

# Puppy-Proofing

## Your Home

If not prior to adding your new member to the family, you should make a puppy check through your entire house or anywhere your new baby will be.

The best way to be sure that there is nothing harmful in your home within your puppy's reach is to get on their level. Crawl around your home and look for things they can get into.

While your puppy should not be left unattended very often especially in the early weeks, here is a checklist of things you need to make sure you do to puppy-proof your home!

- Set up baby gates for rooms you don't want your puppy to access, especially stairs.
- Create a safe space for your puppy to retreat to. Many people will use a puppy crate.
- Make sure your trash is covered. (Puppies will sniff it right out)
- Cover all your cords so puppies won't chew them and hurt themselves.
- Keep shoes and purses/bags put away
- Remove any poisonous plants both inside and outside. (Mushrooms are very dangerous!)
- Keep household cleaners and medicines locked up or in high cabinets
- Avoid table scraps (see our nutrition page for more)
- Keep Toilet lids closed
- Look for choking hazards/ sharp items
- Keep your puppy grounded, they have fragile bones and are clumsy at a young age so don't leave them on furniture or let young children stand/walk around with the puppy.



Here are a few harmful items to keep away from your pets:

- lawn fertilizer
- de-icing salts
- antifreeze
- mothballs
- bleach
- ammonia
- chlorine
- isopropyl alcohol
- laundry detergent
- glass cleaner
- all-purpose cleaners
- batteries
- medicines