



# Pet SUPERJUICE

## Welcome Home Baby New Home and Traveling Stress in Puppies

Stress and the digestive system in puppies can have a large impact on the profitability of kennels. Puppies given the best care in the kennel can end up with digestive problems as soon as they leave their well-tended, familiar environment. With their short digestive tract and sensitivity to change, including adjustment to travel and new homes dogs are extremely prone to digestive imbalance. Puppies are even more prone to digestive problems due to their undeveloped digestive systems. Add this factor into the sudden changes that puppies encounter as they are weaned then transported to new homes. Often puppies are introduced to different foods during the transition time continuing to compound digestive problems. All of these factors can affect digestive functioning and lead to a range of disorders. Digestive imbalance doesn't sound too serious but in reality can be devastating both in short and long-term scenarios. One role of the digestive system is to act as a protective system for health and as a defensive barrier against harmful bacteria and ingested toxins. When the digestive system fails the door is open for immune deficiencies that lead to illness as well as diarrhea that further weakens the immune function.

For Kennel owners, the goal is to make sure that each puppy is able to live and thrive during the sensitive transition time, making it into the new home. Healthy puppies means money saved in a variety of ways: Fewer vet bills, fewer medicines, less time spent in medical care and full financial reward on every puppy born.

Healthy puppies also mean happy customers and fewer complaints. Happy customers are the best resource for good referrals for future customers. Communication is also a great way to help new puppy owners provide the right environment in the new home so that transition troubles are lessened. Provide them with a few tips for getting their puppy off to the right start. Create your own list or use a few from the list below of generally accepted guidelines.

1. Puppies like young babies are easily frightened and when in a frightened state their undeveloped digestive system is easily upset. When you first bring your puppy home put a prebiotic food additive on its food. The prebiotic recolonizes the digestive tract and enables the pup to begin taking food that has gone uneaten due to the stress of moving to a new home as well as helps their systems adjust.
2. Puppies need 16-20 hours of sleep per day.
3. Gentle treatment – Puppies should not be unsupervised with children and other animals. Like human babies puppies need to be held and like all babies care in handling is very important. No poking, tossing, swinging.
4. Crate training: Unsupervised pups should be in the crate so they feel safe and secure and reduce training stress.
5. In the crate the puppy should have safe toys and all toys should be at least 3 times larger than the puppy's mouth is wide.
6. During supervised play give puppies soft latex toys, rope bones and rawhides.
7. Puppies thrive and learn best when they are on a schedule and have consistent expectations. Sudden changes in food or environment can play havoc with their digestive systems.

Maintaining digestive health and avoiding common diarrhea will mean that puppies are able to breeze through the transportation time and adjustment period without experiencing diarrhea and associated digestive illness. Preventative steps are always the best – it is so much easier to take a few preventive measures than deal with the aftermath of puppies that have weakened immune systems.