



*Congratulations on your new
Whispering Pines Farm Miniature
Dachshund Puppy!*

Here are a few things to do before pick-up day...

Being Ready:

PLEASE! Make sure you have your new puppy's "home" area set up before you come pick him up. Ensuring everything is ready prior to his arrival will make it easier on you and him as well. He will need a bed or crate, a blanket, an exercise pen, a food and water bowl and toys. Don't forget to have a collar, leash and identification tag for your new little one too. A gentle puppy shampoo, brush and nail trimmers are must haves as well.

I have made an idealist on Amazon of items I recommend. The list name is **Whispering Pines Farm Miniature Dachshunds Puppy Supply Suggestions** You can find it here:

https://www.amazon.com/ideas/amzn1.account.AFLQMW4F2DCQBW6DF6CFPO7GZSHA/HTG1NHBIZ8II?type=explore&ref=idea_cp_vl_ov_d

Baby Proofing:

Just like you would baby proof your home for a toddler, so should you for your new puppy. Anything on the floor is fair game! Puppies like to chew. Please make sure all electric cords are not where puppies can get to them. I highly recommend you have an exercise pen and/or crate to safely contain your puppy when you're not home or otherwise occupied

Plan:

Since things can be chaotic and exciting when you bring your puppy home, decide beforehand when your puppy will eat, where he will potty and where he will sleep. This will alleviate confusion as you will already know what the plans are for your puppy. If you have children, make sure they know the plan as well.

Vet Appointment:

Go ahead and contact your vet or find one to take your puppy to. Make an appointment to take your puppy in for his well-baby check within 3 days of bringing him home as per the requirement in your contract.

Puppy Food:

We use Victor Puppy & Active Dog but really any High-quality puppy food will do. You will get a small sample bag of Victor in your puppy go home bag. If picky, add a wet (canned) puppy food mixed in to encourage him to eat. I use Purina One Smart blend Healthy Puppy Classic Ground in the Lamb & Long Grain Rice Entrée. Please keep him on puppy food for at least a year for healthy development.

NuVet:

I highly recommend keeping your pet on NuVet Supplement. Once your puppy is weaned, its immune system is vulnerable and challenged by the stress of adoption. This immune boosting supplement costs less than .52 cents a day. It is made of natural human-grade ingredients, is USA made in a FDA-registered pharmaceutical laboratory. It has a 60-day money back guarantee. You

can only get this product on their website at www.NuVet.com/23109 or by calling 1-800-474-7044 please use code 23109 when ordering.

It's finally here! Pickup Day!! Yay!!!

What an exciting day! I'm sure your full of anticipation to finally meet your new puppy!

The first Car Ride Home:

Your new puppy might become car sick during the first few car rides. I recommend taking another person along to hold him or use a dog carrier. Keep the window open about 3" from the top or have your car vent on. Have your passenger frequently, but slowly, rub the underneath of the puppy's neck and talk to him in a soft voice. This proves to be effective most of the time in relaxing your new puppy. Most puppies will just sit there if they're being held. Take a towel and paper towels along just in case your puppy does get sick. If they gag, that's your cue to grab your towel. Bring a plastic bag to put the towel or paper towels in. It's so important that everyone stay calm during this first car ride home, the first day in general. Just be prepared that they most likely will get motion-sick. and if they do...calmly clean it up and just carry on.

Home at Last!

Give your puppy about 45 minutes to an hour to settle down once you get home. You can either hold him or if you have an exercise pen, put him in there so he can get use to his surroundings. **Please don't take your puppy outside in the grass or set your puppy down anywhere another dog, cat or wild animal might have been. Parvo can last up to 6 months in soil and grass. Be careful where you allow your new puppy to go for the first 16 weeks. I recommend you don't take your puppy anywhere except your vet's office until he is fully vaccinated.**

Keep it Calm the first few hours home. Leaving everything your puppy has known in life so far will probably bring about some anxiety for anyone but it's especially difficult for pack animals like dogs and puppies. However difficult, this can be greatly diminished if you plan your schedules so that you will be home with the puppy the first 3 to 4 days at least. Make sure if you have young children that you've discussed with them before you pick up your puppy that it is necessary as hard as it's going to be... to remain calm around the puppy at first. It won't be long before they can run and jump with their new puppy but the first few hours and days home should be calm. Pay attention to your puppy's body language if they seem OK with what's going on than carry on but if they seem nervous or sad... then try to lower the excitement level a few notches and take things a little slower. These puppies are not overly delicate, but they are extremely intelligent and sensitive, and this will become obvious the more you get to know them and how they react to new experiences and environments and you'll also learn how much is too much too soon for your individual puppy. Each puppy is unique, just like our own human children.

