

My Bulldog Carebook



Your Vet information Here:

Recommended Bulldog Vets in Michigan

Dr. Randy Carpenter, DVM
Family Friends Veterinary Hospital
6555 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-575-6520

Dr. John Wilson, DVM
Animal Clinic of Sterling Heights
40150 Van Dyke Avenue
Sterling Heights, MI 48313
586-939-4020

Congratulations... On you new bulldog!

This booklet was put together to help you with some of the basics of the care of a bulldog. Most of the information in this booklet has been gathered from longtime experienced bulldog owner breeders and members of the Western Michigan Bulldog Club. But only to be used as a helpful guide, since most breeders have their own way doing things.

One thing you must know; no matter how long you own bulldogs you will never know it all. There is always a place to learn something new. But the main thing is that bulldogs give and need lots of love and attention; and many of the bulldoggers in your area, are ready and willing to give a lending hand! So don't be afraid to give one them a call. And it is always a good idea to join your local specialty club. And a good veterinarian who knows and likes bulldogs is an absolute necessity. The positives of owning a bulldog way out weigh the care involved with owning one, if you're lucky enough to have one touch your heart! Bulldogs are a very unique animals in every sense of the word and wonderful companions— If you love them they will love you back ten fold!

This booklet was put together by
The Western Michigan Bulldog Club
Division II of the Bulldog Club of America
7/99 rev. 8/05

The Importance of Temperament

~by G. William Andree

When selecting a pet, the most important breed characteristic to consider by far is its temperament or disposition. Failure to thoroughly investigate temperament is the biggest mistake anyone can make in selecting a pet of any kind.

In my experience, far too many people select a dog based solely on its physical appearance, and those who do so usually live to regret it. People who shop for a pet the same way they shop for a new car, a piece of furniture or designer jeans should never own one.

If it is a status symbol you want, please do not even consider buying a Bulldog! You and the dog are sure to be disappointed in each other. For one thing, the modern human contact, but Bulldogs simply cannot stand to be ignored. They crave attention, and they will do almost anything to get it!

To the dismay of their owners, many Bulldogs prefer to pursue the role of a lapdog. They fail to comprehend that some humans find their typical weight of 50-60lbs. Less than comfortable on their laps.

It is nearly impossible to lavish too much love and attention on a Bulldog - an only he decides when he has had enough loving, he will finally wander off somewhere to find peace and quiet. If you're not a hands-on-type of dog lover who enjoys close and frequent contact and a few wet kisses, a less affectionate pet may better satisfy your needs. The Bulldog's constant craving for attention and the need to entertain humans and be entertained by them is not for everyone.

There is a limit, however, to how much strenuous physical activity a typical Bulldog can safely tolerate. Their muzzle and windpipe is narrow, relative to the size of their bodies, limiting their oxygen intake and causes them to become easily winded. This can result in acute respiratory distress and sometimes death. Like it or not, most Bulldogs do not have great physical endurance. They are more like short distance sprinters than long distance runners. Bulldogs don't realize this; your own common sense must prevail.

Bulldogs do not respond obediently to heavy-handed, physical discipline. Despite 100 years of selective breeding, most Bulldogs I am familiar with, both male and female, instinctively detest and resist violence or the threat of it. This is especially evident with regard to children. A screaming child immediately causes grave concern and routinely triggers a decidedly protective response. They seem to sense trouble, and they are likely to intervene in their own special way to end the disturbance.

BEWARE

Eating these plants could be fatal to your pet.

