



Welcome to puppyhood—fun, exhausting and exciting all at once!

Owning a puppy can be overwhelming at times but with proper tools, training and education, everyone in the family will benefit.

Starting off on the right foot can mean a well-mannered, well-understood, easy to handle, life-long family member. This guide attempts to cover basic puppy needs and behaviors that are commonly on the top of puppy owners' list of questions. These are not exhaustive and are only meant to act as a general guide. It is always recommended that you consult with a professional trainer/behavior specialist if you have any further questions or need help with your puppy. That being said, you are always welcome to contact us first when you have a question, at any hour!

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Chews, Treats, and Toys

Item Name and Description - Order on-line to save \$

	Chew	Snack	Puzzle	Toy
Himalayan Yak Dog Chew, Small, 3.5 oz. (favorite 'find' by one of our families), under supervision, toss in trash when they get small. Do not give to older pups when they can start breaking them; they can chip the teeth. . . or check with your Vet first.	√			
Training: "Nutro Crunchy Treats, with Real Mixed Berries" "The Honest Kitchen Pure Bites.				
Beef Trachea – 3" pieces – see website: Bestbullysticks.com (do not buy the bully sticks, too much bacteria; They sell the 3" trachea tubes, for older puppies, after 3 months of age and limit these as they are rich. Do your own research on these and with your vet, I like them as they last a good long time. Buy U.S. products only.	√			
Sliced Deer Antlers, talk to Pet Store Owner about best ones				
Starmark Everlasting Treat Ball and Refills (toy size: small)	√			√
Kong "Stix" - size small (fetch games - see supplies list)				√
EarthAnimal No-Hide Beef/chicken stix – allow chewing in moderation. They have larger ones also, that you can cut in half.	√			
				
Zuke's ' , only 3 Calories per each; use for Potty Training, up to 10 or 12 per day, give half only, these are better than treats above and will be less likely to cause loose stools. We use bland white chicken cooked, for several weeks first, then intersperse with Zukes. Also:Discuss with your Vet, the use of raw marrow bones for your pup as he gets a little older.		√		
Kong Toys – start with small ones and learn how to stuff them so that some food (kibble at first) comes out quickly and easily to instantly reward your pup, bits of food come out over a long period of time to periodically reward and some of the best bits never come out. Can insert chopped carrots, apples, cheese. (no apple seeds, can be fatal.)	With the Kong stuffing, if you use kibble from your pup's normal daily ration, your pup will not put on weight. Put a few 'rich' treats in the middle to add scent, etc. Please for first 3 months, use high value treats in very tiny slivers and only for potty training . This is to avoid diarrhea which is dangerous in pups during the 1 st 3 mos. of life. Other toys include the <i>Ellen Degeneres</i> line on Amazon.			

Please avoid Bully Sticks, leather chews, concern with bacteria and digestion. There may be some Bully Sticks that are acceptable, check with your vet first.

Children and Cavachons

Introducing Your Cavachon to a Young Child

Few images are as evocative of trust, loyalty, friendship and playfulness as a child with a puppy. The bonds formed between a young puppy and a child can be made incredibly strong when the relationship is formed early on. That being said, it's very important that children be taught how to interact safely and responsibly with their canine companions. We strongly recommend that families with children under the age of 10 utilize a personal dog trainer who will come into your home and work with your child, your family and the Cavachon puppy, for a minimum of 4 sessions. Reputable and professional personal dog trainers in your local community can be found through the IACP (International Association of Canine Professionals) website. It is also important, although the concept is difficult, that your puppy does not treat your young children as other puppies, nor be allowed to. According to concepts taught by Cesar Milan (get his books at the library), family members should employ a "CALM ENERGY" around the puppy. Loud, excitable yelling and voices will produce an irritable and anxiety driven puppy. This behavior by young children tells the puppy that the child yelling and being highly energized is an "injured puppy" and that the immediate environment is not safe. This starts the beginning of Alpha behavior by your puppy, you do not want this. Teach your child to have a "calm energy" with the puppy. I can't tell you how important this is! This also includes things to avoid such as laying down on the floor at the same eye level with the puppy, engaging in tug of war with the puppy. When you engage in these types of behaviors, the puppy does not view you or your children as ALPHA figures and problem behaviors can develop among young puppies. Please read my section on the Concepts of Alpha Behaviors, Pack Behaviors.

Concepts of the ALPHA Role and Pack Behavior – important, also, with young children!

Establishing and Keeping the Alpha Position – Concepts are derived from authors such as Caesar Milan and the Monks of New Skete

Below is a list of rules every dog owner should follow to ensure your dog knows his place in your human pack. Dogs need to have a clear place in their pack and a dog lacking in this clear order is an unhappy dog. A dog that questions his place in the household pack can sometimes cause him to suddenly display destructive behaviors, as the dog is confused. Remember, you risk developing a puppy into an Alpha dog when your puppy no longer believes you can protect him properly from undue stress, feed him when hungry, provide a warm and safe place for him to sleep, provide a chill out space from very young children, protect him from adverse weather and above all do not leave a young puppy alone at home for longer than 45 minutes.

There are many ways to communicate to a dog that you are the pack leader. The # 1 way is to take your dog for a walk and teach the dog to heel beside or a bit behind the human who is holding the lead. This is most important for all dogs, as in a dog's mind, the leader always leads the way. This pack like walk should be done every day. The dog should not eliminate where he wishes, it should be where you lead him and give him the command and immediately reward him. Ask me about 'clicker' use.