Try to teach your young children how to properly carry and hold their new puppy but also remind them that puppies don't usually like to be carried around so they should sit and hold them in their lap instead or get down on the floor with them and play with a toy. Puppies love to engage with you but sometimes need to be enticed into actual play at first. Get down to eye level and take at least 20-30 mins a day to engage and bond with your puppy in play. Also, remember your puppy is a baby and he will sleep a lot at first and tire easily.

Puppy Mouthing:

Puppies explore the world with their mouths and can be very mouthy at this age. They'll need to be taught not to use their teeth on skin or at least to be gentler than was acceptable with their littermates. Never allow them to play bite on your hands or clothes even if it doesn't hurt you... it may hurt a younger child and if you let them do it then they'll think its acceptable behavior with everyone. Redirect your puppies playful mouthing with a toy or stuffed animal. When your puppy tries to nibble on your feet or hands, let out a high pitch "YELP or OUCH" like they REALLY hurt you. This will

startle them, and they'll quickly learn humans must be "very sensitive" and not to nibble on you anymore. This is how littermates actually teach each other "bite inhibition" and how hard is too hard during play and lucky for us it works just as well for their human playmates.

Chew Toys and Chew Sticks:

I cannot express enough how helpful a good chew toy or chew stick is at redirecting your puppy from mouthing, introducing them to the crate and giving them a positive association with the crate or car and occupies their mind. This just keeps them too busy to be sad or concerned. They're just all around helpful. I recommend The Original Himalayan Dog Chews (make sure they say "The Original"). They are made of Yak Cheese and they don't smell as bad and last a very long time. You can order these on Chewy.com or Amazon. Puppies love to play! Choose high quality TOUGH toys that are made to last through a puppy's teething stage. I like Kong or Nyla bone. Bright colors with different textures and sounds engage your puppy's inquisitiveness. ,, I like the "no stuffing" toys and toys that crinkle. Marshalls, and Big Lots are a great place to buy toys by the way! And don't forget those training treats! ;-)

Eating Schedule:

Puppies eat 3 small meals a day. You only need to feed them 1 cup to 1 ½ cups a day - split up into 3 feedings, this is roughly about ½ a cup per feeding. You will get to know what the appropriate amount is fairly quickly just by how much they'll eat in one sitting, remember the first few days home they might have a smaller appetite due to the transition and basic stress, don't panic unless they won't eat or drink at all and it lasts for more than 48 hours. Make sure they're at least drinking. They won't starve themselves, I promise. All food and water should be pulled up after 15 mins and about 45 minutes before bedtime. The goal is getting them to sleep on an empty bladder and bowel and to help them sleep longer through the night with limited potty breaks. Most 8 week old puppies can go longer at night about 4-6 hours and 12 week old can go about 6-8 hours.

Your main goal the first week home is to get them on a strict eating/sleeping/ eliminating schedule and their schedule should fit into your family's schedule so when you wake-up, have your breakfast, lunch and dinner and your bedtime – this will make it much easier for everyone to follow. Currently, your puppy is being free fed throughout the day so they're not on any set schedule at the moment, so, now is the time to get that started. Once you have them on a set schedule - you'll know much better when they'll need to go potty and also have more control over when that happens as well.

Puppies need to go potty immediately after sleeping and usually about 30-60 minutes after eating, this is not a guarantee, just an estimate. If you put your puppy on a set eating schedule, it's 100% easier to figure out. You can always set an alarm on your phone to make sticking to a schedule easier. Writing down how long it takes for them to go potty after they eat, and drink also helps. This amount of time will change as they get older and can hold it longer. At the moment they don't even know they're supposed to "hold it" so writing it down will also show you their training progress which is always rewarding. An 8 week old puppy can't physically control their bladder for very long, but the amount of time they can will get longer very quickly by 12 weeks they should be able to manage 2-3 hours before they need to go potty.