Acorn	Jonquil
Arrowhead	Onions
Bittersweet	Lily-of-the-Valley
Buckeye	Marijuana
Buttercups	Mistletoe
Caladium	Morning Glory
Castor Bean	Mushrooms
Daffodil	Narcissus
Devel's Ivy	Nightshade
Dieffenbachia (Dumbcane)	Oak
Elephant Ears	Oleander
English Ivy	Philodendron
Four-o'clocks	Poison Ivy & Sumac
Foxglove	Pokeweed
Holly	Rhododendron
Hyacinth	Rhubarb-blade
Hydrangea	Star of Bethlehem
Iris	Tobacco
Jack-in-the-Pulpit	Tulip
Japanese Lantern	Wisteria
Jequirity Bean	Yew
Jerusalem Cherry	
Jimson Weed	

“This doesn't mean that you have to pull everything out of your garden! Just don't let your bullie, go have lunch in your garden!”

And start squirting water with a little lemon juice mixed in; into his mouth to get him to swallow. Swallowing will help the medication get to the area it is needed, sooner.

Massaging the area as well.

Also give him an antibiotic (400ml. Amoxicillin or 500ml. Cephelexine - 2X day for 2 days) give this antibiotic, with in the first day to prevent toxic poisoning. The toxins will form within the first day or two. A day or two of prevention is important to prevent a whole lot of troubles from happening later.

The if area around the sting swells and hardens or increases in size quickly - and or the dog is struggling to breath GET HIM TO THE VET ASAP!!!

There is no time to delay, your dogs life depends on it!

Remember - Many times the reaction gets worse and comes on faster with each time a bite occurs.

IF HE IS BITTEN IN THROAT - GIVE BENADRYL AND RUSH HIM TO THE VET IMMEDIATELY! Don't wait!!!!

Also keep in mind a dog that has had a reaction ..you will need to keep your dog a bit more quiet for a few days. Even though a day or two later your dog looks fine - no swelling.....The poison is still there just under the skin and can flare back up even 4-5 days later with something as simple as going out in the yard to place. So watch them carefully for a few days, so they don't get stressed.

No There is a limit, however, to how much strenuous physical activity a typical Bulldog can safely tolerate. Their short muzzles and narrow windpipes, relative to the size of their bodies, limits their oxygen intake and causes them to become easily winded. This can result in acute respiratory distress and sometimes death. Like it or not, most Bulldogs do not have great physical endurance. They are netheless, Bulldogs are not easily provoked by other dogs unless they are seriously threatened or attacked. A Bulldog that has been carefully bred for temperament and lovingly cared for and properly socialized from birth, likes to meet other dogs and strangers. Guests to the household are always welcomed, often enthusiastically. It never occurs to a Bulldog that other dogs and other people might be unfriendly. And intruder might even be a welcome guest, but it is difficult to say what might happen when you were away.

Modern Bulldogs are not by nature good guard dogs or attack dogs. However, they are fairly reliable watchdogs. They will normally alert you to any unusual activity in the home or yard.

A common misconception is that Bulldogs are "one-man" dogs. It may sometimes seem apparent that one person in the family is preferred over another, but in fact Bulldogs regard each family member as their own person properly.

Bulldogs can be possessive to a fault. You don't own them, they own, you, and don't forget it! If you can't appreciate their possessive nature, you certainly will not appreciate their inherent stubbornness and determination. Training takes lots of patience, but they can successfully trained for obedience and agility competition.

Unless they choose to behave otherwise, I don't believe there is a more obstinate creature alive. And while a Bulldog might appear to be lazy or stupid, that's only what they want you to think.

The above column was reprinted with permission from the author and the BCA - Div. II Newsletter

Bringing Your Baby Home

When you get your puppy, you should also receive from the breeder.

1. Puppy Registration Certificate or its application for Registration.
2. A copy of the pups pedigree
3. A record of its immunizations and worming
4. Assurance that the puppy has been examined by a veterinarian
5. Veterinarian's name, address, and phone number
6. Care instructions
7. Breeder's contact information

You should also receive a sales contract, if the breeder has special terms for which he or she has sold you this puppy or dog. And possibly a Spay/ Neuter Contract if the pup will not be shown.

Please remember on your way home...