1. Another way to establish leader position is that all humans must eat before the dog, as the leader always eats first.
2. Absolutely no table scraps should be given; again the humans eat first, then the dog is fed.
3. Feeding must be at a scheduled time. No “grazing” during the day as this then allows the dog to decide when to eat.
4. When possible, when leaving the house, the humans should leave the house first, followed by the dog, again, in the wild the leader always goes first.
5. When you leave the house or the room, even for a minute, ignore the dog for a minute upon your return. This allows the dog to be calm to the extent possible, upon your return.
6. Always expect something from your dog first, before you do or give something pleasurable. An easy way to accomplish this is with the ‘sit’ command. i.e., before play sessions, petting, feeding, a walk, playing fetch – ask your dog to sit, then reward with the planned activity. No treat should ever be rewarded unless the dog follows the command. Even something as little as sit, come, or making him wait for a treat while you hold it out in front of him.
7. You should not lie on the floor to watch TV when the dog is around, no one should roll around on the floor playing with the dog, as a human should never put himself in an equal or lesser height position than the dog.
8. You should always be the one to greet newcomers first. The dog is the last (the pack leader in the wild is always the first to greet newcomers and to let the rest know when it is safe to greet the newcomer).
9. To a dog in a dominant frame of mind, eye contact is a challenge. Whoever averts his gaze first loses. If the human averts first this reinforces the dog’s higher power position. Do not have staring contests with a dog.
10. If you have your dog sleep in your bed, the dog must be invited up and not be allowed to push the humans out of the way, make them sleep at the foot of the bed, rather than near your head.
11. Games of fetch or play with toys must be started and ended by the human.
12. No tug of war – especially with children. This is a game of power and you may lose in the dog’s mind. Tug of War (watch puppies do this!) always encourages aggressive behavior, growling, biting, no matter what breed of puppy it is.
13. Dogs should never be left unsupervised with young children or anyone who cannot maintain leadership over the dog.
14. Last, but very important: when you are around your dog avoid emotions such as fear, anxiety, harshness or nervousness. Your dog can sense these emotions and will see you as weak. Try to have a “calm and moderate” mood when communicating with your dog. This is a concept that is very difficult for children to understand; help your child understand that a soft voice is so very important!

The above are items to be kept in mind, especially when puppies are very young and are around children.

Biting, Nipping, Growling

What does this mean? And what to do about it?

I feel this topic should follow Pack Behavior issues above. The reason for excessive biting, nipping and growling is directly related to puppies not getting enough of their energy out during the day, not enough real “adventure” and “happy playing” and too much “stagnant” time either cooped up in the house, or too much time restricted to an exercise pen and/or a crate. Puppies that are older than 8 weeks old are ‘revving’ up for and seeking “adventure.” This is a normal part of a puppy’s life and even though they sleep a lot, they need to play

‘hard.’ If the puppy has the same old environment every day, the same old routine, an absence of novel experiences, this will manifest itself as frustration for the puppy and at the end of the day he/she will emerge as barking, biting, nipping, jumping up and pure frustration. This leads to an inability to transition from “day time” to “night time” without a great deal of anxiety on the pup’s part. He needs stimulation, excitement,(not loud) and most importantly, novel experiences in moderation, every day. This allows him to get all that puppy energy ‘out of his system’ and at the same time allows him to properly be calm and relaxed several times during the day and into the evening. If you cannot give your puppy these types of experiences, think about finding someone who can, including day time puppy play groups. To avoid this with your puppy, it will take proactive steps rather than “reactionary” steps. There also is a simple way to react to this, but you need to follow pack behavior. When a puppy bites and nips another puppy to practice what nature intended, the other puppy may yelp and move away from the 1st puppy. If your puppy is doing this to you, you can simply move away and offer an alternative chew. Do not punish by putting in a crate. But this is only a very small part of the whole picture – to really prevent your pup from developing this behavior, you need to create a stimulating environment during the day and have active play time where your pup can run around. You also have to avoid tactics or playing that involves:

Tug of War – this will ALWAYS encourage aggression in your puppy, does not matter what breed it is and it will create double aggression if a young child plays tug of war with a puppy.

Playing at eye level and laying on the floor, flat, with your puppy. Here you are telling your puppy that at eye level with each other, you both are equals. You don’t want that, you want to be ‘pack leader’ and always above eye level.

Do not have staring contests with your pup, whoever blinks first is considered the weak one.

These are tips, but I truly believe you will only avoid biting and nipping if your dog has an interesting day and one in which he gets his energy expended.

Collar, Leash and Harness

We at Cavachons at the Monarchy always recommend our new puppy owners start off training their new puppy with a body harness, one that is properly fit to your pup’s body. There is no rush; it is better to wait a few weeks as pups grow rapidly. A collar and leash can be used for potty training but for serious walking and training, a harness and leash are best. A special tip from Eric Doerris in Texas who has a cavachon from our very first litter: ***Here is a tip I got during Phoebe’s training which you might want to pass on. We were told to get this Pet Safe Easy Walk Harness***

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B007S9JONA/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1. It has made a huge difference when walking her. Since the leash hooks under her neck on this harness, she no longer pulls as was the case with the leash hooked on a harness behind her neck. It is a much more relaxing walk for the walker.

A proper harness will create a secure embrace around his body, reducing bucking or pulling which is often found when using a collar on a puppy. Tracheas/throats are very sensitive and can be harmed quite easily. A great preventive measure that can be taken to help eliminate the risk of your puppy developing Tracheal Collapse is using a harness.

