

### **Teacup require alot of T.L.C. in the beginning.**

Due to their tiny size one must take a few extra steps for their care. Remember, they will only mature 4 lbs.or under. And, have a compact, athletic build that is suitable for their lifestyle. In all aspects they are perfectly normal and like any other dog-only for practical reasons they cannot have the speed or strength of a lab. They are amazingly tiny dogs that dont know how tiny they are.

What are your expectations? if your interested in a Teacup due to Hollywood fashion then this is not the dog for you. Smaller isn't always better. While the cuteness of the Teacup is something that most would choose to die for, it is important for potential Teacup owners to consider if they are ready to put in the long-term effort and commitment required to raise a Teacup. Teacups require more care in the beginning and have a limited life style. You cannot do winter sledding with a Teacup. They are not a young childs toy. They are all about love, coddle, travel, beauty, training, dress up, and being your shadow- most of the time. Being under foot is a skill they learn in time.

Also, they do have a slower growth rate. And, therefore a slower or sensitive response to vaccines, wormers, and such. Given this, it is every Teacup owner's responsibility to acquire the necessary knowledge for taking care of your Teacup. And, we do use homeopathic type treatments for our teacups in addition to conventional treatments. All Information posted here we have found life saving but must be done @ your own risk.

**Stress Friendly Atmosphere!** now's the time to bond w/ your Teacup. The less stress the better. It's not time to go shopping, to movies, or baseball games, excessive playing, or parties, visiting friends and family...you get the idea. Its time to allow your Teacup to get acclimated to your home, T.L.C., water, noises, smells, routine.....

**Vitamins:** 2 Types for two different reasons. 1.) Nutri cal or similar is for stressfull days only such as: new puppy home, shopping, vet visits, vaccines day....Nutri cal -1/8 tsp. 2x day. Am and before bed. Or similar Nutri drops both from Revival.

2.) NuVet is for daily maintenance. Powder mix w/ dry kibble. All vitamins

**Whats to eat, Mom!** This a Major Important item to do. Teacups require food down all the time. And foods that you know they eat. We do recommend treats 1-2x a day. But, for any delayed housebreaking issues-one can remove food during night w/ a older puppy (6 months or older) or adult. Otherwise, They need access to food.

Outside of the puppy blended kibble-Food should be in small bite-sized proportions to ease chewing and digestion as Teacups have very small teeth. Also, food should be fresh and any unconsumed food after each meal should be discarded to prevent the growth of bacteria and germs. It is essential that the diet is high quality. This heads off hypoglycemia.

**Entice Me to Eat.** If your Teacup is bawking @ his food or not eating well. You'll need to shift into another gear. Quickly Entice puppy w/ one or more of the following:

Baby Food: Gerber chicken n gravy, Raw or cooked turkey or chicken meat. I know the thought of raw meat may sound bad as it did me for a long time. But, after research and experience, its really the BEST for your Teacup. I mean, orginally, there were never any dry kibble to buy in the outdoor environment. Raw meat is high in natural antibiotics, great for their teeth, and a dozen other benefits. If any Teacup turn down Raw ground meat, there's something wrong. If after giving Raw Meat, Teacup has looser stools, this is temporary. It's normally caused by a the "cleansing effects" the meat has. The body is elimanating the garbage toxic stuff the first few days. Then the stools are healthier after that.

Anyway, for now, Read the Diet information on the "puppy care" page for idea's of fresh foods for Teacup. Moisten the dry kibble that Teacup is on w/ hot water diluted w/ alittle chicken broth, just to cover. Let sit 15 minutes in seal tight glass container. Serve @ room temperature. Store in Refrigerate. Or Gerber chicken sticks (toddler section @ local grocery store). Mash and warm.

\*If puppy is still being fussy. You may need to purchase a large mouth syring from Fleetfarm or any animal supply store. Blend any of the above food suggestions in blender and hand feed puppy. Puppy should have @ least 15 cc of solid foods every 3-4 hrs. Please check w/ your vet for your size puppys food intake amount.

