



# *PBGVCA Puppy Packet*

*By PBGVCA*

*2021*

## PBGVCA Puppy Packet

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Meet:		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Born:	At:	Weight:
Register Name:		
AKC #:		Microchip #:
Initial Shot Records		
TYPE	DATEs	
Initial Tests		
TYPE	DATEs	
Other Information		
Breeder		
Owners		

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### ABOUT THE BREED

“The low-slung, shaggy-coated Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen is a vivacious French rabbit-hunting hound known for a happy demeanor and durable constitution. Bred to work in a pack, PBGVs enjoy company and do well with other dogs and kids.

A loose translation of the name describes the dog well: Petit (small), Basset (low), Griffon (shaggy), Vendeen (from the Vendee region of France). Put it all together and you have a diminutive hound, standing 13 to 15 inches at the shoulder, with strong legs and a rough tousled coat, bred to hunt rabbits on the rugged west coast of France. Other distinctive features of these little extroverts are a proudly carried head, a saber tail, and a loud, hound bark.”<sup>1</sup>

### THE CONTRACT

Although you are bringing a new life into your family, the process starts as a business arrangement. You will most likely sign a contract with the breeder that defines your relationship with the breeder.

<sup>2</sup>For example, you may be required to register the puppy with the AKC. In this case, don’t be surprised if the breeder may insist their kennel name is the beginning of your puppy’s official name. If you are purchasing a show quality puppy, you may be required to attempt to earn a conformation title. In this case, the breeder may be listed as an owner until the title is earned. In addition, if for whatever reason you are unable to keep your puppy, there may be a provision in the contract that requires you to return the puppy to the breeder. More about this under Estate Planning.

### YOU GET THE PUPPY YOU RAISE!!!

Puppies are amazing. With very little effort on their part, they have you trained. You learn their little tells: “I need to go outside to go to the bathroom!” “Don’t I get my treat now that we’ve taken our walk?” And they train you without raising their voice, without using foul language, and certainly without any sort of physical correction.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Dog Breed Information (<https://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/petit-basset-griffon-vendeen/>)

<sup>2</sup> PBGVCA Breeder’s Tool Chest sample paperwork;  
<https://pbgv.org/tools/paperwork.shtml>

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Learn from your puppy. If you do not like something your puppy is doing, take steps right away to alter that behavior. They won't simply "grow out of it." Similarly, if your puppy is behaving the way you like it to, you need to find ways to reinforce that behavior. It is said that dogs are the only animal that will love you more than it loves itself. They want to please you. Capitalize on this!

### UNDERSTANDING YOUR PUPPY'S DEVELOPMENT

Like any living being, your puppy will grow and develop right before your eyes. Knowing what is considered normal development helps you determine if you need to have your puppy evaluated. A great resource can be found at <https://www.akc.org/subscribe/pupdate>.

Every week the AKC will alert you to how your puppy should be developing, what changes you should be seeing and how you should be reacting.

About 1-2 weeks: puppy's eyes should open

About 4 weeks: puppy should begin to walk

Between 6 and 9 weeks: puppy should begin the core vaccine with follow ups at appropriate times. [Please see Dr. Jean Dodd's Recommended Vaccination Schedule PDF sent with this document. **You should always discuss with your vet what vaccinations are appropriate for your region of the country.**]

Some breeders might have the puppy microchipped prior to your acquiring your pet. If this is the case, make sure you have the chip information transferred into your name.

Depending on when you pick up your puppy, you will want to make sure to complete the vaccine sequence. **Make sure you receive your puppy's shot records and/or chip information.**

## SOCIALIZING YOUR PUPPY

Don't be surprised if you find you really have two puppies. One is the puppy that feels safe and secure because it is just the two of you; and the other is the puppy that is trying to understand the world outside your home with all of its interesting people and other animals. Cynophobia is the fear of dogs. Keep in mind, your puppy may suffer from Anthropophobia: the fear of people. Just because your dog enjoys playing with you, it may not enjoy meeting others

A great resource of helping people approach your puppy can be found at <https://www.gopetfriendly.com/blog/11-tips-for-greeting-a-strange-dog/>.

You are your dog's protector. Do not be afraid to be very direct with family, friends, and strangers on how they could approach your puppy. Very direct. The more comfortable your puppy is around people, the easier it will be for you to travel with your four-legged family member.

## CRATE TRAINING

The crate does not have to be a prison. The crate does not have to be punishment. Rather, a crate can be a sanctuary for your puppy. The crate can be the puppy's own safe space. Remember, dogs are den animals. So an enclosed environment may be exactly what your puppy needs. Visit <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/how-to-crate-train-your-dog-in-9-easy-steps/>.

The crate will give you piece of mind when you have to leave your dog alone for a few hours, that they will not harm themselves roaming around the house. Again, a dog cannot be trusted any more than a three-year old with household items. The crate keeps them safe. Of course, if you do have a dog in a crate, in case of fire, you need to make sure the fire department understands that your dog is locked in a crate.

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That way they will make every effort to rescue your dog. Otherwise, they will assume that, like people, a loose dog will try to escape by any means possible.

