***Please Take the Time To Read This, for your puppy's sake.***

**Taking Your New Puppy Home**

\***Please read over the Guarantee again so you understand what our guarantee covers**.

**\*\*\*\*Some important things about your new puppy you should know. \*\*\*\***

**\*\*Feeding**: When you first take your puppy home depending on the time of day. Feeding should be either twice a day or even 3 times a day; this will depend on your schedule at home.

The puppies are getting fed, **Kinetic 28K Puppy.** They can stay on this food till 4-6 months of age. After 6 months, lower the protein to 26-28%, very important, we recommend Kinetic 26K. **The big thing we can stress to you is do not over feed your puppy**. Also not good to under feed your pup. **You will start off feeding your new Puppy 3/4 to 1 cup of food twice a day, with warm water. Increasing as needed. Be careful not to get them over weight. If a Labrador Puppy grows too quickly, his weight can outpace his skeletal development, even leading to deformities. And, Labrador Retrievers (even puppies) are prone to gain extra weight, which can cause problems as they grow. This is why it's important to feed them a proper diet!** As your puppy grows you will need to increase the food. But only increase the food a ¼ cup at a time for each feeding. You will watch the puppy’s growth and determine whether you are giving them enough or too much food. If you see diarrhea, you are feeding too much, or the puppy is stressed or also could have eaten something that upset their stomach. If this does happen then cut back the food about ½ as much until stool is normal. Add Pumpkin (non-spicy) to food if needed. Get probiotics for them, so, so important!! to put good bacteria back into their gut.

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*The puppy you have just taken home is going to be stressed from, the ride home, going into a new home and leaving his/her littermates. This stress can potentially bring on loose stools, these loose stools could mean a couple things, you could be giving too much food, or it could be they just ate something that didn't agree they can't keep things out of their little mouth!! Or just plain STRESS. We do our best to prevent this from happening.**

**Water:**  Always keep fresh clean water available for your puppy to drink.

***Very Important to remember!***

Until your puppy has had his/her 3 sets of puppy vaccinations we very strongly advise you to not take them to any parks, dog parks, etc. Until they have had the 3rd set of shots they are susceptible to anything and everything. They can contract parvo, kennel cough etc. Be very careful where you take them and be sure you know other dogs and puppies are not sick or could have been exposed to any other dogs that were sick before you socialize them with other dogs/puppies.

**\*Commonly ask question:** How much training should we do with the puppy?

At first just let them be puppies. Puppies like to play, sleep and eat. You can start some discipline practices with the puppy. Don’t overdue any retrieving at this age, 2 or 3 retrieves would be plenty for the pup. If he/she is very, very excited about it then do more for some exercise. But you can bore a puppy very easily.

\*Hope we have talked to you about our puppy training program where we start them on live birds. We encourage any of you who will be hunting your dog that you take advantage of this program we offer. When your puppy is between 12 and 15 weeks they can start on live birds. You need to register for our newsletter and check

the "Puppy Class" box. You will be notified by email of the classes. We can’t always do this every weekend, but we try to. If we get snow it is hard to put birds out. This training is very important for your hunting companion. All you would pay is cost of the birds.

**\*Crate Training is another question we get ask frequently.**

We feel it is very important to crate train your puppy. How to go about doing this?

\*First make sure the crate is far away from anyone’s sleeping area, such as by your bed. If you can hear the puppy you will be more likely to go to them whenever they cry, and you won’t get any sleep.

\*Second – take any food and water away from your puppy around 8:00 PM. Put them to bed as late as possible and get up with them as early as you possibly can.

\***BUT DON’T** - Go to them every time you hear them cry. They will have you trained to do this, I guarantee they will get you up same time every night if you do go to them each time. Might sound harsh but I have been through this several times and they will cry for about 3 nights like this and by the 4 or 5th night they will know that this is their place to sleep and it is a safe place to be and they will then sleep like a baby all night long.

Try and cover the crate with a sheet, something not too heavy so they don’t get hot but something, so they can’t see everything. That will help them fall to sleep. It’s hard at first but believe me you will be happier in the end and so will your new little addition.

If you ever have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to call us. That’s what we are here for and we can usually help with any type of situation.

**Puppy Classes:**  We hold classes to help you get your puppies on "Live Birds". We hold these on the weekends only. We try and hold as many as we can during the Spring and Summer months. Please, please be patient on this with us. It's never too late but easier when they are young. We realize this because we have young ones ourselves that need birds also. Bird availability or weather can determine if we are able to hold a class.

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