

## FurBuddies Puppy Socialization Checklist

The first 16 weeks of your puppy's life are critical for learning and socialization. Use this checklist to safely expose your puppy to new experiences and help build a calm, confident, happy companion.

### People Your Puppy Should Meet

- Men
- Women
- Children
- People wearing hats
- People with sunglasses
- People with beards
- People using wheelchairs or walking aids
- Visitors at home

### Sounds to Experience

- Vacuum cleaner
- Traffic noise
- Thunder recordings
- Doorbells
- Hairdryer
- Kitchen noises
- Dogs barking
- Fireworks recordings at low volume

### Places & Surfaces

- Grass
- Sand
- Tiles
- Wooden floors
- Pavements
- Pet-friendly stores
- Car rides
- Parks

### Handling Exercises

- Gentle ear touching
- Paw handling

- Nail touching
- Brushing
- Teeth checks
- Collar handling
- Bath time exposure

### Training Foundations

- Name recognition
- Sit
- Recall (come when called)
- Loose lead walking
- Focus on owner
- Calm behaviour around distractions
- Positive crate exposure

### Dog Socialization

- Calm vaccinated puppies
- Friendly adult dogs
- Supervised puppy play sessions
- Positive interactions on walks

### Important Tips

- ✓ Keep all experiences positive and reward-based.
- ✓ Never force your puppy into frightening situations.
- ✓ Use treats, praise, and patience.
- ✓ Focus on quality experiences, not overwhelming exposure.
- ✓ Socialization should continue throughout your dog's life.