## Puppy Care

**Puppy Ear care**: If your puppy still has stitches in his/her ears you want to apply Neosporin 2x’s a day morning and night Keep ears moist with stitches and Neosporin some with pain relief is the best! Check and make sure no sutures on dew claws also, if so do the same. Clean ears with a Q-tip gently sweep any ear wax or debris out away from the ears. Stitches are removed about 10 days from surgery. Any vet can remove stitches for cheap or free, check with your vet. If you see any infection (green or yellow you can clean with salt water and a Q-Tip and rub the area this can also be done 2 times a day, it will rid infection quickly, do not use peroxide).

**Ear Posting:** There are many different ways to post ears. We use Dr. Shoals extra soft inserts glued in with skin glue, Lock tight works also. You can also try to “tampon method” “Zip tie method” these are what we call open posts which allows you to post ears while ears are healing with minimal risk to infection. Closed posting ways are used when ears are fully healed. Traditional posts, “cup method” we have videos and instructions and more on our web site [**www.southpawsdoberman.com/ear-tapping**](http://www.southpawsdoberman.com/ear-tapping)**.**

**Nail trimming** is done about every 2 weeks you just want to trim the tip in some cases you will see a hook. Nails should not be touching the floor when puppy walks. Nail care is very important to your puppy’s growth and joints and of course comfort.

**Diet** Your puppies diet is the up most important. Recommend feeding

* Diamond Puppy (purple bag) Sold at tractor supply’s
* 4 Health puppy large breed (great nutrition all natural)
* Purina ONE smart blend large breed puppy (perfect balanced food!) Purebred Doberman Pinscher puppies do great on this food!

It is best to feed your puppy on a schedule, we recommend feeding mornings and nights; allow enough time for your puppy to potty before crating. All bags of food have feeding guides. Your puppy will grow quickly so you want to make sure your puppy gets all the nutrition needed to grow up healthy so be prepared to loosen collar often as well as increasing food! Recommend feeding puppy foods until about a year and a half. **Also refeeding puppy chow when your Doberman is a senior will keep them in optimum health because puppies and seniors nutrition requirements are much of the same.**

**Health snacks for your new puppy:** Yogurt(great for tummy aches), Oatmeal, (bully slices, beef lung pet n shape brand sold at tractor supply stores), broccoli, blue berries (washed) , canned pumpkin (no added sugar), apple cider vinegar is great for tummy aches AKA puppy eating grass, washed potatoes skins (great for boosting immune system), apples (no seeds or core), Carrots and most fruit and vegetables seedless are good check our website for full list [**www.southpawsdoberman.com/nutrition**](http://www.southpawsdoberman.com/nutrition).

**Tips for house training:**

Your puppies crate should be big enough for him/her to turn around in, if they have to much room they will potty in the crate. Crate training is a great way to train your new Doberman puppy. Never leave your puppy unsupervised. When your puppy cries in the crate take them out for a potty break. If they don’t potty put them back in the crate. If they potty indulge them with some play time they are only litter for so long (5-10mins) and back to the crate.

**Bathing:** Wash puppy once every 2 weeks. You do not want to over bathe your puppy because they will get dandruff and they need those oils to keep their skin and coat shiny and healthy. Between baths you can use baby wipes to keep your new puppy clean!

**Other:** We love updates! Send us as many pictures as you want! Make sure no mushrooms in your yard for your puppy to eat they are toxic. Never give your puppy people medicine unless speaking with your vet.