



Shadymist Kennel

~ From Our Home to Your Hearts ~

Est. 2009

NEW PUPPY “MUST-HAVE” RECOMMENDATIONS LIST

Congratulations on your new puppy and **Welcome to the Shadymist Puppy Family!**

Here are a few suggestions of items our new puppy families should be gathering to prepare for your new puppies and where to find them at the best prices. I've done the research so you don't have to!!!

These are products and items I have found work well for me, my puppies and my dogs. I also recommend bringing a towel and wet wipes with you when picking up your puppy. If you have anything you'd like to add or have questions about please let me know! If you post your question here in the comments. You might be helping someone else with the same question or concerns! So don't be shy!

Embroidered and Embossed Collars

If you've been here to meet me and my dogs you've seen these collars. I started using them when I couldn't find tags that did not stain their coats black on their neck and chest, even the little links that hold the tags will stain them. I was also concerned about collars being a choking hazard with two or more dogs in my home. They always grab each other by the collars! So I looked into these collars.

The clasp on these is plastic. While it's fine if you just need to grab your dog suddenly, but more importantly it will break if one dog gets a tooth wrapped up or caught on it and panics or if it gets caught on something. I still don't keep collars on them if I can avoid it while at home. But when I do, I prefer these.

They come in a variety of colors and are holding up beautifully on my dogs, even surviving rough play! They average about \$12 each plus shipping. The embroidered collars only have the dogs name and my phone number embroidered on the collar once, while the embossed have both repeating all across the collars. I like the colors of the embroidered better, but the repeating name and number is a real draw for me with the embossed. You'll have to decide for your yourself. They hold their colors well and are machine washable!

[Http://hotdogcollars.com](http://hotdogcollars.com)

Leads/Leashes & Harnesses

First things first...NEVER EVER use a retractable leash! EVER. They make walking your dog a potentially fatal accident, not to mention it actually teaches your dog to pull! Dr Karen Becker, DVM, of Mercola Pets explains in detail problems with retractables:

<https://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2014/06/11/retractable-dog-leash.aspx>

I recommend always using slip leads, and/or martingales (martingale leads, not martingale collars, and they're my #1 preference even over slip leads). They adjust in tension as your dog relaxes and can be adjusted to stay high up on your dog/puppy's neck where you have the greatest control with least amount of effort and resistance.

I personally prefer the Mendota brand because like the quality of the braiding and the variety they offer.

You can find general slip leads here:

https://www.amazon.com/Mendota-Pet-Slip-Lead-Black/dp/B001B183A6/ref=sxin_2_ac_m_pm?ac_md=1-0-VW5kZXXIgJDIwac_d_pm&keywords=mendota+slip+lead&pd_rd_i=B001B183A6&pd_rd_r=1d1c182c-70f4-421a-b6f4-84c95d79ab9b&pd_rd_w=pQXRt&pd_rd_wg=Tqeem&pf_rd_p=52ddbaccf25e4731abd8-005c535b500a&pf_rd_r=QZH5GMD0D3XMT8QSN40P&psc=1&qid=1565641496&s=gateway&sprefix=mendota

And martingale slip leads here:

https://www.amazon.com/Mendota-ME01250-Dog-Walker-Sapphire/dp/B00BPHHWA8/ref=mp_s_a_1_4?keywords=mendota%2Bmartingale%2Bleash&qid=1565639593&s=gateway&sr=8-4&th=1&psc=1

I also absolutely ***do not recommend harnesses***. If you just consider the origin of the word, "harness," and its original purpose, sled dogs, you'll understand why they're almost potential as bad as retractable, but for different reasons. Harnesses were created and designed, to "harness" the greatest amount of force/energy, with the least amount of effort from the animal because it literally is designed to fit them animal is in most anatomically powerful core, their gravitational center mass. So it takes very little effort from a dog to drag you down the street as if they were dragging a plow or pulling a sled.