### TRAVELING WITH YOUR PUPPY

Getting your new family member acclimated to riding in car is very important. Whether you are planning a longer car ride or simply taking your puppy to the park or the veterinarians' office, the more comfortable your dog is in the car, the better the ride will be for all parties. Seat restraints or crates are better than letting your dog run free. Also, when your dog is in the car, it should be wearing a collar with your contact information. If you are in an accident and your dog gets free, your dog cannot be returned to you until you are contacted. Keep in mind, if your dog is chipped, you can only be contacted once your dog is found and taken to a facility with the capability of reading the chip. If your dog has a collar with your contact information, as soon as it is found, you can be contacted.

### FINDING A VETERINARIAN FOR YOUR PUPPY

On a list of very important decisions, you will need to make on behalf of your puppy, selecting a vet is second to none. Where is the vet located? What are the clinic hours? How do they treat emergencies? How readily can you get an appointment? Do you like the person? Is your puppy comfortable there? And, if for whatever reason you are not comfortable using a particular clinic, do not be afraid to change clinics.

An excellent resource can be found at  
<https://pets.webmd.com/finding-right-vet-pet>.

Your vet can help you with everything from routine health checks to knowing the right food to serve your dog. Keep in mind, vets will often ask about your dog's appetite. If you elect to free feed – leaving a bowl of food out at all times – you may

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not be able to honestly answer that question. You may find it better to create a regular feeding schedule so that you are better equipped to know if your puppy's appetite has changed.

In addition to your schedule of shots, you should, in consultation with your vet, have your dog's eyes checked regularly. Getting the "all clear" from your vet will give you peace of mind. But if there is a problem, the sooner eye problems are detected, the sooner they can be treated.

You also need to be ever mindful of foods that can be dangerous for your pet. Small amounts of chocolate, onions, macadamia nuts and bread dough can be fatal if ingested by a dog. For a more complete list of dangerous foods for your dog, please visit: Dangerous Foods for Dogs – American Kennel Club (akc.org).<sup>3</sup>

The Center receives no state or federal funding, therefore it is necessary to charge a \$45.00 fee to maintain their expert veterinary staff 24 hours a day.

In an emergency, pet owners can call 1-900-680-0000 or 1-888-426-4435, The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, the nation's only animal poison control center staffed by veterinarians and veterinary toxicologists that operates 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week.

## TOYS

If you have had dogs in the past, you know that not all toys are created equal. Your breeder will have recommendations for you about the types of toys that seem to be better. Your puppy needs to understand the difference between what is a toy (that which can be played with) and what is not a toy (new shoes, clothing, etc.)

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<sup>3</sup> Dangerous Foods for Dogs – American Kennel Club;  
<https://pbgv.org/tools/paperwork.shtml>

## GROOMING AND GROOMING SUPPLIES

If your breeder does not already have a list of grooming supplies that you need, make sure you ask. As a hound dog, it is very important to keep their ears clear of anything that could result in an infection. Also, dogs rarely like to have their feet touched; however, keeping the pads clean is important. You might want to get your puppy on a grooming table as soon as possible to start getting used to grooming. Placing them on the table and gently lifting each paw while you massage it, could help later on when you start grooming for real. Because regular grooming can enhance the health of your puppy, training them to see the grooming table as a positive adventure rather than something to fear will pay off in the long run.

Oral health is as important to dogs as it is to humans. The earlier you start your puppy getting used to having its teeth brushed, the better off you will be in the long run. A couple of things to keep in mind: use toothpaste developed for canines, not human toothpaste; for smaller dogs, fingertip brushes work well – for larger dogs you'll need a longer-handled brush to effectively reach the back teeth. An excellent source on brushing your dog's teeth is

<https://pets.webmd.com/dogs/ss/slideshow-brushing-dog-teeth>.

## ESTATE PLANNING

What is often the case when we acquire our new puppy is that we will survive the puppy. Our life expectancy is generally greater than that of our new puppy. There are situations where the owner predeceases the puppy. What happens then? Under the terms of your contract, returning the puppy to the breeder may be your first option. You may have family that would like to bring the puppy into their home. Again, check with the contract to see if this is an option. It is incumbent on you to make provisions for your puppy in the case you

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predecease the puppy. Make sure your family knows your wishes. Keep in mind that your Will does not get read until the estate is probated. This could take quite a bit of time.

1. Check the contract to see if returning the puppy to the breeder is required.
2. Secure a home for your puppy with family or a friend.
3. Contact PBGVCA Rescue to place the puppy into a new, loving home
4. Please, please, please do not have the puppy placed in a shelter. The PBGV community stands ready to assist you if you are unable to place the puppy yourself.

## Appendix A

### Finding your puppy's vital signs

*(Source: How To Check Your Dog's Pulse, Respiration, and Temperature, Jan. 8, 2020; <https://www.gopetfriendly.com/blog/how-to-check-your-dogs-pulse-respiration-and-temperature> )*

### **Checking Your Dog's Vital Signs**

The basic vital signs to check are your dog's pulse, respiration, temperature, and capillary refill time. We'll explain what they are and how you measure each one.

