

## ***Royal Ridge Question & Answer Sheet! As Recommended By Royal Ridge Corgis!***

***Q: What can I do to help reduce the stress of adjusting my puppy/dog to a new home?*** ***A:*** Try to keep the environment calm, and relaxed with out having loud noises and/or loud music for a few days to a week for the puppy/dog to adjust to its new home. Spend a good amount of time, loving, caring, and cuddling your puppy which will help them “bond” to you and to their new environment. They will quickly understand you are a new friend which they can trust. Do not overly bond them to one particular family member. Be sure everyone in the family gets involved in getting acquainted.

***Q: Are the puppies around people other than just you?*** ***A:*** The puppies have exposure to me, my family, occasional friends that visit, and exposure to a visit in town at our Health & Wellness Clinic. We don't allow many visitors to play with the puppies and/or visit on our grounds unless we know the person in particular, and/or that they are wearing “clean attire” suggested by us and have not been around kennels and/or farms previously. Be aware, people can carry (on their clothing, hands, and shoes) - bacteria, virus' and/or harmful diseases that can be transmitted easily to other animals. For those reasons, we have limited visitors, and if so, they are monitored very closely and accordingly.

***Q: I know it's important to socialize our puppy well once it arrives to our home, what is your opinion on socializing the puppy right away?*** ***A:*** With the puppy just getting used to being weaned and away from mother, we wouldn't put a lot of pressure on them to be around people instantly that they don't know apart from your family. They are just adjusting to leaving mother as well as their siblings and this can be a stressful time for the adjustment and bonding to their new family. The adoption period is very important that you truly spend the first several days with just them, as they are introduced to your family and have a “special bonding” period. They are also building up their immunities and can easily be affected as they are transported places. After a 10 to 14 days – feel free with the advice of your veterinarian to take your new puppy places and do socialize them well to people as we truly want your puppy to have a well balanced personality and

perspective of humans and other pets. Please understand when you have your first checkup with your puppy at your vets office – be sure to carry them not letting them walk around the grounds and/or flooring in the office areas or exam rooms. This will help keep them from acquiring any problem bacteria/viruses.

**Q: *What kind of chew toys do you recommend?*** A: We recommend a sturdy “rubber” type chew toys, and puzzle chew toys, as this really helps stimulation of their brain and to wear them out as well, for a good nights sleep. A chew toy that can “wear” well with chewing for them to “teethe” against is recommended. Many times you may freeze some teethers and this provide adequate relief to the puppy’s gums. It’s important to find chew toys that are “digestible” for your puppy. This is an important part of their growth and cartilage for their ears. Feel free to ask advice of your local pet store and/or veterinarian for “teething” and “tugs” that are appropriate for their life-style and will not cause harm to your puppy. We wouldn’t recommend using any “rope tugs” and or “pig ears” as they can result in harm, and are not well digestible for their little bodies. We try to find “wholesome” and “natural” chews that are easily digestible for their bodies should they decide to pull the chews apart and swallow a piece.

**Q: *Do the pups know any basic commands?*** A: We do give them a good start with our own behavior training, be respectful and not jump, not run to the dish; wait for us to finish pouring it, and to try to detour them from chewing on our clothing; while spending time with them. We do also recommend getting them use to being a pet and messed with during feed time when very young. We do this ourselves to be sure they respect and trust us building a better relationship with them. Since they are so small while with us, we leave the continued education up to the owner; as it is truly important that the family members each be very consistent in training their new bundle of joy, and that the puppy and/or dog has clear communication from all of its masters. Remember just like a child – if you apply a schedule and consistency with your new friend you will help training come along much easier.

**Q: *Should I purchase a small crate and/or medium sized crate for potty training and safety?*** A: Ideally it’s important to find a crate that suits the

size of your puppy while started in potty training. It must be big enough for them to turn around, sit up, and to lie down comfortably. You do not want it too big, as then it's easier for them to "soil" their crate and then move away from the mess. It's natural for them to want to sleep in a clean area, and if you are using the crate for "training" and as an "aide" in potty training, you would want something that's not too big and definitely not too small. There are crates that we recommend out there that are great for a growing puppy as they expand with their growth and you can adjust it. Sometimes 2 different size crates can be very helpful with the growth of your new puppy. Please also refer to our "crate training" sheet.

**Q: *Shall I crate him/her overnight while they are so young?*** **A:** We recommend gradually introducing your puppy to crate training. Start by placing them in the crate for a few hours at a time, adding an additional hour every few days. Avoid crating your puppy for extended periods, as this can affect their mental health, behavior, and even their kidney and bladder function.