If you need to stop to potty your pup...DO NOT stop at a Highway Rest Stop if at all possible. Instead stop at a restaurant or a gas station. To try and lower your chances of exposing your pup to deadly diseases (like Parvo).

This rule REALLY goes for the first four months until they have received ALL of their puppy immunizations.

When you arrive home with your puppy - remember your puppy is a baby bulldog. Like all babies, he needs lots of love and cuddling, lots of rest and sleep, lots of love and cuddling, lots of good nourishing food and more love and cuddling!

Moving to a new home - and leaving his dam and litter mates and the only humans he has ever really known is a very traumatic experience for the puppy, so try to make the move as easy as possible for him. For the first couple of weeks, try to .

Follow the breeders feeding routine - The same times, the same amount, the same brand of food, the same supplements. Feed him in the same place at each meal. Be sure he has a special area of his own for his bed. Give him lots and lots and lots of cuddling and petting. Do not let him play so long and hard that he becomes exhausted.

Facial Acne or eczema - some bulldogs are prone to acne. They are forever putting their faces in all kinds of strange places. The dog gets pimples on his face and chin. Usually you can clear these up just by washing and rubbing Clearasil anti acne ointment. If they persist you may need to get an oral antibiotic medication from your vet.

Eyes - Dust, wind, pollen, the things that make your eyes burn and water have the same reaction to some dogs. You can rinse the eyes out with a solution such as Clear Eyes. If the eyes are badly irritated, use a contact lens ointment, such as Bausch & Lomb Duolube. For any other eye ailment take the dog to the vet. If the dog scratched his eye lens and/or is tearing and blinking a lot more than normal, it is important that you get the dog to the vet right away! To prevent blindness!

Tail - Some bulldogs have their tail set in a pocket. If yours does, you will need to make a special effort to keep the pocket under the tail clean and dry. Baby oil or KY jelly on a rag works great for cleaning. And then apply desitin creamy to any sore areas.

Cherry eye - the gland which normally resides under the lower eye lid at the inside corner of the eye will sometimes "pop" out. Usually happens to a puppy under the age of 8 months. This is not as horrible as it appears to be but will need to be repaired. There is a simple procedure that a good bulldog vet can do that does not cost a lot of money, and does not run the risk of causing dry eye as the dog gets older as some other procedures do.

Fungus spots - These are somewhat like hot spots, but they are not weepy. Be sure you clean away all the "scabby" material, wash the area, and treat with Panalog, Keflex, or any good anti-fungal ointment.

Facial acne or eczema - Bulldogs are forever putting their faces into all kinds of strange places. Some are more susceptible to topical bacterial infections.. They will get pimples on his face and chin. Usually you can treat by just washing and rubbing Clearasil.

Temperature - If you need to take his temp. it is done rectally. Use a good rectal thermometer, lubricate with Vaseline or KY jelly, insert gently, hold onto the thermometer; dogs have been known to "suck" them in! Wait about 3 minutes and read. Normal temperature for most dogs is from 100.5-101.

Ice - Start giving your bulldog pieces of ice to eat when he is still a small pup. Most bulldogs love them. This is a great way to cool down on a summer day.

Drinking water - Summertime - add lemon juice to the water (like about a tbsp lemon juice/ 1 gal water - give or take) It helps to breakdown and keep the phlegm down. I just automatically put it in the water all summer long. And I freeze it with ice cubes and put it in a small cooler to take along if we go out with the dog during the summer.

Insects Bites - Most dogs are allergic to bug bites, but because of the way a bulldog is built; it is a bit more dangerous to them. Insects tend to look for moisture; eyes, mouth and throat. The first symptoms of an insect bite are usually seeing swelling around the area bitten and then it will spread!⁵ Give him benadryl 50 mg. every 6 hours as needed.

Problems that may occur

Pills and capsules - try a chunk of butter or cream cheese to put the pill in, if they figure out what your doing. Try it in three's. First chunk has no pill, second one does, third one doesn't.

