Puppy Notes

Congratulations on your new Newfoundland Puppy!

1. Your puppy is currently eating Victor Hi-pro plus, bought off chewy.com. Most feed stores carry Victor. I would not switch them for a few weeks if you are going to switch them. When you do, just make sure to do it gradually.
2. I leave hard food with them all the time.
3. Make sure your puppy is eating. Very important.
4. For house breaking I recommend crate training. Pull food and water after 5 pm. It will take them several days to get used to the crate, they will “cry” and seem unhappy, but I promise once they figure out that its their place to relax, you’ll be glad you did it. Never put puppy in crate as a consequence. I do recommend researching crate training and how to do it if you are not familiar with it.
5. Pups will need to go to bathroom about every 4 hours, if they do both each time. One cue that they need to go is, if it has been a while since their initial crying and they start again they may need to go and don’t want to mess in their bed.
6. I recommend pulling the puppies food and water at night for house breaking. We taught ours to ring a bell when they needed to go. You basically raise their paw to the bell every time your going out (whether you are taking them, or they started to go, or had an accident-every time you go outside concerning the bathroom) and say: Outside; potty; go pee, etc.. Also remember to take them to the same area each time, and make sure the area is far enough away from your home that they make a connection that home is clean and “this area” is for the bathroom.
7. A good rule of thumb when house breaking is that a puppy will need to eliminate or alleviate within 15 minutes after eating.
8. If the puppies stool gets very loose and has blood in it, take them to your vet right away. Remember, stool can get looser when stressed.
9. I would add canned food for the first few days if needed. Mix (1/3) of a can into their meal.
10. 1 tbs. of plain or vanilla yogurt once a day can help them with stress, and is very good for them.
11. Follow the Vet’s vaccination schedule.
12. Puppy will need shots and wormings every 2-3 weeks.
13. It is very important to not take your puppy to any rest areas or public places until fully vaccinated at 16 wks. Stay away from other puppies, as in keep your puppy with your adult dogs that are fully vaccinated and up-to-date on their shots. **It is very important to get all their shots.**
14. For growth, a good example to follow, is for every month, the puppy should be that number x 10 in pounds, i.e., 4 mos.= 40 lbs (can vary by 5-8 lbs. either way)
15. If puppy is above weight, for instance, 4 mos.=55 lbs. you should switch to a large breed puppy. Low Protein, low calcium. Because of the breeds fast growth, unlike small and normal size breeds, this breed needs less protein and calcium. Good brands are, Victor, Pro Pac, Nutro Max, Diamond Naturals, Taste of the Wild, Eagle pak, or earthborn. There are others as well, and it is a guessing game for some. I definitely recommend feeding good quality food until 2 years old.
16. We switch our puppies to a quality adult dog food at 6 mos. of age.
17. Grooming is essential with Newfies. Grooming helps skin feel better. I brush my adult dogs weekly, some as needed in the summer months. If you can afford a groomer and know there is a good one in your area I do recommend. If not I can recommend brushes, shampoos, etc. One part of grooming is drying. The more dry you can get them the cleaner they will be. It will also help with shedding as well. We have a “force dryer” that we started using when the dogs were going to come inside and it has really cut down on shedding inside.
18. Newfoundlands “blow out” their coat around twice a year. This is major shedding and hair loss, which is normal. You can help them blow out by drying. We have also used a leaf blower, and for the adult dogs that is fine, not for puppies under 1 year though.
19. With their fast growth rate you have to be careful with activity. Playing in the house or yard is fine. However, Newfs do not need to be taken on long walks/runs until they are full grown. You can start with walking on a leash for 1 minute per number of weeks in age they are. You should practice walking pup on a leash and teaching them how to behave, but you will have to ease into it as well.
20. If you have hardwood floors (we do) then you should possibly invest in a few cheaper rugs that wont slide around on your floors much if you don’t already have some. This will help their joints when they are running, falling is one thing but slipping is where they can get hurt. Also, steps should be avoided. Yes, we carried our Newfs up and down the steps into our house for the first few weeks. We have a staircase that we kept a baby gate on as well.
21. Sometimes puppies need more training than others. A few weeks of training by a professional can make a huge difference in your dogs behavior. Not all puppies need it, but there are some unexpected instances where that is a good choice. Remember these dogs are puppies for a longer period of time. Just like children/people they will grow out of phases, but you as the owner are responsible for what they are taught during that phase. There are all kinds of resources on the web as well that can help you.
22. Please, don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions. I will give you my advice, opinion or just suggestion to the best of my capability.

Good supplement for your puppy is NuVet wafer’s. I have my puppies on them, and adult dogs w allergies as well. Good for immune system, and brain function as well as other benefits.

Coat supplements is Show Stopper, which can be purchased at K-9power.com