

Puppy Socialization Basics Checklist:

Pair all these items with plenty of praise, treats, and a slow introduction to make a positive experience and a happy dog

Surfaces:

- Metal
- Wet grass
- Pools
- Lakes
- Ocean
- Sand
- Wet Dirt
- Dry Dirt
- Concrete
- Mirrors
- Tile
- Carpet
- Manhole covers and street grills

Animals:

- Squirrels
- Cats
- Kittens
- Dogs
- Puppies
- Small Rodents
- Reptiles
- Rabbits
- As much variety as possible

Types of People:

- Infants
- Toddlers
- Adolescents
- Children
- Running/screaming/yelling people
- Strangers
- Relatives
- Large people and small people
- Men and women

Things that Make Noise:

- Vacuums (while in the same room)
- Thunder
- Crowds cheering and clapping
- Kitchen appliances
- Walking under/over bridges
- Trains
- Emergency vehicle sirens
- Lawn Mower
- Car horns
- Bells

- Loud music
- Smoke alarm
- Doors Closing
- Garbage truck
- Mailman coming
- Doorbell
- Fireworks
- Construction site

Environments:

- Elevators and stairs
- Meeting strangers on streets
- Meeting dogs on streets
- Cars in all busy highways, slow streets, cars in water, honking cars
- Fire, stoves, and ovens
- Pet stores with other animals
- Greeted by strangers
- Greeted by children

Activities:

- Treats and toys taken away
- Hands around their food bowl
- Food being taken away
- Hands giving treats, toys, or food
- Collar on and off
- Meeting other dogs for a playdate
- Dog clothes on and off
- Crate training
- Brooms being used
- Being examined
- Walking on a leash and off
- Having their face touched
- Paws squeeze, and toes manipulated
- Picked up
- Car rides to places other than the vet
- Visits to other homes
- Examining the mouth
- Teeth being brushed
- Ears being examined

Grooming:

- Nails clipped
- Bathing (in the tub, shower and outside)
- Pressure on muzzle
- Sound of hair clippers
- Items on feet
- Towelling after a bath