#### **Respiration**

To determine your dog's respiratory rate, you're simply counting the number of breaths your dog takes in a minute. To determine your dog's respiratory rate, follow these steps:

Observe or place your hand over your dog's chest to count the number of times the chest rises (inhales) and falls (exhales). Each rise/fall combination counts as one breath.

Count the breaths for 30 seconds and multiply by two to get the respiratory rate in breaths per minute.

A normal respiratory rate for small dogs is between 20 and 40 breaths per minute. Larger dogs will have a slower respiratory rate, usually between 10 to 30 breaths per minute.

Dogs in distress could breathe faster or slower than their normal rate. For example, dogs in pain or with a fever might pant (breathe faster than normal). And a dog whose respiratory rate has decreased significantly could be in shock.

#### **Temperature**

Your dog's body heat cannot be accurately gauged by feeling your dog's nose or belly. To get a good measurement, you'll need a digital thermometer. One made for humans is fine, just

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be sure you keep your dog's thermometer in a separate place from others in your home. You wouldn't want to grab the wrong one in a feverish haze!

To check your dog's temperature, follow these steps:

After lubricating the tip of a digital thermometer with a petroleum or water soluble jelly, move your dog's tail up and to the side to prevent him from sitting.

Insert a thermometer  $\frac{1}{2}$ "-1" into the dog's rectum and wait for the thermometer to beep, according to instructions.

Your dog's temperature should be between 100.4° F and 102.5° F (38° C-39.16° C). But, just like humans, dog's normal temperatures can vary, and even be different at different times of the day! So it's important to know your dog's healthy temperature for comparison.

Fluctuations in your dog's temperature (either up or down) can be serious. If your dog is experiencing either a higher than normal or lower than normal temperature, it's best to phone your veterinarian to discuss the appropriate treatment.

### **Pulse**

Your dog's pulse is the rhythmic movement of blood through his arteries. As his heart beats, the blood flows (pulses) through the vessels. You can measure your dog's pulse by following these steps:

Place the ball of two fingers (not your thumb) on the depression found in your dog's inner upper thigh, over the Femoral artery. It might take a little searching around to find it the first time – don't give up!

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For smaller pets, placing your hand over the left side of the dog's chest just behind the elbow might also allow you to feel the heartbeat.

Count the beats for 30 seconds and multiply by two to get the pulse rate in beats per minute.

The normal pulse rate for small dogs will range between 90 and 160 beats per minute. Larger dogs will have a lower normal pulse rate, usually between 65 and 90 beats per minute.

### **Hydration**

We all know that dehydration is a serious condition that affects pets as well as humans. Here we're measuring the moisture in your pet's body, which should be about 70% of his body weight. Follow these steps to determine if your pet could be dehydrated:

Carefully lift your dog's lip/flews at the side of his mouth. (Lifting from the front of the mouth is uncomfortable for many breeds).

If the gums are sloppy wet, he is well hydrated. But if his gums are dry or sticky he may be slightly dehydrated. Encourage him to drink.

If your dog's gums are dry or sticky, his eyes are sunken, his skin remains in a peak when gently grabbed at the shoulders, or he's lethargic, your pet could be severely dehydrated and in need of immediate veterinary care.

### **Capillary Refill Time (CRT)**

To check your dog's circulation, you'll need to determine his capillary refill time. This is measured by following these steps:

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Again, carefully lift your dog's lip. Then press gently on top gum above the teeth with the ball of your finger until gum turns white.

When you release the pressure, the color should return to the gums in 1-2 seconds. Capillary refill time indicates whether your dog's circulation is sufficient to send blood to his extremities.

If it takes longer than 2 seconds for color to return to your dog's gums, your pet needs immediate veterinary care. As you drive him to the vet, cover him with a light blanket to preserve body heat. If he's not bleeding from an injury, you can also slightly elevate his hind quarters to promote circulation to his vital organs.

Gum color is also a good indicator of overall health. Gums that are pink indicate a normal, healthy pet (unless the gums normally have a dark pigment). Pale or white gums could indicate anemia, blood loss, or poor circulation. Blue or grey gums could indicate lack of oxygen. And yellow gums could indicate liver disease or zinc toxicity. In any of these last three cases, your pet needs immediate veterinary care.

### **Weight**

Your pet's body weight is another important factor in determining his health. Specifically, be on the lookout for sudden increases or decreases in your pet's weight.

For large dogs, body weight is best measured on the scale at your veterinarian's office.

Small dogs can be weighed on your bathroom scale. Hold your dog and note your combined weight. Then immediately set you dog down and weigh yourself. The difference between the two is your dog's weight.

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Knowing your dog's precise weight is imperative before administering treatment or medication. The smaller the pet, the more critical it becomes. Even being off by a pound could result in an overdose.

Unfortunately, so many pets are overweight that it can be difficult to recognize a dog's healthy body shape. It might be easier for you to judge by feel.