Vomiting - For minor upset stomach. No food for a day. Pepto-Bismal or similar meds work well. If it last more than a few hours call your vet.

Diarrhea or constipation - Canned pumpkin. 2-3 tbsp. 2-3X daily, works great for both! Boiled hamburger and rice helps settle their stomach & eases them back into their food.

Hot Spots - These are red, weepy, itchy spots. No one seems to really know what causes them. It could be fleas, food, allergies, etc... First clean the area thoroughly.. Try using Dial soap and water, rinse and dry. Then apply medication like Panalog, Gentocin, Bag Balm, or Sulfadene. Clean and apply daily. Improvement should show after the second day of treatment. If not see your vet.

Interdigital Cysts - This is another problem that no one seems to really know what causes it. Trapped yeast and bacteria in the deep pockets of the toe pads. You'll know one when you see an angry red swelling pup up between the dog's toes. First examine the paw carefully, especially the underside between the pads to be sure there is no foreign matter lodged anywhere. If there is, remove it. Clean the area and check the following remedies:

- (1) Soak the paw in warm water and Epsom salts for 15 mins and dry and then apply panalog.
- (2) Gold bond Medicated foot powder.
- (3) Preparation H cream, applied to the area daily.
- (4) Cephalexine antibiotic from you vet.
- (5) Glucosamine/condroitin 500ml. 2X day seems to help keep them at bay if your bulldog has repeated ones.

With all the treatments, its best to start at the first sign of a problem and continue for 2-3 days after it clears. The key is to keep the foot as dry as possible.

Cherry Eye - The gland which normally resides under the lower eye lid at the inside corner of the eye will sometimes "pop" out. This is not as horrible as it appears to be and does not require emergency treatment. IT DOES REQUIRE treatment at the earliest possible time by a good bulldog veterinarian; for a better chance for a successful treatment with out removing the gland. Removing the gland usually results in "Dry Eye" which eventually leads to blindness.

Bulldog Crud or staph infection - These are spots on the back that loose the hair and then get scabby. They start out as bumps under the hair. You can test for it by gently running your hand against the flow of the hair. If the dogs is irritated and the skin "shivers" then you likely have Staph.

Treatment is giving the dog an antibiotic called Cephalexine 500ml. Given 3x a day. And cleaning the spots and treating with rubbing alcohol.

Follow the breeders feeding routine - The same times, the same amount, the same brand of food, the same supplements. Feed him in the same place at each meal. Be sure he has a special area of his own for his bed. Give him lots and lots and lots of cuddling and petting. Do not let him play so long and hard that he becomes exhausted.

Take your pup to your vet during the first few days for a check up and for a get to know you visit! Take along the record of his immunizations, wormings, and stool sample.

If you want to change his brand of food - the change should be done slow and gradual. Substitute a small amount of the old food with the new brand and slowly increase the ratio of new until the old brand is completely replaced with the new. It should take approx. 5-7 days to do this.

Equipment

Food Dish - straight sides and flat bottom Stainless steel preferred. Plastic holds bacteria, and will inevitably be eaten by your bulldog.

Water Dish - same as food dish

Collar - small link choke chain, long enough to slip over pups head with room to spare and when pulled snug should no more than 4 inches extra.

Lead - (or leash) first lead should be very light weight, you'll need a strong leather or nylon lead as he grows.

Nail Clipper or Grinder - have your breeder or vet show you how to use these. Nail Clipper must be sharp or it will hurt your pup.

There are several things that make life easier and more enjoyable.

Wire Crate - Not an enclosed plastic crate; it doesn't allow enough air circulation that is necessary for a bulldog. Besides - They can't see you when in one.

Whisker Scissors - If you are planning to exhibit your bulldog, these are small sharp scissors with rounded tips or you can use a electric or battery powered trimmer. If your NOT exhibiting, trimming whiskers is not necessary.

