



Your New Puppy - FAQ

What Vaccinations are needed?

With the superior vaccines we use, puppies 10 weeks and over now only need a single C5 vaccination. Booster injections will not be required until they are over 14 months old. This vaccination covers distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, bordetella bronchiseptica and parainfluenza 2 – canine cough/kennel cough. The best part is that the pups can be socialised (allowed out for walks and playing with other dogs) much earlier – allowing a more normal social development.

For Puppies less than 10 weeks – C3 vaccine (distemper, hepatitis and parvovirus) : \$109.10

For Puppies over 10 weeks- C5 vaccine (distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, Bordetella and parainfluenza: \$139.20

What heartworm Prevention do you recommend?

Heartworm is a parasite which is spread by mosquitoes and lives in the chambers and large vessels of the heart, causing clots and obstructing flow. Puppies should start on life long heartworm prevention at **12 weeks** of age. We recommend PROHEART INJECTION as this will have a 3 month reach-back ability to take care of any potential unknown infection from birth onward. Proheart will need to be given again at **6 months** (typically at the time of desexing) and then **annually** (together with the annual vaccinations).

Proheart Injection- 12 weeks of age approximate cost (charged per ml according to the puppies weight):

- 1kg \$65.60
- 5kg \$74.70
- 10kg \$89.90

What worming do I need to do?

Worms can cause problems such as vomiting, diarrhoea and malnutrition. They can also be present with no visible signs. We recommend MILBEMAX monthly in puppies 4 months and under. It is important to weigh your pup before each treatment as dosing is based on bodyweight and it changes a lot when they are growing. We recommend the following regime:

- every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age.
- then monthly until 6 months.
- then every 3 months ongoing for life.
-

Milbemax tablet for puppies <5kg: \$6.80

Milbemax tablet for puppies 5-25kg: \$17.20

What flea prevention should I use?

Fleas are the single largest cause of dermatitis in dogs.. The most ideal conditions for fleas are warm, dry





**MALVERN
VET
HOSPITAL**



Malvern Veterinary Hospital
547 Dandenong Rd
Armadale, Vic. 3143
www.malvernvet.com.au
askthetvet@malvernvet.com.au

☎ 03 9509 7611

We primarily recommend BRAVECTO which is a tasty chew or a small dropper of liquid placed on the skin of the back of the neck once a month. The chew protects against fleas for 3 months, and paralysis ticks for 4 months, as well as controlling mites (mange). The liquid controls fleas and paralysis ticks for 6 months, as well as brown dog ticks for 12 weeks. We recommend paralysis tick prevention for any dog who may occasionally go into tick areas (East Victoria, Northern Australia). Preventing flea infestations is much cheaper than treating them.

If your puppy currently has fleas – treat with bravecto immediately and also treat any other pets you have. There will be fleas in the environment (eggs/larvae etc) so you will need to keep up the treatments on all pets for at least a year to prevent re-infestation.

When do I get my dog de-sexed and what are the costs?

We recommend de-sexing to be done at 5-6 months of age. This is in line with current AVA recommendations. Malvern Vet has been re-awarded ASAVA (Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association) “Hospital of Excellence” Accreditation repeatedly since 1981- so you can be assured all surgeries are performed to the highest standards. All dogs are placed on IV fluids to further improve the safety of the procedure, and receive pain relief medication before and during the procedure and are dispensed further pain medication to go home with. Dogs can be taken home on the same day. The pup needs to be kept rested for the next 7- 10 days (no walks or baths). Intra-dermal sutures are used which are dissolvable with no ties visible for pets to pull at and no need to be removed.

Males up to 10kg: \$464-\$470

Males 10.1-20kg: \$474-\$496

Females up to 10kg: \$518- \$525

Females 10.1-20kg: \$550-\$553

*Prices inclusive of pain medications and IV fluids.

I have some training queries- can you help?

At your first consultation your vet will discuss any issues you may be having. Puppy pre-school is not available – (COVID-19 restrictions are currently suspending these classes) but is highly recommended. If you would like us to send you general information regarding behavior please email us back and request a free puppy pack to be posted out to you. It contains a wealth of information and includes a free dog lead.

I have more questions which you have not covered here:

Please feel free to email any queries. If you would like to make a booking you can either head to our website to book online at www.malvernvet.com.au, or call us on **9509 7611**.