If your dog is at a healthy weight, you should be able to feel his ribs but not see them. (Of course, super-lean breeds like Greyhounds and Ridgebacks are an exception.) When viewed from the side, your dog's belly should tuck up higher than his chest. And, looking down at your dog's back, you should see a slight waistline. If you think your pet may overweight, speak with your veterinarian about a healthy way to help him drop some pounds.

**Knowing what is normal for your pet will help you determine when something isn't right. So, practice checking your dog's pulse, respiration, and temperature and keep track of the results. Then, whether it's an allergic reaction, injury, or illness, you'll be prepared to assess your dog's condition and help him recover.**

## Appendix B

### Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications That Can be Safe for Dogs

*(Source: Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications That Can be Safe for Dogs; By Malcolm Weir, DVM, MSc, MPH; Lynn Buzhardt, DVM Care & Wellness, Pet Services; <https://vcahospitals.com/know-your-pet/are-over-the-counter-medications-safe-for-my-dog>)*

It is always best to talk to your veterinary healthcare professional before giving any over-the-counter medications to your dog for several reasons.

First, since human doses and doses for dogs are different, you need to know the correct dose to administer. Second, drug interactions can be dangerous so your veterinarian should review your dog's medical record to prevent any adverse events. Third, many over-the-counter (OTC) medications are NOT safe for dogs. Do not assume that drugs are safe for your dog just because they can be purchased without a prescription; making that assumption can lead to toxic effects.

**Antihistamines.** Diphenhydramine (Benadryl®), cetirizine (Zyrtec®), and loratadine (Claritin®) are commonly used antihistamines that relieve allergy symptoms or counteract allergic reactions. Antihistamines are usually safe but can make some dogs drowsy and others hyperactive. OTC antihistamine preparations may contain other ingredients such as decongestants that are not safe for dogs. Read the label carefully to ensure that the product only contains antihistamine. Check with your veterinary healthcare team to make sure that the antihistamine you have is suitable for your dog.

**Antidiarrheals/Antinauseants.** Bismuth subsalicylate (Pepto-Bismol®) is commonly kept in medicine cabinets for

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digestive upsets and can be administered to your dog. If your dog has never taken it before, check with your veterinary healthcare team before dosing. It can be dosed at 1 teaspoon for 5-10 pounds of body weight to treat both diarrhea and vomiting. But if your dog vomits up the Pepto-Bismol, call your veterinarian.

Kaopectate® is another anti-diarrheal that is typically safe and soothes upset stomachs. But at a dose of 1 ml per pound, a large dog needs a lot of Kaopectate. Your veterinarian can prescribe a medication designed for dogs.

Loperamide (Imodium®). This medication is a good treatment for diarrhea in a pinch and should be safe for your dog if dosed at 1 mg per 20 pounds of body weight. Only give one dose. If the diarrhea does not resolve, contact your veterinarian. Accurate diagnosis of the cause of the diarrhea will allow targeted treatment of the problem.

Famotidine (Pepcid AC®) and cimetidine (Tagamet®). These medications are used by to treat or prevent heartburn in people, and they work on dogs too. By decreasing the production of gastrointestinal acids, these medications can make dogs feel better. It is okay to use them intermittently for dietary indiscretions, but if your dog's stomach issues persist, see your veterinarian to determine the underlying problem.

**Steroid sprays, gels, and creams.** OTC steroid preparations contain a lower percentage of active ingredients than prescription steroids and are usually very safe. The upside is that they decrease the itchiness of insect bites and hot spots. The downside is that steroids can delay healing especially if the wound is infected. If your dog's wound does not look better after a couple of applications, have it evaluated by your veterinarian.

**Topical antibiotic ointment.** Neosporin® is a common topical antibiotic used on minor cuts and scrapes. This ointment is pretty safe in dogs and should be in every first aid kit. Verify that the ointment only contains antibiotic and not steroids, which can actually delay healing. Make sure to clean your dog's wound before applying the antibiotic ointment and cover the wound so your dog does not lick the ointment off.

**Anti-fungal sprays, gels, and creams.** Most fungal infections are too complicated to be successfully treated with OTC products; however, you may use them until you can get your dog to a veterinary clinic. Since some fungal infections can be transmitted from pets to humans, it is important to treat these types of infections quickly and effectively.

**Hydrogen peroxide.** Hydrogen peroxide can be used topically to clean out a superficial flesh wound and can also be given orally to induce vomiting if your dog ingests something he should not have (i.e., your medications, rodenticides, toxic plants). However, vomiting may cause more harm than good, so PRIOR to giving an oral dose of hydrogen peroxide, contact your veterinarian, or emergency veterinary hospital before you give your dog an oral dose and to find out how much to give.

**Mineral oil.** This relatively benign liquid has a variety of uses. You can place a couple of drops in your dog's eyes before giving him a bath to avoid irritation from soap.

**Artificial tears.** If your dog squints or blinks excessively, he may have dry eyes or could have a bit of dust or debris in them. Even the tiniest speck in your eye is annoying and dry eyes are irritating. Sometimes a little lubricating eye drop is all that is needed to clear debris out. However, if your dog continues to squint or blink, take him to your veterinarian right away. He may have an eye infection, a scratch on his

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cornea, or a foreign body that needs to be removed. If your dog's eyes look red or swollen, or if you notice a discharge, contact your veterinarian immediately. Quick response time will relieve your dog's discomfort and may prevent permanent vision loss.