The problem with "no-pull" harnesses is even worse because it can, and will eventually, damage your dogs elbows and shoulders. I believe this is best explained by Dr Chris Zink, DVM PhD DACVP DACVSMR CCRT CVSMT CVA (that trail of capital letters isn't a typo, those are the multiple titles, degrees, and doesn't even include her equally impressive list of honors and awards in the field of canine kinesiology, biology, and competition, nor does it include the number of books, including text books, that she has published). Dr. Zink addresses the problems with no-pull harnesses in this publication:

<https://www.wholedogjournal.com/care/collars-harnesses-leashes-muzzles/the-no-pull->

[harnessdebate/](#)

Crates

(***Please do not use the wire cage type crate!!! Wire crates create a sense of being openly trapped and therefore vulnerable as opposed to the secure den-like environment created with the plastic crates!)

I recommend the plastic crates so the puppy can feel secure, just like they do naturally, get under things to sleep. You can read the pros and cons of plastic crates here:

<https://www.raisingspot.com/plastic-dog-crate/>

I do not recommend the larger crates because my experience is a crate is only needed during house training and teething. This one below is the type and size you need for your puppy if you block off the extra space in the back with a box or blanket. This will save you money in the long run because this size is good for up to about 6-8 months, depending on your puppy's gender.

Get your crate here:

<http://www.chewy.com/petmate-sky-kennel/dp/101595?dept=dogb> Get the medium or intermediate sized.

Crate Pads

A pad for the crate (this link is to the pad that fits the above crate)

http://amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B00028J0A6/ref=aw_d_var_2nd_pet-supplies_img?vs=1

*******Snuggle Puppy*******

These really are a Must-Have!!!

Several puppy families have been using these with great success with their new puppies so I feel I'm doing you a disservice if I don't include it here. I have no real personal experience with them (although I did give one to my God-grandson, and he loves loves loves it!), but I can certainly understand the premise behind them and why they would work so well. You can buy them several places, but again I am simply providing the amazon link for reference. I do think the price is the same regardless from where you purchase it however.

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B000S753WK/ref=mp_s_a_1_3?qid=1403381495"sr=8-3](http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B000S753WK/ref=mp_s_a_1_3?qid=1403381495)

Puppy Kong toys

http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0002AR18C/ref=pd_aw_sim_petsupplies_6?pi=SY115Inter
active

Puppy Toys to promote intellectual growth:

<https://technobark.com/best-interactive-dog-toys/> Stuffingless toys

(There is a huge variety). Get as many as you are comfortable spending. These are great toys and will last 6x longer than regular dog toys!

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0024EDWJG/ref=mp_s_a_1?qid=1363734367"sr=810"pi=SL75t](http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0024EDWJG/ref=mp_s_a_1?qid=1363734367)

Food Bowls & Why

Metal food and water bowls with rubber ring on the bottom to reduce slipping. The metal keeps the dogs and puppies from carrying them around or chewing them up. DO NOT USE the stands that elevate the bowls, their food and water need to be on the floor. There are studies showing eating from elevated bowls can cause bloat and bloat can kill a dog. (We lost our great dane to bloat at only 6 years old when I was a child.)

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0033PR7FA/ref=mp_s_a_1?qid=1363734855"sr=824"pi=SL75t](http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0033PR7FA/ref=mp_s_a_1?qid=1363734855)

However if you start seeing pink around their eyes mouth and ears, its from the metal bowls, so switch to clay or ceramic bowls. Do NOT use plastic bowls! Plastic has been shown to leech toxic into their water.

Parasite Control

I do not recommend any chemical for any parasite prevention, fleas, ticks, heartworms, mosquitos, roundworms, hookworms or whipworms, that have not been tested independently with evidence-based studies that have been peer reviewed AND ARE DEEMED SAFE FOR PREGNANT AND/OR NURSING MOTHERS.

If its not been proven safe for pregnant or nursing dogs, then NONE of my dogs will get it, retired, boys, open, or pregnant. This is my professional yardstick to guide me when deciding what is or isn't safe for my dogs and puppies!

