

**Socialisation** is simply introducing your puppy to the world in preparation for the rest of its entire life. Done correctly this education will result in your adult dog being calm and confident in every situation it finds itself in. They will understand everything that happens around them and will behave in a socially acceptable manner whatever they encounter.

There is a very short timescale to complete this education, ideally it will be completed by 3 months of age and repeated by 6 months of age. After this point reinforcement should be applied as and when it is required. By the time your puppy reaches 6 months old there should be nothing in life of which it is unsure of because it has encountered everything positively and calmly.

### How to socialise a Puppy.

All you are looking to do through socialization is show a puppy how it should react to, and behave around, absolutely everything it encounters and experiences. This should simply be calm and positive. Excitement is an over-reaction and will lead to behavioural issues, fear is also an over-reaction which will also lead to behavioural issues. You need to set up every encounter for your pup to be happy and curious or simply calm and relaxed. If your Pup shows caution or hesitation use treats to encourage some positivity or simply reduce the stress by moving away a little and to create a more positive approach to the scenario. There is almost nothing which can't be encountered in a fun relaxed way; cars/buggies/gravel/crowds/crates, you just need some imagination and of course some quality treats!

Everyday things we take for granted are complete unknowns for puppies so your job as the new parental figure to this youngster is to show this pup everything and let it learn that there is nothing to fear. Naturally its own parents and family would have completed this education with the pup and prepared it for life. As you have taken this youngster into your home that responsibility is now yours!

How a puppy behaves in any given situation determines how it will do so as an adult, so although jumping up, mouthing, pestering other dogs to play etc is cute at 15 weeks old it could be a huge problem by 1 year old!

Socialising and educating a puppy should be fun for everybody, but it is essential to ensure your pup grows into a socially acceptable adult. This process does require a lot of time, the more the better. So if you haven't got the time to spend raising a puppy correctly, you should really reconsider getting a puppy at all and perhaps adopt an older dog.



**Please  
Turn  
Over....**

Dogs (100 of)	People (100 of)	Places	Vehicles	Sounds	Contact	Touch	Animals	Misc objects
puppies	elderly	estates	cars	cheering	paws/pads	carpets	cats	hoovers
young dogs	adults	quiet streets	vans	laughing	legs	lino floors	guinea pigs	machines
adult dogs	teenagers	high streets	trucks	shouting	muzzle	tiles	rabbits	brushes
elderly dogs	children	shops	lorrys	crying	ears	wood	reptiles	hair dryers
big dogs	toddlers	markets	busses	arguing	tail	astro turf	ducks	printers
medium dogs	all body types	car parks	tractors	kids playing	teeth	concrete	chickens	wheelie bins
small dogs	loud people	pubs	trailers	alarms	collar	flagstones	cattle	plants
calm dogs	quiet people	cafes	bin lorries	sirens	grooming	tarmac	sheep	keys
aloof dogs	nervous people	resturants	motor bikes	storms	holding	decking	horses	lawn mower
unintersted dogs	friendly people	fields	mopeds	fireworks	hugging	grass	squirrals	the wind
curious dogs	walking	mountains	trains	banging	clipping nails	soil		snow
friendly dogs	running	beaches	planes	knocking	trimming fur	sand		rain
excitable dogs	dancing	forests	helicopters	doorbells	coats	wet surfaces		trees
nervous dogs	playing	bridges	trolleys	power tools	leads	shallow water		bushes
noisy dogs	hats	vets	prams	music	harnesses	sea/waves		plants
different breeds	sunglasses	groomers	push chairs	TV	haltis			mirrors
individual dogs	beards	kennels	bikes	radio	muzzels			
small groups	helmets	day care	skateboards	barking	bathing	umberallas		
large groups	burkas	playgrounds	rollerskates	bird song		toys		
onlead dogs	uniforms	building sites	wheelchairs	ringtones		wood burners		
offlead dogs	different gaits	dog parks	heelies	car horns		ballons		

This list is far from exhaustive, it is just a sample of everyday occurrences you should take the time to show your puppy letting it experience them in a calm positive way. Another important point is; exposing your puppy to these things just once is far from enough, there needs to be regular repetition of enjoyable encounters with these everyday stimuli throughout your youngsters' puppy hood right through the first 6 month period.

The most important ones are people and dogs. Failure to complete sufficient education here can result in very serious problems later in the dog's life. Here it is recommended you meet 100 people and 100 dogs calmly and politely within the first 3 months of you puppie's life, then repeat this by 6 months old.

Training is also another aspect of raising a puppy. Training classes are a very good option here but don't limit yourself to 1 class a week with one trainer, go to 2 or 3 different classes with different trainers, different dogs, different environments and really give your pup a broad training education.

There is no limit to the things you can expose your dog to, just remember, keep it fun, keep it positive and but don't over whelm your pup, build them up from the second you take them home. If they are coping and learning keep progressing, if they get nervous or too excited, slow down and give him time to get it right.

A comprehensive and positive socialisation period will ensure your pup will mature into a fantastic adult canine companion for you and your family!