## Appendix C

### Caring for your dog: Ear treatment solutions

*(Source: PBGV-L; Caring for your dog: Ear treatment solutions;  
<http://pbgvl.com/ears.htm> )*

#### **Blue Power Ear Treatment**

(Passed on by Pat Etchells, a Cocker breeder, who recommends warming up the solution before putting it in the ear by placing it in a cup of very warm water for about a half hour or so.)

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 16 Oz. Isopropyl Alcohol
- 4 Tablespoons Boric Acid Powder
- 16 Drops Gentian Violet Solution 1%

Mix together in alcohol bottle and shake well. You will also need to shake solution every time you use it to disperse the Boric Acid Powder. To use, purchase the "Clairol" type plastic bottle to dispense solution to affected ears.

**TREATMENT:** Evaluate condition of ears before treating and if very inflamed and sore do not attempt to pull hair or clean out ear at all. Wait until inflammation has subsided which will be about 2 days.

Shake the bottle each time before using. Flood the ear with solution (gently squirt bottle), massage gently to the count of 60, wipe with a tissue. Flood again on first treatment, wipe with a tissue, and leave alone without massage. The dog will shake out the excess which can be wiped with a tissue, the Gentian Violet does stain fabrics.

#### **SCHEDULE OF TREATMENT**

Treat 2x per day for the first week to two weeks depending upon severity of ears

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Treat 1x per day for the next 1-2 weeks  
Treat 1x per month (or even less frequently,  
depending on the dog)

All of these ingredients should be available at a pharmacy. The Boric Acid Powder soothes the ear. The Gentian Violet Solution is an anti-infection agent. The solution appears to work well on any and all ear problems from mites to wax to canker. After the second or third you can clean out the ear with a Q-tip or cotton balls. Their success rate for this treatment is 95-99%. Those who do not succeed have usually not done the treatment long enough or have not been regular about it.

Dogs on the verge of ear canal surgery have been returned to normal with only the regular follow-up treatment to keep the ear healthy. If an infection seems to be remaining in the treated ear after the above course of treatment, you may also have some Pseudomonas bacteria in the site. This can be eradicated by using a gentle flush of raw apple cider vinegar and water (warm). Use 2 Tablespoons of vinegar to one cup of water, 2x per week.

They have found the Blue Power Solution to be effective for treating fungus-type infections on the feet and elsewhere on the dog, for cuts on dogs or people, and for hot spots. You may find other uses for this simple anti-infective agent. Remember it is for external use only and be careful not to get into the eyes.

### **Domes Solution**

(This one comes from a retired vet, who says it has to be applied at least every other day to be effective. Keeping the ear clean and free from bacteria is the main purpose of cleansing the ears of any long-eared dog.)

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- 1 tablet or 1 package (1 oz.) of Domes (Domeboro) powder
- 3 parts white vinegar (3 ozs.)
- 1 part alcohol (1 oz)

Combine ingredients, add enough water to make a pint. Use water that has been boiled at least 5 minutes, but cool the water before making the solution. Pour some of this solution into the ear, rub gently, and swab with cotton.

## Appendix D

### Housebreaking Your New Puppy

*(Source: Dog Breed Info; Potty Train your Dog in 6 Days;  
<https://www.dogbreedinfo.com/housebreaking.htm> )*

Housebreaking your new puppy is going to take patience. You should begin to housebreak as soon as you bring your new puppy home. Puppies need to relieve themselves approximately six times a day. A puppy should be taken out immediately after each meal since a full stomach puts pressure on the colon and bladder.

A puppy is not physically able to control the muscle that allows him to "hold it" until he is about 12 weeks of age. Before this time, good housebreaking routines should be practiced to avoid having your puppy urinate and defecate all over your house. Watch for signs of urination or defecation, such as turning in circles. Take your puppy out often. Using a crate or confining your puppy to a small part of the house that has easy clean up floors are some ways to ensure your puppy does not urinate all over your house. It is much harder to housebreak a puppy if he smells his urine in places you do not wish him to relieve himself.

#### **Understanding your puppy or dog:**

There are many different methods in which you can housebreak your pet. Whichever way you choose, it is important to understand your puppy. Dogs want to please; the trick is to make them understand what it is you want from them.

Dogs do not think the way humans do. When you are unhappy with your dog, it assumes that whatever it is doing at the exact moment you show disapproval - is the thing that is upsetting you. For example:

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if your puppy relieves himself on your floor and you show your disapproval five minutes after he has committed the act, the puppy will think that the mess on the floor is bad. He will not relate to the fact that it was the act of relieving himself on your floor that you disapprove of. The dog will eliminate, see the mess and get worried; you are now going to be unhappy. This is the reason so many dogs will relieve themselves in inappropriate places and look really guilty about it, yet they continue to do it. Dogs want to please, right?

