

Bestland's Complete Guide to Welcoming Your Forever Puppy

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1. A Welcome from Bestland

Hi, and welcome to Bestland's preparatory class to get you ready for your Forever Puppy. Thank you for choosing us. You're excited—great. This book covers **what to do**, **how to set your mindset**, and **why** certain choices unlock a healthy, obedient, and peaceful companion. You'll learn home prep, equipment, feeding and grooming, schedules and crate work, discipline, leash training, car travel, and our philosophy on diet, vaccinations, and vet care.

Mindset ("Puppy World View"): Be ready to adjust how you train, how you care, and what you expect—toward healthy, high-obedience results.

Tip: Keep a note app or notebook handy. Copy the schedules that match your household.

2. Before Pickup: Your Home & Essential Supplies

Crate Recommendations

- **15–25 lb adult:** 30-inch, **double-door** (end + side).
- **25–28 up to ~40–45 lb adult:** 36-inch, **double-door**.
- **>45 lb:** 40–42-inch.
Brands: **Midwest** or **Kong** preferred for thicker metal and better finish. Keep a wire crate for travel—folds flat and packs well.
Accessories (start simple): an **old towel** early on; upgrade later to a **Temperedic/orthopedic pad** once chewing/soiling phases pass.

Bowls & Feeding Placement

- **Crate-mount bowls** (hook into the wire) prevent spills and enable focused meals when needed.
- **House bowls:** Consider **fountain** or **floaters** styles to reduce drips; raised **wood pedestal** with a mounted **rabbit-type bottle** can help keep muzzles dry during parties or free roaming. Hydration is the priority; these apparatuses simply reduce mess.

Comforting the Crate Experience

Layer supports until pup relaxes:

1. **Soft music / human voice** via any old radio/device.
2. **Inexpensive circular fan** (12–20") for airflow and white noise.
3. **Heartbeat teddy** (battery rhythmic thump).
4. **Soothing scents:** **lavender** mist or **Adaptil** pheromone spray.
5. **Light cover** over the crate (watch for chewing).
6. **Safe chews:** **bully sticks**, **indestructible toys** (avoid easily shredded items; **no Nyla bones**). Baby-proof the space—socks and small items are swallow risks.

Other Helpful Items

- **Leashes:** standard **6-ft**, a **hip-buckle lead** (2–3 ft drop), and a **sash-style cross-body** lead.
- **Baby gates** to create a **free-roaming zone** (kitchen/nook/laundry/back-door loop).
- **Dog bed** for out-of-crate settling.
- **Car safety:** seat restraint or canine car seat; avoid crating in the vehicle if it triggers anxiety. Start with calm, very slow neighborhood drives or **golf-cart** rides to build positive association.
- **Seat covers/blanket hammocks** to protect upholstery.

Do / Don't

- **Do** use double-door crates and crate-mount bowls early.
 - **Don't** invest in fancy bedding until chewing/soiling pass.
 - **Do** layer music+fan+pheromone+heartbeat for smoother nights.
 - **Don't** leave shreddable toys or fabrics in crate.
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3. Feeding: Food, Treats, Tools, and Setup

Current Food

- Puppies go home on **4Health Puppy Grain Free** (brown/blue bag), sold at **Tractor Supply** and online. Common sizes include **16 lb**, **20+ lb**, and **30 lb** (often ~\$50–\$52). We chose it for quality **at the price point**.

Stretching Kibble with Fresh Support

- We'll later show how to **maximize health** by using kibble **with** specific raw add-ins. (See Chapters 6 & 8.)

Treats & Training Pouch

- **DIY best: freeze-dry or dehydrate** meats; **raw bones**. During hunting season, **deer processors** may provide **bones/scraps/organs** for minimal cost; process and freeze for long-term use.
- **Store-bought: Bil-Jac** works well (cut small).
- **Training pouch** (clip-on) keeps rewards accessible throughout the day.

Chews

- **Bully sticks, large deer antlers** (choose **large**, not 4" bits that could be swallowed). Monitor; vets may recommend surgery in rare ingestion cases—watch behavior and appetite; many antler fragments dissolve over days.

Do / Don't

- **Do** prepare bite-size treats; keep a pouch on you.
 - **Don't** give small antler pieces or fabric-filled toys that shred.
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4. Grooming: Equipment, Schedule, and Organic Care

Core Kit

- **Metal combs, de-matting combs/brushes, curved scissors, clippers with guards**, and—critically—a **high-velocity dryer** (e.g., “**Flying Pig**”-type). A blower cuts dry time from 1–2 hours to ~20–30 minutes and encourages more frequent baths.
- **Dog shammy towel** to wick water before blow-drying.
- **Grooming table** with arm (optional, helpful).
- **Dog Dremel/orbital** nail grinder preferred over clipping.

Bathing & Organic Products

- We favor **Mad About Organics** (Amazon store) for **flea/tick soap**, **oatmeal shampoo**, **ear rinse**, **repellents**, and balms—*homemade/organic-style products*.
- **Monthly protocol:** Wet coat thoroughly → lather flea/tick soap → **5–8 minutes** dwell → rinse → shammy → blower dry.
- **Between baths:** use **repellent** on feet/legs when going off-property.

Yard-First Pest Control

- Spray yard using hose-end **pesticide bottles**; rotate actives to avoid resistance. Spray **toward evening**; dry by morning, then let dogs out.
- Focus on treating the **yard**, not constantly dosing the **dog**.