**Basic Set Up** for them is posted here. However, they can get through most fencing due to their size so add smaller net fences. Or baby playpen will due for awhile, but normally not big enough. View the basic puppy set up below. This is how Teacups need to continue. Place Set up in area where you can see each other. When they are left alone for long periods of time they tend to panic like or go into seperation anxiety. What wasnt a problem before can quickly become a problem now. Such as with: not eating, over eating, scratching, chewing too much, any virus or bacterial dormat issue's can surface then, or barking pattern can develope...they actually calm down when someone or another pet is around. Just the look of you can reduce their stress. Our guys are use to T.V. music, and playtime @ least 2x day.

**Housebreaking a Teacup.** Did you know-a shocking statistic was reported that the #1 reason people leave dogs @ shelters is due to housebreaking issue's. Besides, that- Have you ever heard- that you cannot housebreak a teacup? We think we figured out what the problem is. It's because of conventional methods for housebreaking dogs out there today are for lab or beagle size dogs. Teacups being x tiny dogs are different-they literally, get **lost** in space! From their vantage point, there are too many distractions. They see, smell, and find alot more to do close to the floor than we could ever imagine. So, what if they lose all the space and work from a training "puppy set-up" allowing them to focus just on the basic's ? Better yet, your puppy is **already imprinted** w/ going on open newspapers. Fortunately, we start this routine while their still nursing on mom. Once Mom is gone and they are weaned they still go over to the newspapers. We took their freedom away and they are confined to a large 4x6 size puppy pen. The warmer days allows us to bring them outside. So, pending on time of year, some are already going outside on grass, or flat gravel type ground.

But, All you need to do...is continue the pattern. Only now you have the advantage. Having them close by allows you to catch them all their behaviors and respond with your reward or punishment system. Although, your puppy from OPL will go on newspapers once you get him, he will be given a larger area in time to be in. And, he may try to get away w/ doing whatever he wants. Be a pack leader! Don't allow any bad behaviors. Puppy is use to the "Empty can w/ pennies" discipline. Please, incorporate the "reward-punishment methods" you choose.

We cover this in "Puppy Care Instructions"

**Housebreaking Locations:** Because, of their size one can choose from:

a closet, attached garage, basement, hallway, laundry room...similar to a kitty litter box situation. Teacup will need a large tray to place newspapers inside, something w/ side's all around. There's furniture now that hide's the tray. Locations of Trays or Kittly Litter Type box: Some have used their attached garage w/ a small childrens swimming pool filled w/ newspapers, sand. Or closet, hallway, laundry room, bathrooms. Never use kitty litter itself. This is poisenous for puppies and especially a Teacup. And, outdoors is fine. To start, take their soiled newspapers outside and secure it down w/ rocks/brick. Take Teacup to this area often with reward treat. So, they can get the idea.

**Caution:** Rain, strong winds, and Zero weather w/ snow. Rain is can be messy. Did you know a strong wind can blow your Teacup away?! Not off into the sky, but enough to cause injuries. And, with winter, their little lungs cannot take much of that. Some do take Teacup out doors to a outdoor warmed area with simple light bulb. Or a low to the ground heat lamp, in a snow shoveled area. Straw/hay on ground may also help.

**"Fashion 101"** Choose washable cotton mostly fabrics. This material is good year round. One may need sheepswool for winter. There's nothing warmer. We have used "all wool" socks. We cut off the toes part for their head, make 4 legs or just leave cover over back to tail. Be careful the Teacup clothes are safe, and they can walk, run....easily in them w/o getting caught up or tangled in the clothes. Scarfs are fun and easy. Just make sure they are loose enough around neck.

**"Travel tote-bag 101"** Teacup puppy dog will be in tow with you often. Start off by getting Teacup ready for this type of travel. This is to help get puppy ready for travel in a purse and feel good about it. A large washable canvas bag w/ toys or food inside is a great start.

Teacup needs to learn the "tote manners" while in public from early on. So, while in Tote, Do not allow any barking or crying...quiet is important for many many public place's. Practice @

home often, before going out. Also, we like petote.com for safe, and the best made tote's ever. **For hygiene purposes**, it is recommended that the adult Teacup be given a bath at least once a month, but every other month is fine too. In between bath times, one can give a spritz half bath...Check grooming instruction on the "puppy care" page. Hygiene is necessary especially in warmer countries where inadequate levels of hygiene would leave the Teacup prone to hygiene related illnesses and fleas. In fact, it is recommended that in such places, the Teacups be given bathes on a more frequent basis. And, if Teacup is sleeping with you, one must decide the level of cross contamination level upon the Teacup activity. Are they outside more, exposed to more bacterial or viral illness's, or doggie parks where Teacup can be exposed to flea's.