Teaching them to Go Potty On Command

- ❖ Your puppy wakes up around 6 to 6:30 AM but you can start to put them on **your schedule** once they're home.
- ❖ In the morning, take them out of their crate and take directly out to the spot you would like them to go potty (preferably on a pee pee pad until they are vaccinated fully).
- ❖ Put them on the area and say "go potty" ... continue to say this until they go. What this does is helps them to learn to go potty on command. Pretty soon all you have to do is say "Go Potty" and they understand

exactly what you're asking of them. Great for those cold winter nights when you just want them to hurry up and go!

- ❖ Once they're finished going potty not during, say "Good potty "puppies name"!"
- ❖ Then let them run around for a little while.

OH No! Diarrhea:

Anytime your puppy has a change in food or treats they *may* get diarrhea. It happens unfortunately. Stress can even cause it. An easy fix is to add a very small amount of **raw pumpkin** (not pumpkin pie filling) to their food. Mix it up well. Only around ½ teaspoon is enough. Do this for several days at each feeding and it should clear up.

Bedtime:

Try to have a consistent bedtime for puppy every night. Again, they **must go potty** before going into their enclosure or crate for the night. When you put them up for the night say "nite nite" and place them in and close the door or walk away from the enclosure. Do not make a huge fuss over them and get them all excited. Just calmly place them in and walk away. If they cry, just tell them in a low and (serious) voice "No, Be Quiet!" or whatever it is you want to say just make sure to say the same phrase every time, so they learn that it means to be quiet and go to sleep. If they continue to cry repeat the phrase and walk away. Do not repeat this step over and over. Just do it a couple times and then let them cry. As long as they're fed, have had water, gone potty and are not in pain then they should be perfectly fine to go to sleep. You may have to leave and go into another room if you must get some sleep or it is too hard for you to listen too. It might be a hard first couple nights, but it will pass and then you will have a dog that is trained.

A note about Crates:

Crate Duration: 2-4 hours max for an 8-16 wk. old puppy – basically about 1 hour per month of age – the majority can go 6-8 hours at night (once they're on a proper schedule). Crates are not intended to be used as a punishment or all day. Crates are training tools, safety enclosures and of course there's some logical time limits for how long a dog they should be left in a crate. **Never let your puppy get frantic in the crate, if they're REALLY screaming and scratching at the door then you may need to START OVER and introduce the crate slower.** Wait for a period of time when they have stopped crying and then you open the crate. You never want them to believe that you let them out because they were crying. Then they will continue to try this tactic. Some whining and crying is normal at first and believe me your puppy is not going to die of loneliness and they will eventually learn to love their crate and even use their crate as a special place they can go to get away. Dogs are den animals. They're just not used to being without their littermates. Do not beat yourself up because you are crate training them. Believe me it is going to be worth it in the long run.

My Puppy's not eating much – Transition Stress and its effects:

Not eating much for the first day or two can happen. Things are different for every puppy and how they react to stress. Do not take it personal or panic - as long as they're drinking, they'll settle in and they won't starve themselves. The adjustment period should only last 1-3 days. They may have looser bowels, pant for no obvious reason, sleep more than normal or just seem a little sad or out of sorts... these are all normal reactions to stress and not every puppy will react the same or have all these symptoms. Some puppies will show no signs of stress. I am just letting you know about the things that could happen. These things will also pass and unless severe should not be too concerning. Just give them a place to call their own where they can feel safe and give them lots of chew toys, stuffed animals and love and affection but don't forget to give them some space too.

Training:

Training your puppy is a great way to bond so work on teaching them some of the basics. Dachshund Puppies are very smart and easy to train at this age and are like little sponges and you will be surprised how fast they can learn new commands. I recommend teaching them “watch me”, “leave it” and “sit”. Leash training is also very important. There are plenty of puppy training videos on YouTube. If you feel you cannot train the puppy yourself, investing in a puppy class or dog trainer will be very helpful and worth the money. Having a dog who is obedient and trained for the remainder of his life will make things much easier and enjoyable in the long run.

In Closing:

Remember I am always here to support you if you have questions or concerns. I really don't mind, and I love hearing from you. I will do my best to help you any way that I can. Please stay in touch with me. I love getting updates with videos and pictures! I sincerely hope you are pleased with your new puppy. Providing a well-rounded puppy for families is very important to me. If you are happy with your new companion, please consider leaving a review for me on my facebook page or Google. Of course, word of mouth is always good too so tell your friends and neighbors about me! It really does help!

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