

PUPPY MILESTONES

What to expect when you're adopting



Congratulations on your new family member! If this is your first puppy or even if it's been awhile since you've had a really young one in the household, here are a few milestones to help you track your dog's progress. Keep in mind these are general guidelines and can vary based on your puppy's breed and other factors.

5 PUPPY MILESTONES

1 Whelp—A newborn puppy that lacks the ability to see, hear or regulate body temperature.



2 Neonate, 0 to 13 days—The pup cannot see, hear, regulate body temperature or eliminate

without stimulation and is totally dependent on its mom.



3 Transition period, 13 to 21 days—

The pup's eyes and ears gradually open, and it begins to hear and respond to taste and smell.

4 Awareness period, 21 to 23 days—The pup is able to use its senses of sight and hearing. Learning begins.



5 Canine socialization period, 3 to 7 weeks—

The pup learns specific behaviors that make it a dog such as barking, chasing, biting and body posturing. The pup also begins to eliminate on its own at 3 to 4 weeks.

DENTAL DETAILS



> 3 to 4 weeks—canine teeth start to erupt

> 4 to 6 weeks—full temporary teeth erupt

> 3 to 5 months—permanent teeth begin to replace temporary teeth

> 7 months—full permanent teeth have erupted

LIFE STAGES