You will first want to start with a harness that is adjustable both around the body and the neck which is why you will wait until your puppy comes home to purchase one.. Your puppy will grow fast...believe me! Be sure to check the fit of the harness every week and adjust it as your Cavachon puppy grows. It needs to fit snug enough so that he can't get out of it but loose enough for two fingers to fit between it and your puppy's neck. Oh, and check the size of the collar twice a week – their neck grows quickly and I've seen puppies come back to visit after 3 weeks and the collar is squeezing his/her neck; no one thought to check it. Please check for size, please keep collar and leash off inside the house, it is dangerous to leave it on a puppy in the house.

The next step in harness training is to get your puppy used to it. When you first put the harness on, your puppy will more than likely scratch at it...perhaps even try to get it off. A nice trick is to put the harness on when your pup is eating and playing under your supervision, thus distracting the puppy from thinking about it.

Remove the harness only at a time when your puppy is NOT trying to get out of it. If you take it off when he is upset about it, you encourage this behavior. Make sure the harness you are using is comfortable...not stiff. Lightweight nylon/mesh is always nice.

Introduction to the Leash

Once your puppy becomes accustomed to his harness (this may take a couple of days), put a leash on him when he is eating or playing. Let your puppy go where he wants to go (always having your eyes on him) with the lead trailing behind him. It's always good to distract your puppy with play or some kind of interaction if he seems bothered by the leash or even starts to chew on it.

Always remember that an enormous part of leash training is to teach your Cavachon puppy to walk with the leash LOOSE... no pulling. This is not only for the purpose of being able to manage your puppy, but also to protect the health of your little one. A puppy/dog pulling on a leash can suffer damage to the throat/trachea, which can potentially be very serious. (Please see Collapsing Trachea Syndrome defined at the end of this article).

If your puppy makes an endeavor to pull you, stand still. What you are hoping to portray to your puppy is very simple.... pulling on the leash is futile. It doesn't work. If he pulls, immediately switch to an attention-getting, puppy-follow-me mode, and get that puppy moving with you! This is the game. And to a puppy, it really does need to be a game.

Just a few minutes of practice each day will make all the difference in the world. Before you know it, you'll have a puppy that is accustomed to his harness and leash and even better an adult dog that YOU can take for a walk, as opposed to HIM taking you for a walk! It's well worth the time to develop this skill with your puppy.

One last important note

NEVER, NEVER, leave your puppy or dog in a playpen or crate unsupervised with a harness or collar/leash on. A very dear friend of ours lost her Husky this way when he accidentally hung himself by his collar. Remove the collar whenever your pup goes into the crate. Do not leave a leash on an unattended dog. It can catch on things and trap the dog in dangerous and traumatic situations. Leashes are only safe during supervised times.

Post Script: Collapsing Trachea Syndrome Defined

Collapsing trachea syndrome can make it difficult to breath and often the puppy/dog tends to breathe through their mouth rather than through their nose. The inability to breathe can cause the puppy/dog to become

distressed or panic suddenly. Breathing problems can also interfere with the puppy/dog's eating and sleeping patterns. Some dogs with tracheal problems may periodically choke, cough or gag even though no foreign object is obstructing their breathing. In some cases, the inability to breathe properly discolors the dog's skin, which takes on a bluish tinge. This condition, cyanosis, represents a potentially life-threatening deficiency. Chronic bacterial or viral infections may also be a result of tracheal damage, because the dog is unable to properly clear pathogen-bearing mucus from his respiratory system.

Car Seats/Harnesses – suggestions from other families

[ALSO: 'THE WHOLE DOG JOURNAL' HAS ENDORSED THIS 'CAR HARNESS':sleepypod.com 626-421-6818](#) “SLEEPYPOD CLICKIT UTILITY HARNESS” RETAILS FOR \$90. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CRASH DATA: CENTERFORPETSAFETY.ORG/RESEARCH/2013-HARNESS-CRASH-TEST-VIDEOS/

Another family really loves this one: [Snoozer Lookout II Pet Car Seat](#) . . .our baby absolutely loves this seat. She is super secure, can see out the window which she loves and on trips or long days in the car she just snuggles up and sleeps.

Booster seat for Car: “Kurgo Car Pet Booster Seat for Dogs or Cats, \$52.19 on Amazon. AndHarness to go with the Kurgo Car Pet Booster Seat is: Kurgo Impact Dog Car Harness | Crash Tested Dog Car Harness | Safety Harness for Dogs | Pet Seatbelt Harness | Up to 105 lbs | For Small, Medium, & Large Dogs | Black / Charcoal, on Amazon.

Crates, Pens & Pads

You must keep the crate (two crates: one for inside playpen or close by, and one for sleeping near you or in your bedroom) and the puppy in it “within earshot.” The crate we recommend is Midwest Two-door Crate Model 15244 DD 24” x 18” x 19”.



We also recommend an ‘exercise pen’ for your pup unless you are going to “gate off” an area. (“Gating off” is not a good idea as they can still chew the bottom of cabinets, chairs, etc.) The one we recommend is Midwest 30” high panels – 8 panels—. A few warnings: puppies can get their jaw stuck in between the wires on the crates while they are small, hence you need to keep the crate within earshot and remember you can keep your puppy crated during the day for only a very limited time. The puppies are used to being crated at night by 10 p.m. and getting up at 5:30 a.m.