Note: \*Care should be taken to prevent water from entering the ears as this would often lead to infection.

**Spay / Neuter** is best done when Teacup is much older (10 months and up) and past the first heat cycle for females. The first cycle is slight, scanty, pinkish blood and little swollen. For some its totally unnoticed. The second heat is full strength, more red blood flow. After **first heat** is good and more towards 10 months - 1yr of age. This is better for teacup and vets. Teacup has had a chance to grow strong and has mature lungs....And, facts show that @ times Vets may have a challenging time regulating the anesthesia gas. We had one vet give too much anesthesia gas (in our opinion), resulting in fatality of some Mommie females after a C sections. But, vets are fine and have done many teacups or ferrets w/o problems. Ask your vet if he/ she is use to doing Teacups, kittens, ferrets.

### **Hypoglycemia (Low Blood Sugar)**

Education and Proven methods to avoid Hypoglycemia before it even thinks of happening. Hypoglycemia can occur mainly between 2-6 months of age. Generally, with under 4 lbs. size puppies, and rare but can include 5-8 lbs. puppies. The teacups are the ones to be concerned with.

#### **Most common things that can bring on Hypoglycemia:**

sickness or injuries

missing any meals

Stress good & bad from: cold turkey type fast change of foods, travel, noises, too much play...

poor quality puppy food

chilled after baths

having a digestive upset.

use of dewormers, vaccines, similar conventional or herbal meds.

use of flea shampoo, collars, powders, drops...

spay or neutering day

vet or grooming visits

**One or more of these can bring on a low sugar state in puppy.** These upsets place an added strain on the enrgy reserves of the liver and bring in symptoms of hypoglycemia. **That can lead to sudden death. But, can be prevented!**

#### **Hypoglycemia signs to watch for are:**

Muscular weakness

tremors

fainting w/ eye's open

wobbly legs

dizziness

listlessness and depression

convulsions

pale white gums

lost of coordination and falling (like being drunk)

weak, wobbly, jerky

**Prevention:** Here's the thing. Plan ahead.

>Always leave out puppys food and add treats 1-2x day. \*can leave out a tiny bowl of childrends breakfast cereal like cherrio's or similar. its a sugary snack. Feed a high carbohydrae, high-protein, high fat diet found in DYNE from Revival. It is essential that the diet is high quality.

>Always Avoid situations that could bring on low sugar levels for now. Let Puppy get acclimated.

>Always use spiked water till puppy is older. Choose one that works for you from the following.

1 tbs.karo syrup per gal water.

Electrolyte water

Vi-tal water (from fleetfarm) powder: 1/4 tsp. per gal. water

>Always give nutri cal (from Revival) or similar 2x day. am and before bed.

>Always make sure puppy has the nutri cal (from Revival) given before any wormers,vaccines,vet or groomer day....

Keeping Teacup on the spiked water alone already heads off Hypoglycemia. But, we figure the "just in case" for whatever

reason if Teacup happens to surprise us we need to be prepared.

#### OPL's Hypoglycemia Emergency Care

Give 1/4-1/2 Diabetic Glucose Tablet crushed along w/ 1cc water. Mix and syring in puppies mouth. If this is not available, then give alittle honey, or maple syrup. Dosages are hard pending size. But, 1/4 tsp. or 1cc. for a start is good. You should get

immediate result. And, puppy will be normal again w/ in 15 min. or so. Gums should be pink.

Keep this remedy around, like in the glove compartment in car w/ your puppys first aid kit.

Call Vet if you have too. Puppy may bounce back and get up to play shortly after treatment. But, if not. And puppy is down not getting up. You need to be on your way to vet. Apply glucose asap.

Puppy needs to get to vet asap. Vet may need to give a Dextrose solution intravenous drip.

Thank Your for letting us share our Teacup Care with you. We are open for any suggestions that you may have found helpful.

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