Rubber Brush - A small flexible rubber bristled brush, similar to a horse brush, works the best.

Small Ice Cooler - Filled with ice, this is a real must if your bulldog comes with you in the car for any amount of time.

Bulldog Medicine Chest

VASELINE - use on their nose when dry or crusty.

PLASTIC Real LEMON - 1/2 tsp. In their water helps to keep the phlegm down in their throat.

BENADRYL - either capsules or liquid, 25 ml. - 50 ml.. Keep this on hand at all times. Allergic reactions usually with bees, bugs, and spider bites.

RECTAL THERMOMETER

CLEAR EYE DROPS - for irritated eyes

BUFFERED ASPIRIN - for minor aches and pains.

Buffered Aspirin NOT advil or Tylenol. No more than 1 aspirin per day and no more than 3 days (after that consult your Vet.)

TRIPLE ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT - A good all purpose ointment for minor skin irritations. Wrinkles and tail.

BABY OIL - works good for cleaning wrinkles, tail pocket and ears when water isn't enough.

DESITIN CREAMY - Works wonderful for soothing sore nose folds and tails, also works good for removing tear stains.

EAR CLEANER - Gent-L-Cleans is a good solution supplied through your vet; or a home remedy that works well is 1 part vinegar to 3 parts water.

100% PURE CANNED PUMPKIN - for minor stomach upset, diarrhea, constipation.

Keeping Cool

On those hot days when you find yourself and your bulldog in a place without air-conditioning; there are ways to make sure that your bulldog stays cool. ALWAYS KEEPS WATER OR ICE WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES. (A small cooler works great for this!)

The secret to keeping him out of trouble is not to let him get warm in the first place. This means that the minute a dog starts panting or even acting like his going to pant, go into action.

- (1) Find a shady place to set the crate.
- (2) Wet big beach towels - WET - not damp - and hang one over the crate and also place one in the crate that your bulldog can lay on. (it acts like an air-conditioner)
- (3) Ice in the crate (A MUST!) as well as placed outside the crate.
- (4) I know of bulldogs that love to lay in the sun so much that they don't know enough to get out of the sun when they are overheating. So keep an eye on them! You may have to crate him in the shade if ness. Even on a not so hot day.
- (5) A nice cool basement does wonders!

HEAT STROKE - begins with rapid frantic noisy breathing. The tongue and

If he has an accident in the house do not scold him unless you catch him in the act! And then it is a firm NO, NO and then take him outside to his area. And Praise for correct behavior instead of punishment for incorrect behavior. Remember, a puppy is a baby, his capacity is small, his muscle control is limited. So be consistent, be patient, and you will succeed in training him to go outside instead of inside. But realistically don't expect him to be totally potty trained before 6 months.

Lead Training

The earlier you start the better. You will need a light weight "choke chain" collar and a light weight lead. The collar should be long enough to slip over his head with ease and have some room to grow; and when pulled snug should not have more than a 6" tail. Put on your puppy so that it goes over his neck like a "P". Fasten the lead to it and at first let him just drag it around and then let him lead you around. If he doesn't move, you move a little and then coax him to follow. DO NOT EVER pull on the lead and drag or choke the puppy. This should be a happy experience for the puppy so give him lots and lots of verbal praise during and after!

And then once you've got him to move begin to give little tugs and encourage him to follow you rather than you following him. Tug and release, tug and release and praise, praise, praise! And always keep him on your left. Practice time should never last more than 10 minutes at one time. And soon you will be able to walk him around the neighborhood! For exhibiting - you will also need to teach him to stand still and to let you hold his head. Start early on this as well.