Exposure to other Dogs

Do not take your puppy out in public, to obedience classes, stores, or to other busy public places outside of your home and backyard until the complete series of immunizations have been administered and their immune systems are strong (about 4 mos.) It is OK and it is **highly encouraged** in order to maintain confidence building, however, to expose your puppy to other dogs in your family or close circle of friends, providing that that particular dog or puppy has had all their immunizations and they are not ill. It is important for a young puppy to continue to identify with other dogs, (starting immediately) this is crucial to his development and confidence. If you do not do this right away, the pup will lose confidence gained to date and will back away from new people and other animals, rather than being gregarious. This is difficult to reverse.

Food and Water

We currently feed our puppies a high quality dry kibble to which we add in a “raw food recipe” (frozen). For those who want the best for their dogs, however, a raw food diet is the absolute best. There are plenty of suppliers that sell these diets, even most pet food stores. If you only feed a dry kibble diet, it is like sending your child to McDonalds for every meal; and many puppies will develop diarrhea from eating such a processed food and then it is very difficult to treat so that stools return to normal. If at least half the meal has a raw food diet mixed in, you will not see this difficulty with the stools. Remember that over 50% of all dogs get cancer, you are what you ‘eat.’

Also, please see The Whole Dog Journal’s recommended foods or the Dog Food Advisor on the internet. Sometimes you have to change foods if your pup is not happy with the current diet or has tired of it. Feed ½ cup or less about 3 x a day. Have fresh clean water available at all times. Wash bowl daily as the bowl can accumulate a residue or puppy may put his paws in there. At this age, dehydration would be life threatening and so would diarrhea and/or constipation. Any signs of this, please call your vet. The first 8 weeks in his new home is still a ‘fragile’ time when it comes to these matters. Use treats—a good low calorie treat. . sparingly for potty training only during these weeks and only outdoors. Wait until pup is 3 months old for ‘rich’ treats (except Yak Bars, Starmark toy and chew toys mentioned above and veggies and fruits are good, you can ‘google’ a list of safe edibles for puppies.) Other indoor treats include veggies and fruit, see letter from owner Bebe Beard which I’ll send under separate cover.

Benefits of Feeding Pumpkin to Pets

A superfood? The miracle ingredient? Pumpkins are not just for making great Halloween decorations. Full of antioxidants, vitamin A and iron with virtually no sodium, pumpkin is a safe and healthy addition to your pet's diet. In fact, many pet parents keep a few cans of 100% pumpkin on hand for “just-in-case” moments. Keep reading to learn the benefits of pumpkin...

Treats

Another great use for canned pumpkin is as a healthy alternative to high calorie treats. Stuff a Kong type toy with pumpkin instead of peanut butter or cream cheese. Freeze until hard and then let your dog enjoy an icy treat. For extra fun hide a small dog treat in the stuffing.

- Fill an ice cube tray with pumpkin, freeze and hand out as pumpkin-pops.
- A dollop of pumpkin puree can hide a pill just as well as liverwurst or cheese.
- If your pup needs to lose weight, use pumpkin instead of peanut butter in your favorite dog biscuit recipe. Just be sure to adjust the amount of liquid you normally add to the mix.

Diarrhea

Pumpkin is a great source of fiber and when added to your dog's diet will absorb water from the stomach and firm up the stool. Pumpkin is especially good if you are transitioning between foods or if the diarrhea is a result of a dietary indiscretion. You don't have to use much, just a couple of teaspoons for a big dog and less for a smaller dog. If no response is seen contact your vet because diarrhea can be a symptom of a more serious disease or condition. Pro-biotics: We use as a supplement, these pro-biotics – **ESPECIALLY TO REPLACE GOOD BACTERIA** in the case of Diarrhea—**Purina FortiFlora**. They love the taste.

Constipation

The fiber in canned pumpkin also helps prevent constipation by increasing the physical bulk of the stool and increasing the water content. Because it is a gentle form of laxative you can use it long term if necessary. Adjust the amount to get the right stool consistency. Again a veterinary consult should be arranged if the constipation is accompanied by any other symptoms such as bloody stool or vomiting.

Scooting Across the Floor

Dogs have anal glands that must be emptied out. This happens when they have a ‘healthy and firm’ bowel movement. The bowel movement, upon exiting, will squeeze the anal glands which will then empty out. Sometimes if the bowel movement is not a healthy one, the glands will not completely empty out. If this starts to happen regularly, even if you are giving the teaspoon of pumpkin every day, you can purchase “*Glandex*.”

Use the “Glandex” without using pumpkin. “Glandex” Here is a description of this product:

Glandex® helps to support healthy anal gland function in pets and was created by veterinarians specifically for this problem. Glandex® is the only product that targets all of the underlying causes of anal gland problems. Our Glandex® 30 ct Soft Chews work for any size dog and have the same great ingredients and formula as our other Glandex® Chews and Powders. Made with all-natural premium ingredients including delicious tasting real peanut butter that your dog will love! Give as a treat once daily based on the weight of your dog. Get Glandex® today, your pet will thank you later!

Grain Free with NO Corn, Soy, or Wheat! Contains NO Artificial Ingredients or Preservatives. Contains NO animal proteins.

Benefits

- Supports healthy anal gland function in all-size dogs

- Guaranteed results in 3-5 weeks
- Recommended by thousands of vets & vet specialists worldwide
- Great tasting real peanut butter treat, easy once-daily dosing
- All-natural premium ingredients including pumpkin seed, enzymes, & probiotics
- Great value, lasts 1 month for a 20 pound dog!