Recommendations for the care of your new Puppy

The Best Diet for a Growing Dog

Puppies have incredible growth rates, often doubling in size between 12 and 16 weeks of age. It is best to feed small meals often: 3-4 meals up to 4 months of age; 2-3 meals up to 6 months of age. Chewing of raw bones should be encouraged from 12 weeks of age. This establishes good behaviour patterns for maintaining dental health. Veterinary commercial diets such as "Science Diet Puppy" have the correct balance of protein, fats, vitamins, minerals and carbohydrates meaning no supplements are necessary. Hills Science Diet, for example has developed many vital health systems in their food:

- * DHA fish oil – for healthy brain development. Clinically proven to improve a puppies trainability.
- * Antioxidants– Clinically proven to improve immune function and development-crucial in puppies.
- * Good quality protein – which is more digestible and leads to less waste to clean up in the yard!



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- * The right omega 3 and omega 6 fatty acid ratio – which promotes healthy skin and a shiny coat.
- * Calorie dense food – a lower volume is fed resulting in a competitive cost per feed.
- * Balanced Calcium for larger breeds– to prevent dysplasia and promote healthy bone growth.

Vaccinations – Protection from Contagious Diseases

There are many diseases that are fatal to dogs. Fortunately, we have the ability to prevent many of these by the use of a very effective new triennial vaccine. This vaccine gives a better immunity and allows pups to socialize one week after the 10 week vaccination (socialisation is an extremely important way of preventing potential future behavioural problems). The new vaccine also prevents any potential to over stimulate a dogs immune system. The boosters are annual but not all diseases will need to be boosted every year. The initial vaccine protocol is as follows:

- <10 weeks: **C3** distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus (usually given by the breeder's veterinarian)
- >10 weeks: **C5** distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, parainfluenza, bordetella
- 1st annual booster: C5 distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, parainfluenza, bordetella
- 2nd annual booster: C2 parainfluenza, bordetella

Insurance:

All puppies we see **are eligible** to receive 4 weeks **FREE** pet insurance. All we need is an email address and your pup can be covered immediately. We recommend insuring your dog from an early age before any inherent problems arise. Statistically, people are more likely to claim on pet insurance than car or household insurance. It is re-assuring to know that your pet can be given the very best in veterinary care without having to worry about the vet bills.



Heartworm Prevention

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Stomach Worm Treatments

Worms can cause problems such as vomiting, diarrhoea and malnutrition. They can also be present with no visible signs. We recommend **MILBEMAX** monthly in puppies 4 months and under. It is important to weigh your pup before



each treatment as dosing is based on bodyweight and it changes a lot when they are growing. We recommend the following regime:

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Flea Control

Fleas are the single largest cause of dermatitis in dogs.. The most ideal conditions for fleas are warm, dry environments (inside the house). The adult fleas we see only make up 5% of the total flea population in the house. There are a couple treatments we recommend: ADVANTAGE which is a small dropper of liquid placed on the skin of the back of the neck once a month. BRAVECTO which is a tasty chew that protects against fleas for 3 months. Preventing flea infestations is much cheaper than treating them.

When can I get my dog desexed and what's involved?

The best time to get your dog desexed is at 6 MONTHS OF AGE, before they go through puberty between 6 and 12 months of age. Preventing puberty will eliminate a lot of adult dog problems such as wandering, aggression and dominance behaviours. Desexing before 6 months of age has been shown to dramatically reduce the risks of prostate and mammary cancer in older dogs. The surgery is done under a general anaesthetic and they are given pain control injections during surgery which last 24 hours and go home the same afternoon. (please see other handout for further information).

What is Microchip Identification?

Microchip identification involves the placement of a small microchip under the skin at the back of the neck. It is coded with a reference number which is linked to your details at a centralized national data base. Your information can be obtained within minutes once your dog (if lost) is presented to a veterinary clinic or pound. The needle used to insert the microchip is a large gauge needle, so we recommend doing this at the same time they are desexed (6 months of age). Although most puppies will already come microchipped from the breeder, you just need to ensure it has been transferred into your name. Please don't hesitate to ask us if you have any questions.

Local councils require microchip implant for registration at 3 months of age. If you would like to delay this procedure until your pup is under anaesthetic for desexing (at 6 months of age) ask us to issue you with a certificate of exemption.

Puppy Preschool

Puppy preschool is an opportunity for your pup to learn vital social skills for their adult life in the dog world. Puppies get to meet and play with other puppies and a dog trainer will teach you some basic dog training tips at the same time. It is recommended for puppies between 8 and 18 weeks of age, as this is the most vital age for learning how to socialize well with other dogs. Please enquire at the front desk if you are interested.



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