Keeping Cool

On those hot days when you find yourself and your bulldog in a place without air-conditioning, there are ways to make sure that your bulldog stays cool. The secret to keeping dog out of trouble is not to let him get warm in the first place. This means that the minute a dog starts panting or even acting like he is going to pant, go into action. (1) Find a shady place to set the crate outside. (2) Wet big beach towels - WET - NOT DAMP - and hang one over the crate and also place one in the crate that your bulldog can lay on. It acts like an air-conditioner. (3) Ice in the crate (a must!) as well as placed outside of the crate. (4) I know of bulldogs that love to lay in the sun so much and they don't know enough to get out of the sun when they are overheating. So keep an eye on them! You may have to crate him in the shade if ness. With plenty of water at all times. (5) And a nice cool basement does wonders! (6) And keep them out of the heat of at all poss. On those hot days. (7) Open wire crates only for better airflow (8) Sponging him off.

Wrinkles

Bulldogs tend to have messy wrinkles. The older they get the messier typically. So how often do you clean them? As often as your dog needs it to remain dry and clean. Some need it daily and some only need it once a week. Each is different. You can clean wrinkles with a soft, damp cloth and then dry. For stubborn stains or messes - use baby oil on a rag rubbed on the area, or alcohol free baby wipes with lanolin or aloe. Make sure that you deep into the nose and face wrinkles as well as way up under the tail if your bulldog has a snigger tail. Irritation in the wrinkles or tail - can be soothed by applying Desitin Creamy, medicated power, or panalog cream (from the vets) to the area. As far as the tail goes, it is important to clean and medicate up under and in the curl of the tail, if your bulldog has a tight or screw tail. Clean with baby wipes, baby oil or KY jelly on a rag. After cleaning well, dry the area and apply medication or Desitin Creamy to hidden areas. These areas are where bacteria and yeast grows and your bulldog may get very sore in these areas.

Bedding

Bedding material used for bulldogs vary; but the most common is cotton rugs or blankets which can easily be washed. Don't bother with Wicker baskets - they will eat them! And downed pillows and padded doggy beds, typically will contain cedar chips within the foam, most bulldogs will breakout with a rash from the cedar chips - so avoid them as well. Besides, some will decide that they like peeing on them instead. So, just think simple! Something that you can wash.

Potty Training

The key here is CONSISTENCY. Take the pup outside, preferably to the same area each time. As soon as he wakes, about 10 minutes after each meal, about every hour when he's awake and just before nap or bedtime. The pup must empty his bladder and bowels before he goes to bed for the night. Take him to the same location, stand there and tell him to "go potty" or "make em' go" every time. Stand still and eventually he will go on command. Then during and after he has gone - PRAISE, PRAISE, PRAISE!

mucus membranes are bright red, the saliva is thick and tenacious; and the dog frequently vomits. His rectal temperature is high, sometimes over 106 degrees F. His appearance is obvious and can confirmed by his temp.

TREATMENT - Emergency measurers MUST begin at once to avoid the throat from closing. Mild cases - respond well by moving the dog to a cooler surrounding, give him ice, and lemon juice in the water to break down the phlem.

Lemon juice can also be squirted down the throat directly.

For temp. over 104 degrees F, or if unsteady on his feet, he should be cooled by immersing him in a tub of cold water, or if poss. Hose him down. Rubbing Alcohol can be poured over the body (it can cool the body temp faster) and then running a fan directly on him. The vet can give him a cortisone injection to help calm the dog and speed up the cool down. BUT TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!!!

Toys

Never ever give your bulldog a rawhide toy. Even puppies can tear a piece of the rawhide and choke on it. Puppies like knotted socks to shake and play with. But you should never play tuck of war with them, what seems like fun as a pup will become a bad habit of grabbing and pulling on anything, later.

They also like nylabones and gummbone toys, BUT this is "only a once in a while toy" - why because it can make their jaw turn and go rye. Stuffed animals (without any plastic parts like eyes, or such on them which could be pulled off.) Balls are fun, just make sure they are large enough. And an empty 2 liter pop bottle with the label removed; is probably one of the most favorite toys!

THE BASIC RULE OF THUMB IS IF IT IS FLEXIBLE, ITS OK.

