

BEFORE YOU GET YOUR DOG SHOPPING LIST...



1 BABY GATES

Baby gates can be a helpful management tool for introducing your new dog to your resident pets. They are also helpful to keep your dog in or out of certain rooms.

2 CRATE / CRATE COVER

The crate should be just big enough for your dog to stand up and turn around in. Make sure you invest some time in crate-training your dog if they don't already have a positive association. We want the crate to be a place your dog loves.

3 CHEW TOYS

Lots and lots of chew toys! Rubber ones, wooden ones, hard plastic ones, soft rope ones, cloth ones. Dogs chew. This is a fact of life. Set them up for success by making sure they have plenty of outlets for appropriate chewing.

4 FOOD PUZZLE TOYS

Dogs have a natural desire to engage in enriching mental and physical activities. Leave them to their own devices and they'll likely choose an activity we don't approve of. Let's set them up for success and put mealtime to better use!

5 FRONT CLIPPING HARNESS

A harness is a great option when it comes to humane walking equipment. Clipping it in the front and pairing it with positive reinforcement training can lead to far more enjoyable and cohesive outings for you and your dog.

6 LEASHES

Avoid retractable leashes- they can cause injury and don't give you enough control, especially on busy city streets. 4-6 ft, light weight leashes are best. Having a 15-20 foot leash for recall practice is handy too.

7 TREAT POUCH

This is an essential item to set yourself up for success. Without a doubt, a treat pouch will help you train your dog more successfully. It encourages you to remember to bring treats out and about and it gives you the ability to reinforce your dog right when you catch them doing what you want them to do!

8 BEDS

Having multiple beds around your house, in the areas your dog spends time, gives them cozy places to be that are appropriate. That way you spend less time telling them no and more time saying "yes!".

9 TREATS

Would you go to work if you didn't get paid? Of course not! So why would we expect our dogs to? Treats help us communicate with our dogs and motivate them. It is our way of paying them for doing what we've asked. It is also how we create a cohesive partnership instead of a power dynamic.

10 TOYS FOR INTERACTIVE PLAY

Squeaky stuffed toys, bouncy balls, squeaky balls, tug toys, flirt polls are all examples of fantastically fun toys for you and your puppy to play with together. Play is such an important part of the dog-human bond.