How Glandex® Works

- Unique formula works from the inside out to support healthy anal gland function
- Contains the precise amount of fiber to help bulk & firm the stools to promote natural emptying of the anal glands
- Natural anti-inflammatories that target underlying inflammation & allergies
- Probiotics & digestive enzymes to support a healthy digestive tract! CONTAINS: PEANUT

Grooming – Important!

Cavachons have “high grooming” needs!

Grooming is a vital part of the specific care needed by a Cavachon. They have long, fine, fluffy, sometimes curly or wavy hair that needs daily management. You will need a variety of brushes and combs, to include, initially at least, a soft bristle brush (young puppy), slicker brush, pin brush. Bathing can be done as needed, but never use human shampoo as it is often far too harsh. When you neglect routine daily brushing and other grooming tasks, many dogs develop a heightened sensitivity, especially with regard to having their legs and feet held, touched, brushed or clipped and will do anything they can to avoid the process when you need to groom them. An effective home routine will not only include the ‘surface’ but also will include getting to all those sensitive areas easily missed, around the ears, collar area, the armpit area, and the back end and tail. Shears can be used to keep the hair between the pads underneath the foot of your Cavachon, trimmed.

Please do not let the hair on the pads of the feet grow and grow – this is a serious condition and can lead to “Frito Feet” (see below) and also walking on all that extra hair at the bottom of the feet definitely leads to an awkward gate that can affect the knee joints and the hip joints and your puppy’s legs, knees, hips will not grow properly, leading to serious growth problems and potentially other conditions. As the hair grows, the Cavachon will have less traction and this in turn can wear down their joints and lead to popped patellae and/or hip dysplasia. The hair between the pads can grow very fast and can begin to limit their footing. There is a serious condition that your Cavachon can get called “Frito feet.” We only learned about this a few months back when one of our pups did get it. This “mold/mildew” condition is caused by neglecting to keep these extra feathered hair trimmed/shaved on the underside of the feet and the condition is difficult to get rid of.

Check the feet daily for any debris or tangles stuck in the fur of the feet, brush these out with a slicker brush (below). “Frito Feet” is a problem found with Cavalier King Charles feet so it is possible you need to keep this extra hair trimmed so that it does not trap dirt and moisture leading to this mold and mildew problem, which smells like Fritos. Professional Grooming is usually done about every 5 weeks. Be sure and talk to your groomer about the feet, the ears, the hair around the mouth which gets food caught up in there, etc. If you visit the groomer regularly, he/she should take care of this, but will need to be told! Do NOT spend a lot of money on brushes and combs, shop on Amazon, a kid’s brush is good for those early weeks.

Please know that grooming is not just a responsibility of your groomer; you are responsible for weekly grooming, such as trimming the hair around the eyes, do not let the hair fall over the eyes, do not let the hair start pointing towards the cornea. Your pup trusts you will take care of this. Hair around the eyes leads to “excessive tearing” and “excessive tear staining” and to scratched corneas! We have seen this; it is very sad to see. You must check toenail length every 2-3 weeks, yes you must check this, don’t wait for a groomer. See my note and picture below about purchasing a ‘Cat Toenail’ clipper for the early months of your young Cavachon. Toenails must be cut promptly and you should never let a toenail grow so that it touches the floor and you can actually hear the clicking of the toenail as it hits the floor. This can change the dog’s gait as well. Keep the hair around the anal area trimmed and clean; otherwise long hair in this area will trap part of the bowel movement as it comes out. Avoid getting water in your pup’s ear; use ear cleaner once a week. Yes, your Cavachon is HIGH MAINTENANCE in the grooming department!

And please do not let your Cavachon’s coat grow long, it will begin to mat and snarl. This leads to moisture being trapped on the skin under the mat. This leads to a fungus starting to grow right there! This in turn starts a “lesion” growing called a ‘hot spot.’ Your cavachon will begin to bite on this and it will ooze and get infected and so itchy she/he won’t be able to stop biting it! **Please be mindful to the high grooming needs of your Cavachon!**



Bath Time: Before you get your Cavachon anywhere near the water, it is important to brush out any debris, knots or tangles from the coat. If you do not, the knots and tangles will get much worse. If the coat is long, you may want to spray in some conditioner before attempting to brush. Place cotton balls in their ears or in some way protect their ears from water going into the ear canal. Use a sponge or cloth to wet the head area

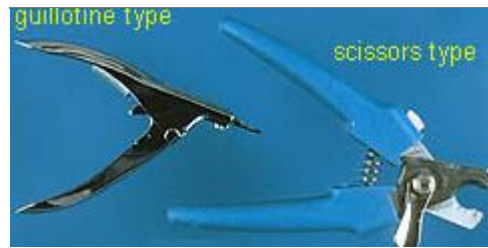
as no dog likes to have water poured on his head. Apply only shampoo formulated for your pup's age. Rinse thoroughly as any residue left will lead to irritation and itching. Apply conditioner as indicated on the bottle and rinse. Dry with towel but do not rub with the towel as this will create knots and tangles. If using a hand held dryer, but sure that you do not send a blast of warm air directly to the skin of your Cavachon. Dry from a distance and on very mild setting. You only need to use a couple of dry towels.

Forced Air Blow Dryer: Many pet owners might think using their own hair dryer will work just fine for their pet, but if your pet scratches a lot and/or suffers from dry skin then a human blow dryer is just going to make their condition worse. Use several towels and a warm room to dry.

Nail Care:



Toe Nail



Clippers



Grinder

Viewing the toe nail photo above try to allow at least 2 millimeters of white area left on the nail before the pink area where the vein is located. Black nails are often more difficult to see the quick, but by using the pad and straight area beneath the toe nail, you can gauge where the extra length of nail is at that needs to be trimmed.