Initially, your puppy might cry, but they will soon adapt and become more comfortable with the crate. Ensure the crate is placed in a safe, quiet area and make it as cozy as possible for them. For additional guidance, please refer to our "potty training" sheet.

**Q: *Are there any treats that you prefer for training?*** **A:** Small pieces of string cheese, cut into tiny slices, are excellent for training, as are small liver treats. You can find these treats at most pet stores and in small "milk carton" type boxes at local Wal-Mart stores. Just be sure not to overdo it with the daily treats.

**Q: *What type of foods do you recommend?*** Your puppy has been on an all natural dog food with no corn, wheat or soy to ensure a great start in life and boost immune system while growing. We recommend feeding a puppy food, and/or dog food that contains no corn, wheat or soy. Corn, wheat, and soy are mostly "filler" in foods that can be a high allergen for Corgis and can cause digestible problems and other health issues. Meat for the main ingredient is highly recommended. Try to avoid "Bone Meal", as this can overload the body with calcium build up. A rotation of feeds every 5 to 6 months that are similar in quality is recommended. At times with the ears

growing and going up and down with the growth spurts we will supplement in “flavorless gelatin” and/or NuVet plus wafers supplement to assist the ears in becoming strong and flawless to stand. We do recommend staying away from Chicken as a main meat ingredient as it can cause inflammation and digestion issues in a majority of Corgis over long periods of time.

**Q: *What are we currently feeding?*** A: Currently your puppy and or dog, is being fed one of the following feeds and/or feed that are similar. We feed Diamond Naturals “Lamb & Rice” all life stages food, Blue Buffalo, Taste Of The Wild, and other foods that are similar in protein and fat without the corn, wheat, and/or soy overload. Feel free to ask and inquire what we are currently feeding this particular litter and/or dog. You can usually find this product at a local “farm dealer” / “pet store” and if you can not; there are many comparable foods in Pet Stores. Just ask a rep at your store location, I’m sure they would gladly help you find something comparable. The amount you feed is on the back of the bag, and we recommend following that closely and watching your puppy’s and/or dogs weight as they grow to ensure they are getting enough, and are not being overfed.

**Q: *What about leashes and collars?*** A: We recommend for the first few weeks of teaching your puppy to lead and adapting your puppy to your new home and yard, using a small adjustable harness. They help the puppy and/or dog adapt to the pressure from all points, and are also a great preventative in keeping them from slipping through and getting into hazardous surroundings.

**Q: *Where are some places that I can purchase pet supplies online?*** A: You can get a variety of pet supplies from a few places online. We recommend using [www.jefferspet.com](http://www.jefferspet.com) and also [www.valleyvet.com](http://www.valleyvet.com) both of these places have comparable pricing and can save you time and money in saving you a trip to the local pet store. Although at times a drive to the Pet Store is needed into finding a “particular” fit for your new puppy and/or dog. The service there can also be very beneficial and helpful.

**Q: *How much will my puppy weigh at 8 and 9 weeks of age?*** A: Your puppy will weigh approx 6 to 9 lbs at 8 and/or 9 weeks of age.

*Q: Will it be okay to raise my new puppy with a cat in the house? A: While it's great for your puppy to be raised around another pet and/or cat in the house; It is very important at the same time you have a secluded area for your cat, (using a baby or pet gate) so the cat can get to its water, food, and litter box; making sure your puppy and/or dog can not. You do not want the puppy and/or dog eating the cat food and you definitely do not want it messing around in the litter box. Both of these things can be very harmful to your dog and/or puppy. A cat can easily jump over a (baby gate or pet gate) and you can fence off a small office room and/or bathroom in aiding to keep your puppy and/or dog from harms way.*

*Q: Is there something particularly I should do to help with my puppies ears?*

*A: A Corgi puppy's ears will come up and down throughout the growth spurts that they encounter. We do recommend you giving them "flavorless" gelatin over their food in very small amounts to help build up the cartilage during their growth spurts. Chew toys are very important to build up strength in the ears along with minimal play time from other pets that could cause the ears to flop around and/or break at the base.*

*Taking on a new puppy and/or dog is a "big" responsibility. We believe it takes a "full" dedication and effort to ensure the best life style possible for your new friend. Please let us know if you have any questions in regards to adopting and adjusting your home to your new bundle of joy. We would like this to be as smooth as possible, adjusting from our home to yours. Thank you for taking the time to read and understand the care and process of preparing for your new family member. Have a wonderful year!*