

Puppy Socialisation

Puppies have a very specific socialisation period when they are much more accepting of new environments and experiences, but for most puppies this period closes at only 16 weeks! That means it's absolutely critical to be proactive about providing your puppy with positive exposure to lots of different things (it's not just dogs and people) during these 16 weeks.

Noises

- Traffic noises
- Sirens
- Honking
- Fan
- Slamming door
- Bins moving / bin truck
- Vacuum
- Rolling things
- Motorbikes
- Doorbells
- Knocking
- Trains
- Buses
- Fireworks
- Instruments or music

Environments

- Parks
- Wooded areas
- Houses
- Elevators
- Cars
- Swivel doors
- Bridges
- Shops / Cafes
- Vet's office
- Playgrounds
- Beach
- Stairs
- Feel of sand, grass, wood, cement, carpet, gravel, water
- Puddles
- Rivers

KEY TIPS

- 1** *Your puppy gets to decide whether an experience is positive. ALWAYS go at your puppy's pace.*
- 2** *Our role as guardian is to make sure our puppy feels safe.*
- 3** *A huge part of socialisation is getting used to being around things without interacting with them. Think: getting used to being calm around other dogs or people without constantly trying to interact with them.*

People

- Women
- Men
- Elderly
- Teenagers
- Kids
- Babies
- Men with beards
- Men with deep voices
- Large people
- Tall people
- Delivery people
- People using canes, walkers, wheelchairs
- Joggers
- Cyclists
- People wearing hoods/hats/sunnies
- People with umbrellas
- People with crutches / casts
- People wearing helmets
- People wearing different cultural attire
- Different ethnicities

Handling

- Being touched
- Nail Clipping
- Cleaning Ears
- Cleaning Eyes
- Brushed
- Bathed
- Groomed
- Dried Off
- Wearing Collar
- Wearing Harness
- Teeth Brushed
- Vet Handling
- Wearing Jacket
- Being restrained
- Being Bandaged

Animals

- Big dogs
- Small dogs
- Young dogs
- Old dogs
- Fluffy dogs
- Cats / Kittens
- Horses
- Sheep
- Chickens
- Rabbits
- Goats
- Dogs playing