For adult dogs, we prefer the scissor type toe nail clippers over the guillotine type. Using the guillotine type can be painful to your dog. **Important**, I have found out that during the first months or so after you get your puppy home, it is best to use "Cat Clippers" on your young puppy! Their nails are so tiny and so skinny, the 'Cat Clippers' work far better in young puppyhood. Here is a picture:



For Adult Dogs: After we use our scissor type clippers on the toe nails we then use our grinder – on older puppies/dogs only -- to smooth off or ‘file down’ the rough edges. The grinder we use is a Dremel, (regular) with variable speeds and we use it at $\frac{3}{4}$ speed. This is a plug-in type which has much more power than the battery operated Dremels which are labeled for cutting the nails of dogs. Below are links to two ‘You-Tube’ Videos, the first, Part 1 demonstrates cutting the nails with scissor-like clippers, the second, Part 2 demonstrates how you should smooth down the sharp edges of the nails with a Dremel. If you do not have a Dremel, a hand file works just as well. You should do this every 3 – 4 weeks. Allowing your Cavachon to have long, untrimmed nails can result in various health hazards including infections or an irregular and uncomfortable gait that can result in damage to their skeleton. Don’ forget to cut the ‘dewclaws’ as well! Here are the links to the videos:

Part I

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hJNO4nxtnY>

Part II

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sRVhIOqjeU>

Care Around the Eyes

Every dog should have their eyes regularly wiped with an appropriate cleaner, we supply the first bottle. This is to remove the build-up of daily eye secretions in the corners of the eyes. Here is the product: used by some of our families and it really works for those who may have tear staining: **‘Miracle Care” Eye Clear Cleaning Pads, or just the liquid.** The pads are too dry in my opinion, so try the liquid! This contains Boric Acid which works to dissolve the end result of tearing, tear stains. Use daily and especially before your dog goes out in the sun. All puppies who **are teething** will have excessive tearing. Tear Staining periodically can be a problem for light colored, non-shedding small dogs. If this build up is not removed every day, it can quickly become a cause of bacterial yeast growth that can lead to infections. Please keep hairs around the eyes trimmed. Hairs coming in contact with the cornea will cause excessive tearing. You can use blunt end kid’s scissors. When you take a moment every day to gently wipe your dog’s eyes with the appropriate cleaner and keep the hair trimmed away from their eyes, you will help to keep your dog’s eyes comfortable and infection free. This is in addition to the right kind of Dog Food and Water recommendations. You can use your own faucet filter, for example. Do not purchase expensive water, you can use your own filter (e.g., Brita).

Several breeders have found the following product, a supplement, will eliminate tear staining if used in combination with the other recommendations that you will find in the article below entitled “Tear and Saliva Staining” by Vickie Halstead, RN, posted on the website: Bichon Club of America. Scroll down for a more comprehensive plan to deal with tear staining if it becomes a problem.

This is the **absolute best supplement to rid your dog of tear staining**, as long as you also use the cleaner above as well. It is: “Thomas Labs” Pet A Zyme – I-Stain.

In addition:

Provide a top quality dog food that does not contain **food dyes, tomato pomace, or beet pulp** that can contribute to staining. A raw food (in frozen form and developed to be eaten raw) is known to prevent tear staining in many dog breeds.

Tear and Saliva Staining,

by Vickie Halstead RN, Courtesy of the Bichon Club of America

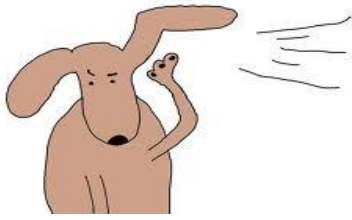
Often lighter colored dogs that are non-shedding and of small size can have a pink or reddish-brown discoloration in the hair below the eyes and may also have discolored hair near the mouth or areas that are licked, such as the feet. **Saliva and tears normally are clear**, so discolored body fluids indicates that the internal body chemistry is altered. In addition, if an area of the body is constantly moist yeast (fungus) and bacteria can grow, which can also discolor the hair and cause the skin in the area under their eyes to be reddened and produce an odor.

The goal is to keep the area clean under the eyes. Use ‘Miracle Care’ Eye Clear Eye Care Pads or we like the bottle of liquid which we apply to a gauze pad or drop right into the corner of the eye. At the very least the eye matter or mucus must be cleared daily from the inner corner of the eyes. Wet drainage must be cleaned at least daily with an eye cleaning product.

Boric Acid powder fights yeast, and this is the important ingredient you need in the cleaning solution. The cleaner recommended above has this ingredient.

In summary, **to resolve tear/saliva staining a combination of these therapies may be required:**

1. Keep the hair trimmed around the eyes.
2. Maintain cleanliness of the area under the eyes using the product recommended by us . . . with Boric Acid.
3. Provide an optimally nutritious diet.
4. Provide fresh water for fresh/filtered water.
5. Use a supplement to keep eyes clear in difficult cases. The Monarchy recommends ‘Thomas Labs I-Stain.’



Ears

Extremely important and remember when grooming, the hairs must be plucked from inside (by your groomer) the ears or they will continue to grow right into the ear canal and sinuses! Your pup's hair just keeps growing. Use a weekly ear wash to keep ears clean. If you do not do this, I can guarantee you will get fungus infections and possible scarring which leads to serious problems. Also, remember, the ear must be plucked regularly! Talk to your groomer about doing this task.