Some owners start to think that their dog is being sneaky when really it does not fully understand what it is doing wrong. It knows the mess upsets you but does not understand that it should stop making the mess. To your dog, these two things:

- the mess,
- and the act,

are unrelated. The trick is to catch your dog in the act and make him understand. You do not need to hit your dog. The tone of your voice is enough to make the dog see you are unhappy. A firm "No! You are not allowed to go in the house. No! No!" is all that is needed. Immediately take your dog outside to the appropriate place. Wait for your dog to go again and when and if he does, praise him. Important: Always praise your dog after he eliminates in the appropriate place.

### **Crate Training:**

You must be willing to invest time and energy for just a few short weeks in housetraining. The effort you put in now will last for the rest of your pet's life.

The best method we have found for housebreaking is a method called crate training. Buy a crate and for the first 3 to 4 weeks keep your puppy in it when you are not with him. Make sure the crate is not too big. It should be large enough for the

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puppy's bed, but no larger. Because dogs are den animals, they do not want to soil their bed and the use of a crate teaches them to control their urge to eliminate. You must maintain an eagle eye at all times. As soon as you see him pacing, sniffing around, and turning in circles, immediately take him outside. He is telling you "I am going to go pee pee somewhere, and this carpet looks like as good a place as any." NO, you do not have time to put on your shoes, just go.

Be patient and do not rush the little guy. He may have to go several times in one "pit stop." Give him about 10 minutes before taking him back inside. Do not play with him while you are on this mission. Let him know this is a business trip.

**Make sure you take him out** after every meal and play session BEFORE you put him back in his crate. Be consistent and establish a schedule. Pay attention to your puppy's behavior so you can develop a schedule that works for you and the pup. When does your puppy naturally defecate? In the morning? 10 minutes after eating? Around bedtime? You may have to make some compromises.

Be fair to your puppy. He cannot be expected to stay alone in his crate for endless hours and not relieve himself. During your work days, you will need to have someone go to your home at least once (lunch time is good) to let the puppy out.

Make sure everyone who is involved in the housebreaking process is using the same spot in the yard and the same word. Everyone should agree on the place they will take the puppy. The odor from the previous visits will cause the puppy to want to go in that spot. Use a simple word like "outside" when taking your puppy to the chosen spot. Use this word consistently and later this word will help build communication between the family and the dog. When you notice him going toward the door and you say "outside" he can say "Yup, that's

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where I need to go," or, "Forget it. I am getting back up on the couch for some shut eye."

Until your puppy is about 5 months old you will need to take him out frequently and keep that eagle eye on him. But before you know it, you are going to be able to trust and communicate with your new pet. And he will learn that when he pleases you by going out to do his business, he gets more freedom in the house.

### **Paper Training:**

If your puppy is a breed that stays small and it is going to be an indoor pet, you may want to try paper training. Place layered newspaper in the corner away from the feeding and water dishes. After meals take the puppy to the newspaper. Each time the puppy eliminates, change the top layer of newspaper and leave the bottom layer. Puppies like to go where they smell urine and feces and will start to prefer the newspaper over any other spot.

### **Important:**

Remain consistent. Do not allow your puppy to do something one day and not the next. This will confuse him. Never leave an untrained puppy unattended in the house. Make your dog understand what is expected of him. Dogs want to please. Always praise your dog for good behavior. No form of physical punishment is as effective as praise and encouragement.

## Appendix E

### Does Your Puppy Bark Too Much?

*(Source: PetPlace; Barking on Vacation;  
<https://www.petplace.com/article/dogs/pet-care/barking-on-vacation/> Note: a pop-up window will appear, just hit the ESC on your keyboard.)*

Taking your dog on vacation can be a pleasant and enjoyable experience but if your dog is prone to excessive barking, other vacationers may not have as good a time. In addition, your dog's barking could be the main cause of a vacation spot requesting that you do not visit again.

Excessive barking is a common canine behavior problem that can lead to sleepless nights for the dog's owners, frustration, angry neighbors and even eviction from your vacation area.

There are many reasons why dogs bark excessively. Some of these include:

- Separation anxiety. Dogs that become anxious when separated from their owners often vocalize excessively. They may also become destructive or eliminate in the hotel room. The barking usually begins at or shortly after the owner's departure, and may be continuous or intermittent for several hours. This type of barking only occurs in the owner's absence, and is usually predictable (i.e., it occurs consistently when owner leaves).
- Reaction to specific stimuli. Some dogs bark in response to certain exciting stimuli, such as passing tourists, loose dogs or cats, squirrels, or unfamiliar noises. This type of barking may be merely an arousal response or a combination of alerting, protective, or fearful behaviors. Unlike dogs with separation anxiety,

these dogs will often bark regardless of owner's presence, and the barking stops when the stimulus is removed.

- Attention seeking. Many dogs bark because they have been inadvertently rewarded for barking by being given attention or praise (i.e. telling them "it's okay") by their owners. Dogs may bark at their owners to get what they want or when they are being ignored. This type of barking is sometimes associated with other annoying behaviors such as pawing or jumping up.
- Play behavior. Barking can be a normal component of play, and can be directed towards people, other animals, or toys. It can also occur as a learned behavior. For example, the dog drops a ball in the owner's lap and barks. The owner throws the ball to stop the barking. The dog has learned to bark to get the owner to throw the ball.
- Medical problems. Older dogs that suffer from deafness, or canine cognitive dysfunction or other brain disease may bark excessively. Dogs that are in pain will also bark.

