



A Stafford without Spirit is like an Angel without Wings!

DO'S and DONT'S

by Stella Müller

Note: By joining the WC SBTC you can get hands-on advice.

Some pointers to consider before buying a puppy:

1. NO BONES (except raw shin or leg of lamb)
2. Preferably low fat milk
3. Keep puppy on 4 x daily meals for 3 months, then 3 x daily till 6 months, then 2 x daily till 1 year. Thereafter once daily. Increase quantity on demand, but never overfeed
4. Beware of swimming pools – **STAFFIES ARE POOR SWIMMERS!!!**
5. Be careful of loose or hanging electric wiring – puppies will chew or want to play with it
6. Keep the dogs' nails short - when you can hear them walk on a hard surface - it's an indication of the nails being too long
7. A LOT OF LOVE AND DISCIPLINE AT ALL TIMES
8. No collar is best when a dog is unsupervised – it can strangle itself
9. De-worm at least 3 monthly – consult your vet
10. Inoculations should be done promptly when they are due – usually your vet will inform you
11. TEACH YOUR DOG TO WALK ON A LEASH – the sooner the easier!
12. See that your dog is identifiable with a micro-chip and/or collar tag that shows your telephone number and address
13. NEVER KEEP TWO DOGS OR TWO BITCHES TOGETHER – they will challenge each other and end up fighting
14. Never use a choke chain on a puppy. It should be trained with patience and rewards
15. If you want to show your dog, don't teach it to 'sit' - rather teach it to 'stand' for a reward. Once a dog was taught to sit it very hard to teach them 'not to sit'. You can also teach him to let you open his mouth gently to look at his teeth so that he/she can get use to being examined by a judge
16. See that your puppy has toys to keep him busy – otherwise he'll find other things to do

S.A. STAFFORD CLUBS

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ADVISE CAN BE SOURCED FROM:

Kennel Union of Southern Africa: www.kusa.co.za