Dental Care

I start brushing teeth with the very first bath. I use brushes made for this purpose. Remember, Bichons, the mothers of Cavachons, are known for early tooth decay, so please don't skip in this department, you will be glad in the future! There are good supplements for dental care that remove plaque, this goes into the drinking water. Consult with your vet. Please research the possibility of "raw bones", as raw bones will help keep your dog's teeth healthy, however, check with your vet first as to the right type or to see if your Vet approves of Raw Bones or not! Some do not! And shop at your independent dog store for good "raw bone" replacement products, such as the Earth Animal products.

Immunizations and Deworming

The first set of puppy immunizations will have been administered after weaning and before your puppy leaves *The Monarchy*. A printed schedule is provided to you when you pick up your puppy. The first immunization is a vaccine for:

- Canine Distemper
- Adenovirus Type 1 (Hepatitis)
- Adenovirus Type 2
- Parainfluenza
- Parvo Virus

Your vet will schedule and continue the series of immunizations.

Deworming

Your puppy was de-wormed according to the schedule you received. Worms are very common in puppies; therefore, please bring a stool sample to your vet at your pup's initial visit. 'Coccidia' and/or 'Giardia' are very common in young puppies—despite the fact they have been dewormed for these. Your vet will advise you about your puppy's need for ongoing de-worming and/or testing.

Spaying and Neutering: The 'traditional' time for spaying and neutering is about 5 and a half months of age. However, there are many theories and varied opinions on this topic, as it relates to the long term health of the puppy and we feel it is also a personal decision. Decisions around this topic should be made after careful research and in concert with your Vet. Don't forget the "growth" hormones are affected when you spay/neuter.

Pet Insurance – Letter from Family and “Charlie”

There are several good insurance products out there. However, the one below is being used by one of our Cavachon families in Massachusetts, and the family is very happy with it. Below is information from Robert Foldes and the product he chose to purchase for their Cavachon, Charlie.

“The insurance we bought is called Embrace. It was recommended to us by friends. Their newsletter can be read through their website: www.embracepetinsurance.com

Besides health insurance I signed up Charlie for their wellness program. That means regular checkups; shots etc. end up being 25% off up to \$400/yr. (per my math). For the health coverage it all depends on what you're comfortable with. They have a calculator that allows you to choose your deductible and annual max and tells you how much it will cost you on monthly basis. It takes 2 weeks for the coverage to kick in once you sign up. They are pretty good about explaining how things work.”

Another family has purchased Tru-panion and they are very satisfied with it.

Potty Training



Important Points to Remember When Potty Training

The crate should be in a medium-traffic area that is not too far from the door you will take the puppy out of to go to the proper potty area. Take your puppy out often, depending on age. Most young puppies, under 12 weeks, need to go out at least on the hour. Increase the time gradually as the puppy becomes more reliable with potty habits.

When to take puppy out:

- First thing in the morning
- 10 minutes after eating breakfast
- After 15 minutes of play (this includes if he is in the middle of play)
- Every 45-60 minutes depending upon age, when he's awake – set an alarm so you don't miss this
- As soon as he wakes up from a nap
- Just before going into the crate (anytime day or night)
- During the night every 4 hours during the first full week.

The best advice is to never allow a puppy to have an accident. You can ensure this doesn't happen if you take the puppy out at minimum every 60 minutes PLUS the above times.

What to do when your puppy is in his potty area:

- Take your puppy out, put the leash on once you get to the spot, to his potty area so he cannot become distracted.
- Give your puppy a maximum of 10 minutes to go potty in the appropriate area.
- Reward your puppy immediately as soon as he finishes going potty.

The complete potty training directions will be given to you when you pick up your puppy!

An interesting Product After Potty Training!

One of our families sent this along. It is a 'pet' doorbell and the family loves it. You can purchase it, if interested, from Pebblesmart.com Here is a picture of the doorbell:



Puppy Care – Supplies List

1. Two (2) Wire Crates for Training and Sleeping. We recommend a two-door crate: Midwest I crate— 24” by 18” by 19 Inch ICrate Double Door Pet Crate . Be sure and purchase this crate with a divider in the middle so you can adjust the size as your puppy grows. The two gated doors are wonderful for different ‘placement’ of the crate. We suggest two crates, one for attachment to your playpen or in moderate traffic area down in main area and one for your bedroom at night. Puppies are pack animals and need to sleep either in the same room as their ‘pack’ or within ear shot. Unless you are going to “gate off” an area in your home (not recommended as pups will chew the bottom of your cabinets), you will want an exercise pen so that the puppy does not have free roam of the house. This will keep him safe from household hazards when you are not able to give 100% supervision. Again, on Amazon.com Midwest makes an exercise pen, about 30” in height, coming with 8 panels.
2. Travel Crate for car and/or car harness/seat, we recommend the “Kurgo” booster seat available on Amazon. Puppies are less likely to get car sick if they can see out the window.
3. A plush doggy bed if you wish, but definitely another mat to fit inside of the crates.
4. We supply two leashes and a small puppy collar, good for 2-3 weeks. Adjustable Nylon Collar with plastic clasp, 6 foot Leash. For walking, please purchase a quality harness. A good one will not rub and cause sores on the dog/puppy. **We supply your *first puppy leash and puppy collar.* PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE HARNESS UNTIL PUP COMES HOME.**
5. **After a month (or sooner if necessary) you can purchase a quality collar and sturdier leash. Some good ones are on Amazon: Blueberry Pet 6 Colors Safe & Comfy 3M Reflective Classic Solid Color Dog Collars or Leashes; quality leashes per your choice, Amazon.**
6. Heavy, stainless steel bowls. No plastic as plastic food and water dishes have been associated with tear staining. No rubber, they will chew on the rubber! Crocks: they will chew on it until pieces break off.

