

Puppy Socialization Guide

The most critical period for a puppies' socialization is between the ages of 6 weeks and 4 months. Whatever the puppy experience during those times helps to determine how the puppy will be as an adult. You cannot over socialize a puppy but you can definitely under socialize. This guide gives you a good idea of the amount of "stuff" you want your puppy to experience in a very positive way. The more check marks you have on your socialization guide, the better socialized your puppy will be. Always make sure the experiences are positive and avoid high traffic dog areas, where you don't know if the dogs are vaccinated. Take "**cookies**" with you wherever you and your puppy go. Ask people to give your puppy cookies or give them yourself when in new situations.

	8-9 wks	9-10 wks	10-11 wks	11-12 wks	12-13 wks	3-4 mos	4-6 mos	6-10 mos
Young adults								
Middle aged adults								
Elderly people								
Disabled/odd gaits								
Loud people								
Big looming people								
Uniformed people								
People in hats								
People with beards								
People with glasses								
People with helmets								
People with gloves								
Crutches								
Wheelchairs								
Umbrellas								
Babies								
Toddles								
Juniors								
Teens								
Adult dogs								
Puppies (puppy class)								
Cats/kittens								
Small pets								
Livestock								
Horses								
The beach/ocean								
Shopping Malls								
Friends homes								
Parks/kites/ballgames								
Outside a schoolyard								

