

SADDLEBACK ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Veterinary Recommendations for a Healthier Dog

VACCINATIONS

**DISTEMPER
HEPATITIS
PARAINFLUENZA**

**PARVOVIRUS
BORDETELLA (Kennel Cough)
BORELLIA (Lymes Disease)
RABIES**

8 WEEKS OF AGE:

- Start vaccine series - 1st DHPP
- Run a fecal test to check for parasites; deworm if necessary
- Start puppy on Premium Puppy Food, continue this diet for a full year.
- It is a good time to start brushing the teeth for proper dental care. We carry toothpaste specially formulated for dogs and other dental care products. Continue brushing the teeth for the life of the pet.
- Start crate training and basic obedience (puppy kinder garden). It is important to socialize your puppy to other animals and also people so that they aren't afraid of what happens around them and to help develop a friendly sound disposition. You should provide chew toys during teething period (10-12 months) to help avoid damage to personal property. (i.e. knucklebones, ice, nylabone.)
- Consider insurance - puppies are not too smart and major illness or fracture can run \$500 - \$1,000

11 WEEKS OLD:

- 2nd DHLPP, 1st Bordetella
- 2nd Deworming, if necessary

14 WEEKS OLD:

- 3rd DHLPP, 2nd Bordetella, 1st Lymes (optional)
- Deworm - another deworming is necessary in 3 weeks

16 WEEKS OLD:

- Rabies Vaccine (Good for 1 year)
- 2nd Lymes (optional)
- Deworm - Check Fecal

6 MONTHS OLD:

- Parvovirus Vaccine
- Recommend basic obedience course. We strongly encourage you to involve your dog in socialization and obedience training throughout the dog's life.
- Run a fecal test to check for parasites.
- Recommend spaying or neutering your dog at this time. Spaying before the first heat cycle markedly decreased the chance of mammary and uterine cancers, as well as preventing unwanted pregnancies and eliminating the heat cycle. Neutering at 6 months age markedly decreases the chance of prostate and testicular cancers, decreases aggressive and dominant behavior and prevents roaming and unwanted pregnancies.
- Microchip Identification

12 MONTHS OLD:

- Change to a maintenance diet.
- If you take dog out of Orange County you should test for heartworm disease and use a preventative if the test is negative...special treatment is necessary for a dog with heartworm.

1-3 YEARS OLD:

- Complete annual physical and dental exam
- Annual Vaccines: DHPP, Bordetella
- RABIES (every 3 years)
- Yearly fecal tests
- Feed maintenance diet
- Continue socialization and obedience training
- Maintain some kind of exercise program

3-6 YEARS OLD:

- Annual physical and dental exam
- Yearly fecal tests
- Annual Vaccines: DHPP, Bordetella
- Rabies (every 3 years)
- Run a blood panel screen yearly
- Yearly Dentistry
- Canine maintenance diet
- Continue to include pet in family activities
- Continue exercise program

6 YEARS AND OLDER:

- Annual physical and dental exams
- Large breeds begin Senior Wellness exams bi-yearly
- Annual Vaccines: DHPP, Bordetella, Rabies (every 3 years)
- Yearly fecal tests
- Run a blood panel screen yearly
- Run a urinalysis yearly
- Yearly dentistry - particularly small breeds
- Yearly chest x-ray scan and ECG
- Change to a low fat, high fiber diet. We recommend a senior or Prescription Diet W/D
- Continue socialization programs
- Continue exercise programs - Watch for arthritis in large breeds
- After 10 years of age we recommend feeding Science Diet K/D - low protein diet.