You will need flea and tick prevention, K9Advantix II has been independently tested and is 100% effective for 21 days but may need to be reapplied every 21 days to prevent reinfestation during high flea/tick seasons and/areas!

I only recommend Heartgard Plus for heartworm and other intestinal parasites. When given monthly it keeps your dog/puppy parasite-free from most worms, not including flea-based tapes or whipworms, and not giardia.

NEVER use anything that doesn't have at least 20 years of studies to prove its safety and any long-term medical consequences, most specifically cancer, of course.

I have found K9 Advantix II on both Ebay and Amazon reasonably priced. You'll have to get Heartgard Plus from your vet.

Brushes & Shedding Tools

You'll want to get a tool to help prevent shedding, the Furminator, I love mine!!!

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0040QQ07C/ref=aw_d_var_2nd_petsupplies_img?qid=1363737401"sr=8-2"vs=1](http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B0040QQ07C/ref=aw_d_var_2nd_petsupplies_img?qid=1363737401)

I also have a shedding rake gifted to me from a puppy family that is fantastic!

(Thank you Laurie & Jeff! 😊) I have come to like this rake better than the furminator!

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01EZ7UOCM/ref=cm_sw_r_other_ap_a_i_X4xsDb7F95TPX

I have recently added a "slicker" brush I really like for the heaving shedding season on my larger longer coated dogs. I have 3 of these!

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00ZGPI3OY/ref=cm_sw_r_other_ap_a_i_B7xsDbDAAKCEK

Puppy Food

I will send a bag of puppy food home with your puppy, I will send a gallon size ziplock baggie of the food I'm currently feeding the puppies (Diamond Naturals Extreme Athlete) for you to transition them onto one of the following: Victor Performance, Victor Professional, Victor Puppy, Natural Balance Salmon and Brown Rice, Kirkland Signature Chicken Rice and Veggies, or Diamond Naturals Large Breed Puppy. There really are very few, if any, better options on the market right now. Most foods either have too high protein for golden puppies, or contain legumes which have been proven cause a dietary taurine deficiency that causes DCM in both puppies and adults.

Please do NOT feed your dog or puppy anything that is grain-free, high protein (anything over 26/27%), and high calcium (anything over 1.7%). There is significant evidence showing these can cause Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0209112>

Treats

Most of the dog and puppy treats have so many processed and unidentifiable ingredients that they often cause pretty severe digestive issues ranging from gas to diarrhea and even vomiting. I have found Natural Balance L.I.T. Treats to be head and shoulders above the rest! They have a wonderful variety of combinations, and most include sweet potatoes! That's the sign of a reputable manufacturing that recognizes the value of natural ingredients and ones that promote digestive health. I order all of mine from Amazon.com, of course, because I have found they have the greatest selection and the best prices!

http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/s/ref=is_box_?k=natural+balance+lit

Treats for training

I recommend Charlee Bear treats because they are small enough to be eaten quickly and keep your puppy's attention focused on you! Liver flavored is my dogs' preference.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/s/ref=is_s_?ie=UTF8&k=Charlee+bear+treats

And for a high-value reward I buy Pet Botanicals (thank you Stu!)

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B007VGE2X2/ref=cm_sw_r_other_ap_a_i_8aysDbGMREWZ6

Bathing

Remember your puppy has two layers of fur and the undercoat needs to maintain its natural oils or you will create skin disorders that could be bothersome and even painful. You can bathe your puppy more than once a month, if you choose to, but remember you MUST replace the oil to their coat and skin after every bath! You can use Alpha Keri, or coconut oil (my preference) applied directly to their skin and coat immediately following a bath!