Remember the only difference between a puppy and an adult toy is SIZE; make sure the toy is large enough that they can't choke on it. Old and New toys; so check them all once in a while.

Oh, and you may find that your bulldog likes the water (they either do or they don't) but if they do; most breeders pick up a child's small plastic swimming pool and put a shallow amount of water in it for your bulldog to play in in the summer. But never leave them unattended. Bulldogs really can't swim, they sink! But they sure can have a great time in just a little amount of water in a small pool.

Feeding

A bulldog should eat out of a pan which has a flat bottom and straight sides. Stainless Steel bowls are the best. Plastic bowls hold bacteria in the plastic even after washing, which can cause irritation to the facial are (like pimples on the chin) on some bulldogs because they stick their entire face into the bowl when they eat.

Besides, plastic bowls end up being a snack to a typical bulldog. Do not feed your bulldog, food which is corn based or contains soybean it just plain isn't good for them and has a lot of fillers which are not good for them. Here is a list of some food foods available that bulldogs do well on. Solid Gold, Blue Buffalo, Nutro Natural Choice, California Natural, any higher grade Holistic food. Basically, if you can get it from the grocery store...its NOT good. If you need to change foods - remember do it slowly over 5-7 days works best for their digestive system.

A 2-5 month pup eats 3-4 times a day. Food should still be softened down with warm water through out this time. A growing puppy should be able to eat as much as he wants.

Once the pup reaches 6 months old, feedings can be reduced back to twice a day. Remember these are guidelines only; each pup is different. You want your puppy to be round but not obese, and produce nice solid stool. He should remain on puppy food until he is 9-10 months old and go to an adult food within the same brand. Sometimes you may need to use "small bits" or for "Small breeds" size food; for ease of swallowing.

Overweight dogs - if there is a time that your bulldog becomes over weight - placing them on a reduced fat diet or cutting their food amount in half and substituting a half a can of green beans will help to make them feel full but only taking in half the amount of dog food.

As long as your bulldog is on a good brand of food it is not necessary to give him any vitamin supplements or any other additives.

Grooming

Because of the natural oils in the bulldogs skin, it is not recommended to bath more than every 3-4 weeks. Keep in mind only bathe when they are dirty.

Where to bathe - any where you can get the job done with the least amount of argument. Bath tub, shower or a big deep sink. With a pup make sure they have been outside just before that bath. What do you need? - Oatmeal based shampoo, eye ointment or drops, wash clothe, cotton balls.

To begin - place a couple of drops of eye drops in each eye to help keep lubricated during the bath. And a cotton ball in each ear. Wet the dog thoroughly from behind the ears to the back end, make sure that you got his underbelly as well. The face is an area that you what to wash with a little shampoo on a wash rag, to avoid the eyes and to do a thorough job. Rinsing thoroughly in the same way.. Most of the shampoos work best if you let them sit lathered up for a few minutes before rinsing.

Rinsing MUST be thorough; rinse till all the soap is gone and then rinse some more especially the underbody!

If desired you can then sue cream rinse on them, applying and rinsing the same way as the shampoo.

Dry with towels. Take the cotton balls out and then clean and dry his ears; then just rub a little Vaseline on his nose to keep it soft. You can then either let him air dry or finish him with a hair dryer on low. It is best to keep him inside until he is completely dry - about 2 hours.

Nails

Nails should be kept short. You can either use a sharp clippers or a grinder (mini mate by Dremel - found in your hardware store). Make sure that you don't cut or grind into the quick. (don't worry your dog will let you know loudly!)

And keep some bleed stop around just in case.

Dull blades - HURT! So make sure they are sharp!

Have you breeder show you how to use a grinder if that is your preference. But the rule of thumb is not to hold the grinder on the nail too long, because it will heat up the nail and hurt. So use it in a tapping motion to dissipate the heat, and it will work great!