### **Treatment**

Vacation is not the time to begin treatment for excessive barking. This behavior problem should be resolved before even considering taking your dog with you. If your dog develops a barking behavior problem during your vacation, you may not be able to leave your dog alone or else you'll have to find a quiet, secluded area to continue your vacation. This way, other travelers won't have their holiday ruined.

As with any training program, be consistent and clear about just what you want your dog to do. If you tell him to be quiet, you must then enforce what you've instructed. It doesn't work to yell "quiet" from three rooms away and then continue to

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talk on the telephone as your dog rants and raves at the window.

Instead, consider keeping your dog on an indoor leash and having him by your side at potentially problematic times. When you see he's about to bark, pick up on the lead and tell him to sit. Better yet, pair the lead with a head halter – which gently pulls the dog's head up, closing his mouth. When he stops barking, release the tension on the lead and praise him. An extra reward e.g., a “shush cookie” — will emphasize your appreciation.

If your dog constantly demands your undivided attention, consider ignoring his demands — consistently — for a week. Try standing up and walking away whenever he starts to bark. This form of training, resulting in gradual “extinction of barking” - is very effective because it removes all rewards that, until now, were reinforcing the behavior. Keep in mind that scolding or brief eye contact can be interpreted by your dog as a reward; try to show no response at all. You can take this training a step further by giving your dog attention, such as petting, only when he is quiet. With patience, you can change many kinds of learned behavior through the process of extinction.

### **More Ways to Abate a Bark**

Sometimes you can cut down on the noise of barking with an anti-bark collar. These collars are most useful for dogs that bark when their owners are away and can't correct them with voice commands. However, don't use one with a dog that shows signs of anxiety; it will only make the problem worse. When left on their own, for example, some dogs become extremely stressed, and act out that behavior by barking non-stop. In that case, the dog should be treated for the underlying

cause of the problem – separation anxiety – not just his barking.

Anti-bark collars utilize ultrasound, electric shock, and vibrating devices – most work by punishing him when he barks. Electric shock may be effective, but are viewed by many as inhumane; other types of collars that do not rely on inflicting pain are more acceptable. Recently, an anti-bark collar containing citronella oil, its spray triggered by barking, has become available and can be an effective tool for distracting the dog (available from Animal Behavior Systems, Inc., Tampa, Fla.). Remember that some anti-bark collars can be triggered by dogs other than the ones wearing them resulting in inappropriate punishment. These collars are not appropriate in multi-dog homes in which other barking dogs dwell.

Luckily, most dogs will respond to one or other intervention to curtail their barking. Whether you simply bring an outdoor dog inside (which should calm the neighbors) or take the time to apply behavior-modification techniques, you can cause a dog to be less of a nuisance and to be more socially acceptable.

## Appendix F

### Nail clipping can be easier

*(Source: Dog Owners Guide: Nail clippin can be easier;  
<http://canismajor.com/dog/nailsv.html>*

#### **Proper training can reduce the stress**

**Q:** We have a large dog and when we try to clip his nails, he becomes very upset and tries to bite. We've tried to give treats, give lots of praise and make it a pleasant experience but it doesn't help. A friend of mine gives her dogs a tranquilizer when she wants to cut their nails and I've been thinking about trying that, too. Do you have any ideas?

**A:** Since individual dogs vary a great deal in their reactions to tranquilizers, I'm not in favor of their use at home without the direct supervision of a veterinarian. Few dogs enjoy nail cutting but most, with training, will learn to allow their nails to be cut without a major struggle.

Start out with a sharp nail clipper and a helper whose pockets have been filled with extra-special treats. Bits of hot dog or shredded cheese work well! Most people use the single-bladed "guillotine" type clipper. I prefer the kind that looks like a little pliers and has two blades, top and bottom. It cuts faster with less effort. I replace mine every year (they're inexpensive) to make sure they're always sharp. The sharper they are, the less they pinch the nail during the cut.

Dogs feel most confident and in control when they're on the ground because that's their primary domain. I like to put a reluctant or uncooperative dog up on a grooming table or other raised surface with my helper supervising the dog's

head. Your assistant doesn't have to hold his head still (this often causes dogs to struggle more), just keep him occupied by tempting him with treats and prevent him from turning around or jumping off the table. I start with the rear feet - dogs seem to be better about these, perhaps because they can't see what you're doing.

We'll do the right rear foot first. I stand at the dog's side, next to his rump, with my back to his head. I grasp the dog's ankle (just above the paw) from the front with my left hand (I'm righthanded), lift the foot and turn the paw backward so that the pads are facing up. The bend of the dog's ankle is cradled in my palm. Your grip should be firm: the dog shouldn't be able to pull his foot out of your hand. They seem to try harder to get away if your grip is tentative or delicate.

