caught between the collar and the neck, or the collar could become snagged in a fence. If you tie your dog outside, put a nylon collar on him/her that buckles. This is much safer for your dog.

How do you house train a Lhasa Apso?

Training and House / Toilet Training has commenced here with Gayle and I. You will still have small mishaps from time to time so be patient. Do not yell at her / him as you will frighten and confuse them. There are other great instances of this principal, such as getting your new puppy accustomed to toileting on a particular kind of surface. Gently show them where they can toilet. Please do not RUB their nose in the mess, you can and will do damage to their breathing. We start off on teaching them on newspaper first and slowly move it to the door. When we think they have gotten use to the idea we move them outside with our older Lhasa's and encourage them to follow their lead. A good deal of this resistance to change can be explained by the phenomena of imprinting. If you have carpet train them not to toilet there. We have tiles and they prefer to use the outside grass, but if anxious or frightened they will relieve themselves where they are. There are certain times when a puppy's brain is developing in a way that enables life experiences and successful behaviour to become permanently wired connections. By training at this age, you are actually building your puppy's brain and its future behaviour. Your new loved one will house train faster if you put them on a regular schedule and kept in a confined area, but still large enough to romp around, when unsupervised. By six weeks old, you should be helping puppies choose an appropriate spot, if you have an adult Lhasa use them to help. At eight weeks, most puppies should be holding themselves overnight; if not till at least it starts getting daylight (we usually get up to them about 5am). During puppy training you need to remember, puppies don't have the endurance of an adolescent or adult Lhasa. Puppies can be very active for short amounts of time and then they need to rest and sleep. Some believe this rest helps the puppy build those important brain connections, as well as the muscle and bones of a developing body. # Never lose your temper when you are teaching a puppy always be friendly! When a puppy is first brought home, take it outdoors to a selected spot and praise the puppy for sniffing there. Every time the puppy is taken outside, bring it to the same spot and reward with treats and praise profusely when it eliminates there. Do not play with the puppy outside until he goes to his spot and at least

sniffs around. Also, keep the spot cleaned up. Inside the house, the new puppy should be let out to play no longer than 20 minutes at a time before either being taken outside to its spot or being returned to the pen or crate. As the puppy gets older and its muscles develop, they will become more reliable and the free time can be gradually lengthened. Puppy kindergarten and / or basic obedience training, always using positive training techniques, is recommended for all youngsters. Lhasa's require firmness, fairness, and consistency in training. Positive rewards work far better than harsh discipline. In fact, the breed should never be disciplined harshly, as a Lhasa may show resentment if it deems the punishment unfair. Instead, the rather independent and wilful nature of Lhasa Apsos requires patient understanding combined with gentle correction. Most Lhasa's will do just about anything for food treats. But, because they are smart, they are easily bored with repetitive and persistence obedience work. Training sessions should be kept short and exercises varied to maintain the Lhasa's attention. Above all, have fun, enjoy and keep your sense of humour. Don't be afraid to roll around on the floor with them, get down to their level they enjoy this interaction, I have as much fun as they do rolling around on the deck. We also encourage you to join your state governing bodies, there are other activities available other than the show conformation ring which we do. You have Dancing with Dogs, Agility, tracking just to name a few.

Any questions, worries please contact us, we are here to help anytime and no question is too small or silly

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By Dr Fiona Patterson BVSc Mars Petcare Australia

Adding a new family member is a big decision and importantly how the new pet is integrated into the household is critical to a smooth transition. While there will always be bumps in the road, preparation and planning will make all the difference. Here I outline my tips for helping settle a puppy into their new home and these suggestions are also applicable to dogs of all ages.

Prior to your puppy's arrival, is the time to look at your home from a different perspective – that of your puppy's! Firstly, consider which areas of the house you will allow your puppy to have access to, and which areas will be off-limits. For areas your puppy won't be allowed, think about how you will block their access. A puppy or child gate is very useful as it allows you to still move about your house, while preventing your puppy from entering any areas they shouldn't.

Inside the Home Puppies are by nature highly curious, so make your way around your house in a systematic way – moving room by room, looking for potential hazards.

