



## Planning for good health

- 1. Right away - take out Pet Health Insurance** and get the nutrition right with a quality complete food (Hill's Science Plan Puppy is best).
- 2. At 6 to 12 weeks** - Full Vaccination course including Infectious Bronchitis protection. Start routine worming and flea & tick prevention and keep these going for life.
- 3. After Vaccination** - start regular Health Checks with the nurse every 4 - 6 wks up to 12 months of age. Our nurses will help advise you on your pup's training, behaviour, teeth brushing and how to keep your pet slim! Consider Clicker Training for an obedient, happy dog.
- 4. At 5 to 6 months** - Neutering, dew claw removal, identichip.
- 5. At 5 to 6 months** - Halti training session for border collies, larger breeds or dogs that are pulling on the lead.

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes**

*Pet's Name*

## Top Priorities for a Healthy Puppy



- PET HEALTH INSURANCE with LIFE COVER**  
Start before there's a problem! Ask our nurses for help in choosing a reliable insurance policy. *AVOID policies that only give cover for 12 months.*
- HIGH QUALITY FOOD** - Feed high quality for the best of health. **HILL'S SCIENCE PLAN PUPPY = Less hair shedding, less motion, less smell, and much improved health. Cost? ~ 65p / day for a 20kg adult.**
- VACCINATION** - against Parvovirus, Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Infectious Bronchitis (Kennel Cough) and Parainfluenza  
**Annual booster injection essential.**
- WORM with MILBEMAX** - every 2 weeks to 12 weeks of age, then monthly up to 6 months of age, then 3 monthly for life.
- FLEA & TICK PREVENTION** is easy.  
**Do it all year round! Treat all your cats and dogs!**  
*For dogs use PRAC-TIC Spot-On monthly*  
**Each application is 100% effective against fleas and ticks for a month.**  
**Cost for 12 months for a dog is £66 - £86 (depending on size of dog).**
- NEUTERING** at 5 - 6 months. Prevents many common diseases in both male and female dogs.  
**▲ Identichip & Dew claw removal can be done at the same time.**
- idENTICHIP** - Electronic ID - do it today - lasts for life.
- TEETH CARE** - Brush your pup's teeth daily.  
Get your puppy used to mouth handling and teeth brushing from an early age. Our nurses will teach you how to do it correctly.

**Visit our website: [www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk](http://www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk)**

**Veterinary Health Centre, Daisy St. Blackburn (01254) 53622**  
Vets: John Davies MRCVS, David Higginson MRCVS, Sam Purcell MRCVS  
Practice Manager: Ruth Swan VN BSc(Hons) PhD

# Your dog's Healthcare Budget

## Estimated costs per year:

Worming 4 x/year	£20	(£15 - £25)
Flea & Tick Prevention	£80	(£66 - £86)
Annual Booster inc. K.C.	£50	(Primary £62)
Health Insurance (PetPlan)	~£200	(inc. with age of dog)
Medical problems not insured	£200	(£0 - £300)
Boarding for 2 wks	£100	(£0 - £200)
Equipment, Toys, Treats	<u>£150</u>	(£50 - £300)
	<b>£800</b>	

Add the cost of  
a good quality food  
e.g. Hill's Science Plan

Small breed	£250 = £1050/year
Medium breed	£400 = £1200/year
Large breed	£550 = £1350/year

+ Once only costs - neutering, dew claw removal, identichip.

## Most Costly Mistakes

- 1) If you don't insure your dog's health you may have costs up to £1000 - £2500 for serious injury or disease.
- 2) If you feed canned food, small tubs or sachets you may be paying twice as much for a poorer quality food.

## Biggest Health Mistakes

- 1) Not sorting out behaviour problems - commonest cause of euthanasia for dogs under 10 yrs of age.
- 2) Obesity - overweight dogs have more medical problems.
- 3) Not neutering - neutering prevents a host of problems.
- 4) Neglecting dental care - bad teeth cause ill health.
- 5) Not vaccinating against fatal diseases.

**Planning ahead prevents problems**

## *How to have a Well-behaved Puppy*

**Speak to us as soon as you think you have a problem!**

- EFFECTIVE SOCIALISATION** - teach your pup all about life. Start now! Ask for our leaflet - "Teach your puppy to be calm". Use it!
  - USE A HOUSE CAGE FROM THE START** - pays for itself many times over by preventing expensive damage to chairs, woodwork, wallpaper, carpets, shoes, wallets, mobile phones etc. Also helps train a pup to be more calm and obedient. Ask for our leaflet on Using a House Cage.
  - FEED YOUR PUP USING FOOD TOYS** - Makes feeding much more entertaining for your dog, reduces chewing damage around the house, improves digestion as food is eaten more slowly.
  - LEARN HOW TO GROOM YOUR PUP** - helps your pup get used to being handled. Use a Zoom Groom. Learn how to open the mouth, give a tablet, examine the ears etc. We'll show you how to do it!
  - GET YOUR PUP USED TO CAR TRAVEL** - Several short car journeys every day right from the start. If travel sickness is a problem we have a new travel sickness medicine that can help train a pup to car travel.
  - BASIC TRAINING** - Sit, stay, down, come. All these commands can be started right away. Say "Sit!" at the very moment your pup sits down. Then give praise! Your pup will soon learn to sit on hearing "Sit!" All other commands are taught in the same way. be consistent. Read up about training.
  - USE A HALTI TO WALK YOUR DOG from 5mo old.**
    - Dogs correctly trained to a Halti headcollar do not pull on the lead, are more obedient and are less likely to experience fears and anxieties on a walk.
    - Owners avoid painful shoulders, elbows and sore hands from lead pullers.
- A Halti training session with our behaviourist vet David Higginson takes about 45min (for price - see list). You'll begin to see progress right away.**

**Visit our website: [www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk](http://www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk)**