The dog is going to try to pull away, at least at the early stages of this training, and I'm very clear that I expect him to stand there nicely. He's corrected in a stern voice "NO! BEHAVE!" but don't let go of his foot while you correct. The person at the dog's head should be reinforcing you by repeating the same thing, making eye contact with the dog and keeping his head from turning around. (Growling or trying to bite shouldn't be tolerated. If you let him frighten you with this behavior, he'll only get worse.) It may take a minute or two just to get the dog to tolerate your holding his foot but be very firm about — keep your voice low, deep and calm and use a tone that shows him you do not intend to compromise. Do not ask him to cooperate — tell him! As with so many other things with dogs, it comes down to a battle of wills. If your will is stronger, almost all of them give in eventually. Reward with treats and praise for good behavior.

Some of the more resourceful dogs will try to make you think you're killing them and will even scream to convince you.

Don't believe him — you're not hurting him at all. You're just holding his foot, for criminy's sake!

With the dog's ankle cradled in your palm and pads facing up as described above, use your fingers to spread his toes and push the nail you want to clip upward into view. For these first few sessions — this is important — just nip the very tip of the nail with the clipper so that there's no way you're going to cut too far and hurt him. It means that you're going to have to live with longer nails for a while, but it's critical for the dog to learn that nail cutting might be uncomfortable but it doesn't hurt. After you've nipped the first nail, praise him and give a treat (but don't let go of his foot!) and move on to the next toe.

When you've finished the entire foot (it might take a little while during these first sessions), put it down and make a big fuss over him, lots of praise and treats. Depending on how the dog is handling this so far, you can either start on the next foot or take him off the table for now and work on him some more later in the day. I usually cut nails as part of routine grooming. With a reluctant dog, I'll do one foot, brush awhile, do another foot, brush some more and continue in this way until all four feet are done.

Front feet are done similarly to the rear ones: standing at the dog's shoulder and looking toward his tail, pick up the forefoot at the ankle and turn the foot so the pads are facing up. Most people stand in front of the dog, pull the leg forward and try to hang on to the paw. This just doesn't work with a reluctant dog and seems to make them want to pull their foot away all the more.

Many dogs object to nail cutting because someone has clipped their nails too short in the past and hurt them. Unlike our toenails, dogs' toenails have a nerve and a blood vein inside them. When cut too short, it causes pain and bleeding. The

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entire nail isn't sensitive, though; there's an easily seen distinction between the "live" part of the nail (the part that can bleed) and the "dead" section, the part which has no nerve or vein. If you only cut the "dead" section of the nail, you will not hurt the dog or make it bleed.

The live area in toenails that are white or very light colored is easy to determine. The section with the nerve and vein is pink while the dead part is white. Most dogs, though, have black toenails making it impossible to see where one area ends and the other begins. By holding the foot with the pads facing up, as described in the paragraphs above, it's easy to see this distinction no matter what color your dog's nails are. Along the bottom side of the nail, you'll see a groove. It begins at the tip of the toenail, where its outline is very sharp, deep and distinct. The groove continues toward the toe, becoming wider and shallower until its outline blends in with the rest of the nail and seems to disappear. The part of the toenail with a deep, distinct groove is the dead area. There is no nerve or blood vein in that section and you may safely cut it off without harming the dog.

Worrying about where and how much to cut makes many people nervous and this nervousness is easily felt by the dog, making him jittery and more inclined to struggle. Until you feel confident in your work, cut just the very tips of the nails. You'll get better with practice and by cutting them often (weekly), you'll become more comfortable doing it and you'll be able to keep the nails at a reasonable length. As you become more skillful and your dog more cooperative, you'll be better able to estimate the amount you can safely cut and decrease the sessions to twice-monthly.

Accidents happen once in a while and even the best groomers occasionally draw blood. Nails can bleed heavily and it's wise to have something on hand to stop it. A pinch of flour applied

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to the end of the nail will work but more effective is a product like Kwik Stop that is designed especially for that purpose. You can find it at your local pet supply store and a tiny container will last a long time. It does sting a little when applied to the nail but stops bleeding almost immediately. It's normal for the dog to be a little offended when you've hurt him and while I don't baby them, I offer apologies and treats. "See, that wasn't so bad!" Since some dogs will be reluctant to allow you to cut another nail near the wounded one, I usually leave that foot for a moment and work on another, going back to the first when I'm through.

These methods work well on dogs of all sizes. For extremely small dogs, I like to lay them on their backs in my lap. If the dog isn't cooperative, I ask a helper to steady their heads, rub their tummies and talk to them while I cut. As with the larger dogs, lots of praise and treats will help them understand that while nail cutting is a fact of life, it's not a torture session and can even be enjoyable!

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*There is no substitute for the extensive experience available from your breeder. Their goal is to preserve the well-being and unique character of the Breed and ensure that the PBGV will continue to be a viable breed in the United States for many years to come.*

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**Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen** is pronounced  
"Puh-TEE Bah-SAY Gree-FOHN VON-day-uhn.  
For more information, go to [pbgv.org](http://pbgv.org).