BioGroom Protein Lanolin

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B006PGOO0A/ref=cm_sw_r_other_apa_i_SdysDbGBQDCA9

Or if you want something that smells really really good, you could go with a show dog brand, Pawfume Premium.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0791M3T12?ref=ppx_pop_mob_ap_share

Diarrhea

And, Yes folks. This is probably the most common problem any new puppy, regardless of breed, or breeder, that vets see within the first 2 weeks. Stress causes diarrhea. However...soft stools are not the same as diarrhea! Puppy poo looks like soft-serve ice cream or pudding until they're about 4 to 6 months old. If you misunderstand this and call your vet complaining about diarrhea, your vet will gladly sell you metronidazole to firm it up, but its an antibiotic, and giving anyone an antibiotic without an actual infection present will set your puppy up for a lifetime of rebound diarrhea and GI problems. Less is more!!!

If your puppy (or dog) experiences a bout of actual diarrhea, watery and frequent, give him/her **Diggin's Firm Up**, or canned pumpkin if you haven't gotten the powder yet. I'm guessing when I tell you about a 1/2 tsp for small puppy, a tablespoon for larger dogs of canned pumpkin (not canned pumpkin pie mix).

One or two doses over a day or two should do the trick! But be careful! A large amount, like a cup, will treat constipation.

I prefer using **Diggin's Firm Up** because it's easier to store, will keep after opening for a long long time in your frig, and provides exact amounts per dog size.

<https://www.chewy.com/diggin-your-dog-firm-up-pumpkin-super/dp/130963>

I also like Pro-pectalin if my dogs or pups have any loose stools, as opposed to going to an antibiotic or going the chicken and rice route. I find it works particularly well after my girls have whelped for example. Stress can often cause it too. So its always a good idea to keep it onhand if possible.

http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/s/ref=is_s?k=pro-pectalin

PLEASE NEVER GIVE YOUR PUPPY AN ANTIBIOTIC UNLESS YOU HAVE CONFIRMED HE/SHE ACTUALLY HAS A TRUE INFECTION!!!

Diarrhea is not an infection. Giardia IS NOT AN INFECTION, it is a parasite that is only successfully treated with a 6 day consecutive course of Fenbendazole (Safeguard or Panacur, can be purchased on Amazon or in Tractor Supply, Southern States, or any local feed store usually).

Giardia DOES NOT RESPOND TO METRONIDAZOLE!

PLEASE DO NOT USE METRONIDAZOLE FOR DIARRHEA in a puppy!!!

If your puppy has diarrhea, which can happen about 2 weeks after getting him/her home, deworm them again every 2 weeks until 12 weeks old with pyrantel pamoate (you can get it at Wal-Mart and any grocery store). Or 3 consecutive days with fenbendazole (Safeguard or Panacur)

If that doesn't help, CALL ME!

Metronidazole IS NOT AN APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FOR DIARRHEA! Yet vets constantly prescribing it because it offers a temporary fix, it does temporarily stop the diarrhea, but in my experience, ultimately it most often creates a potentially lifelong GI problem.

Read more about **Giardia** here: <http://www.revivalanimal.com/articles/giardia.html> Although your puppy will have received a 5 days course of Safeguard before going home with you, I recommend deworming with it again at 12 weeks.

Safeguard and Panacur come in 3 pak boxes so you must buy two boxes to treat for 6 consecutive days.

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B003WRHSJY/ref=mp_s_a_1_3?qid=1402633983"sr=8-3](http://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/B003WRHSJY/ref=mp_s_a_1_3?qid=1402633983)

Patience

The most important new puppy must-have! Remember to be patient and consistent with your puppy. All they really want is to hear the words "good puppy" from you and a reassuring rub or pat, (or in my case, a hug like as fierce as the jaws of life) and to make you happy! I am ALWAYS available for every puppy family forever. Please stay in touch often, never hesitate to reach out with questions, concerns, or to share a great story. I can only be a responsible breeder in each future generation if I have all of the information from my current puppy families. I am depending on you to help me keep our bloodlines alive and healthy and active as long as possible!

Please let me know if I have forgotten anything or if you have any questions!

Again, Welcome to the Shadymist Family!

Marnie J Harrell

"A nation and its moral progress can be determined by how its animals are treated."

Mohandas Gandhi