- Secure any exposed electrical or window blind cords out of a puppy's reach.
- Ensure all personal belongings such as shoes and clothing are stored away and not accessible to a puppy.
- Carefully check if there is anywhere in the house where a puppy may get stuck or anywhere they may be able to fall from.
- Children's toys can be chewed and small items swallowed, so secure them out of a puppy's reach.
- Use draw closures in the kitchen, bathroom and laundry to prevent a puppy from rummaging through cupboards and ingesting dangerous items or chemicals. Outside the home, Once you have puppy-proofed the inside of your home, it's time to consider the outside. Take a walk around your property looking for POTENTIAL HAZARDS.
- Check that your property is completely secure for a puppy. Look for any holes or gaps in the fence through which a puppy could escape, and if found, have them attended to.
- Assess your fences to ensure they are high enough to prevent a puppy from jumping over. •Ensure that a puppy can't dig their way out.
- Look for any chemicals such as cleaning agents or paints that may be within a puppy's reach. If found, secure them in a safe spot.
- Ensure garden-related items such as fertilizers, potting mix, weed/snail/slug killers and other chemicals, as well as garden tools are also kept well out of reach.

Collar and leash A collar should be introduced as soon as possible and choosing the right size is important. The collar should fit so that two fingers easily fit underneath it. The collar is likely to need replacing as the puppy grows. Have your puppy get used to wearing a collar and the feel of a leash, both inside and outside the home. Take things slowly and provide lots of positive reinforcement through treats and praise, so that these items equate to happy times for your puppy. They'll soon get the hang of things! Choosing a Veterinarian Throughout life, a dog will need regular veterinary care and attention. Now is a good time to choose your veterinarian and book in a health check for your new puppy. At this visit, you can discuss an appropriate healthcare routine for your puppy. Meeting the family To keep the initial introduction to your home as stress-free as possible, try to limit the number of new people your puppy will meet in the first few days. It's easy for a young puppy to feel overwhelmed, so ensure a calm environment and allow your puppy some time to adjust. Show your puppy where their sleeping spot is and establish it as their quiet refuge – a place to escape the world when needed. When introducing your puppy to children, always ensure a responsible adult is present. Have the children seated quietly and allow the puppy to come to them. Discuss with children the need to be quiet and calm when interacting with the puppy. Make sure that interactions between children and pets are always supervised. To ensure a positive association with children, give treats to the puppy while they interact with them. The first night It is likely that for your puppy, the first night at your home is their first night away from their mother and littermates. Your puppy's crate provides a safe and secure space for them to bed down, while preventing them from roaming the house at night. Just prior to bedtime, play with your puppy so that they become tired. Avoid your puppy taking a nap close to bedtime. Prior to settling down for the night, take your puppy to their designated toilet area and wait until they've toileted. Praise and reward calmly for a job well done, then take them to their sleeping spot. Young puppies will need to be taken outdoors to toilet at least every 4 hours during the night so set your alarm for the next few weeks! Nice to meet you! If you could ask an adult dog about puppies, they would probably say they have really poor social skills and lots to learn! If your home already has some furry residents, they may need time to adjust to life with a new puppy. Adult dogs often welcome a new puppy, but there can be tensions. A resident dog can be protective of their home territory and resources within it, so it's a good idea to schedule the initial meeting on neutral ground, rather than at home. Have both dogs on a leash and under control. When they show that they're interested in meeting, allow them to sniff and get to know each other. If all goes well, they can meet again at home. If you have more than one dog, the new puppy should meet one resident dog at a time. Be mindful to keep initial interactions reasonably brief so that the older dog gets a break from the puppy. The new puppy hasn't yet developed their social skills and this can be quite trying for older dogs. Older dogs will let your puppy know what the rules are and can help teach the puppy the social skills they need to learn. Don't punish your older dog for growling. Puppies are just starting to learn about communication skills and they often don't read the more subtle signals that older dogs display. Growls are a method of communication and can help teach the puppy when older dogs no longer want to interact. Puppies need to learn to read such signals. Supervision is critical. Be sure to keep a watchful eye on the interactions and take action if body language and communication indicate it is required. Ensure each pet has the opportunity to seek refuge to get some quiet time away from one another. You might like to use a crate, play pen or separate pets via a gate. It is helpful to ensure each pet can rest without disturbance and this also teaches each individual to be comfortable on their own