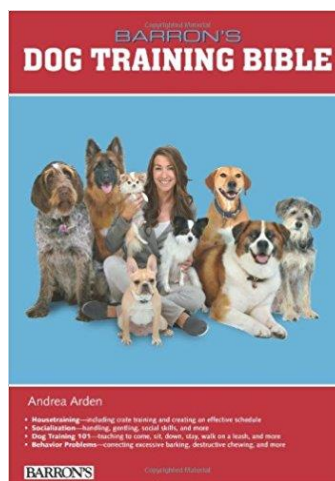
Young puppies will put their (sometimes yucky) feet into the water bowl and then drink it. Depending upon what they stepped in, they could be ingesting parasites/worms. Keep this in mind!

7. Puppy Food – Puppies have started on a quality puppy food including a small amount of raw diet mixed in and we sprinkle in Carna4 (Amazon), if you use an all raw food diet, you do not need the Carna 4. If you use both, please purchase the Carna 4 before you pick up your puppy.
8. Storage Bin for Dry Food (optional): Important, always keep the dry kibble in the original bag and then insert this bag into the Storage Bin, **do not empty the kibble** into another bin. This ages the kibble and changes the composition of it and it becomes less nutritious. The food we supply is organic and the meat free-range and does not have the long shelf life of supermarket puppy food or food from large pet food chains such as Petco.
9. We recommend “Miracle Care” Eye Clear Cleaning Liquid” Once daily use will prevent tears from staining. The label may say either “Eye Clear” or “Eye Clear Cleaning Liquid.” Make sure the active ingredient is Boric Acid. Be sure and buy a bottle, either from Amazon or other supplier. I like the liquid rather than the pads. *Another family has told me she really likes another eye cleaner and she thought it worked better. It is a cleaner called “NaturVet.”*
10. 100% pure canned Pumpkin, can be used for loose stools, diarrhea or constipation. A teaspoon with every meal for several days should help. Can freeze excess in ice cube tray. I give my pups a teaspoon of canned pumpkin as a daily treat! This is a must with pups to prevent loose stools.
11. Treats – at first treats should only be given when they potty in the right place and given immediately. (use white cooked chicken breast as it is bland) Quality soft and very small treats are good, see Treats list and when your pup is older than 3 months, you can use the Stewart freeze dried liver treats, just a very small sliver. **We love the 3 calorie Zuke’s Training Treats.** And “Nutro Crunchy Treats with Real Mixed Berries.” Longer soft chews broken into pieces, soft kibble is good. Puppies and dogs love vegetables. We give our puppies mini carrots sliced up in pieces and they love them. Absolutely nothing from China, no dog jerky with anything from China. No leather/rawhide chews! For the first 3 months, HOLD OFF ON RICH TREATS.
12. Vitamins – the puppies, if picky eaters, will benefit from ‘Doc Roy’s Daily Care Extra (Amazon); however, good eaters, at a young age, probably do not need vitamins. On a 100% raw food diet, you will not need vitamins or the Carna4. Order online, too expensive at pet stores. Also, check with your Vet as to necessity for vitamins, each puppy is different.
13. Bitter Apple Spray (Optional, only if you need it). . to save your furniture and kitchen cabinets! (bitter taste deters dogs from biting, licking, and chewing), can use on hands if needed; be careful not to put your hands in puppy’s mouth initially, it will in turn lead to biting and nipping, the # 1 COMPLAINT with families! But I’d rather you use training instead, this is only a last resort.
14. Shampoo formulated for the age of your puppy. Later on, use only what is formulated for your pup or dog and their age. Conditioners are great for any mats or knots that can form. Be careful around the eyes.
15. Toothpaste and Tooth Brush – please research this first so that you go with something you are comfortable with. There is also the PetzLife spray which controls tartar. Remember Bichons (their mothers) are known to have early decay and teeth problems, and dogs cannot get false teeth, so you **must** pay attention to this. Human toothpaste is TOXIC to dogs, use only dog toothpaste. Remember

plaque build-up on the teeth over time can lead to heart issues and other health problems. Use a plaque dissolver spray 2 – 3 times a week. Or add a plaque dissolver to the water, ask you vet for a brand suggestion.

16. Ear Wash – Extremely important and remember when grooming, the hairs must be plucked from inside the ears (ask the Groomer to do this) or they will continue to grow right into the ear canal and sinuses! Your pup’s hair just keeps growing. Use a weekly ear wash to keep ears clean. There are two good ones: Zymox Otic HC 1.0% Enzymatic Solution, the other is made by Professional Pet Care Products called ProEar cleaner and deodorant. If you do not do this, I can guarantee you will get fungus infections and possible scarring which leads to serious problems.

17. Cat Clippers for nails of very small puppies, they work wonderfully. See picture earlier in this manual.



18. Barron’s Dog Training Bible

Please purchase this and review prior to picking up your puppy from The Monarchy. ***This is very important and is written by a renowned and award winning trainer. Pack Behavior concepts and the right way to train (two methods offered) are in line with our observations and principles.***

19. Ellen DeGeneres has a line of awesome toys just perfect for 8 week old puppies. Most of them are flat but create awesome crinkling noises when the pup steps or plays with them. (Optional)

20. “Mushers” waxy protection for the paws of your puppy when walking on ice or snow (seasonal).

(end)