Do / Don't

- **Do** bathe every 30 days with organic soap and blow-dry fully.
 - **Don't** rely only on systemic poisons when yard management can handle most burden.
-

5. Doggy-Proofing and Safe Spaces

The Free-Roaming Zone

- Gate an **8–10 ft** span to form a **kitchen/nook/laundry/back-door loop**. This controlled, wipeable-surface area is your **daytime base**.
- Outside the zone = **on leash** (hip or sash) and **under direct supervision**.

Potty Access

- **Fenced yard:** let the puppy go **off-leash** to fully relax and empty.
- **Public/outings:** teach potty on a **30-ft retractable** in a clean area, then switch back to the **6-ft lead** for training. Retractablees are **not** for heeling; they're for potty freedom.

Do / Don't

- **Do** restrict early freedom to the zone.
 - **Don't** expect reliability in huge spaces too soon.
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6. Diet & Health Philosophy: Kibble vs. Raw-Forward Support

Why Support Kibble with Raw

- Commercial dry food is shelf-stable and heavily preserved; many formulas are carb-heavy and dehydrating. We prefer to **supplement** kibble with **natural foods dogs would encounter in the wild**.
- Observations from canids in nature (Planet Earth/National Geographic): **meat, organs, bone**, and occasional stomach contents—not grain harvesting or fruit picking.
- A leading pet-food nutritionist (Champion/Orijen lineage) told us: dogs were **not designed** to eat high carbs; they're built for **meat, organs, bones**.

Balanced Variety Over Time

- Whole prey balances **micro/macro-nutrients** (liver, heart, gizzards, marrow, bones, muscle, brain, hide, gut). Home raw feeders may unintentionally give only muscle meat.

Our approach: **keep kibble**, then add simple, powerful **raw components** to close gaps.

Practical Raw Add-Ins

- **Raw whole eggs** (with shell), **cottage cheese**, **yogurt**, **raw hamburger** (beef/chicken/turkey), **occasional liver pieces**, **raw meaty bones**.
- Transition gradually; after ~1 month home, work kibble down toward **~30%** of the bowl while increasing raw add-ins you choose.

Stool & Yard Benefits

- Raw-forward feeding typically yields **smaller, firmer, lower-odor stools** that crumble to powder over days.

Practical note from whelping: When pups eat raw foods (eggs/dairy/meat), dams often continue **den-cleaning** (consuming waste). When pups switch to kibble, dams typically stop, shifting cleanup to humans—an observation reinforcing species-appropriate nutrition.

Do / Don't

- **Do** use raw whole eggs and simple raw meats to enrich kibble.
- **Don't** assume high carb is canine-appropriate.

7. Vaccinations, Spay/Neuter, and Navigating Vet Care

Spay/Neuter (Per Contract)

- **Required** to preserve breed quality and program standards.
- **Males: 8–12 months** (larger toward 12, smaller toward 8). Waiting too long can bring **male tendencies** (humping/marketing/interest in females).

- **Females: 10–12 months**; first heat timing varies; many owners choose around 12 months.
- **Where:** Prefer **SPCA/Humane Society/Spay-Neuter clinics**—licensed vets specializing in high-volume, efficient, clean procedures at **lower cost** than many office vets.

Vaccines & Records

- We send pups home with initial vaccines. Many families opt to continue with **basic 5-way** series over the first **two years**; some administer **subcutaneous** shots at home (e.g., bulk packs + syringes; keep refrigerated; follow schedules; maintain written proof).
- Boarding/grooming facilities differ; some accept owner-administered records, others require vet-administered documentation. Mobile groomers or **in-home boarding** can reduce requirements.

External/Internal Parasite Notes

- Monthly organic **bath + yard spray** aims to reduce reliance on systemic flea/tick meds.
- **Heartworm:** some owners choose **seasonal** ivermectin-based protocols (e.g., during mosquito months), not year-round—owner's decision.

Do / Don't

- **Do** complete early-life core protection you're comfortable with and keep records organized.
 - **Don't** assume every facility has the same documentation rules—ask ahead.
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8. Daily Routine: Sleep, Crate, Potty, and Meals

Golden Rules

- **Meals:** Twice daily, 15 minutes to eat, then **outside potty**, then **crate 1–2 hours**.
- **Cutoffs:** No food after 4:00 p.m., no water after 6:00 p.m. (unless pup is hot/active).
- **Night:** Bed at 11:00 p.m., up at 6:00 a.m. With the cutoffs + 8:45/9:45/10:45 p.m. potty trips, most pups **sleep through the night** without a break after week one.

Why Crate After Meals

- Catches the **second poop** many pups produce shortly after eating. It also leverages natural **post-meal sleepiness**.

Potty Intervals in the Free-Roam Zone

- Week 1–2: **every 40 minutes**.
- Each successful week, **add 10 minutes** (50 → 60 → 70 → 80 ...). If accidents appear, hold at the last reliable interval and reassess **water** and **potty trips**.

Total Day Math

- 17 waking hours (6:00–23:00). Aim for **≤8 hours crated** total, split into **3–5 sessions**—more of them **earlier in the day**. Being home does **not** mean no crate time; it teaches **self-soothing** around people.

Feeding Time Choices

- If someone's home, **delay first meal to 9:00 a.m.** for a smoother day: 9:00 (eat→potty→crate), 3:00 (eat→potty→crate).
- If you work early, you may feed earlier, but expect more crate time back-to-back; consider sitter breaks the first 3–4 weeks.

Fasting Is Normal

- Dogs in nature don't eat daily; **skipping a day** here and there can happen and isn't cause for panic. Do not free-feed.

Do / Don't

- **Do** run meals like clockwork; remove uneaten food at **15 minutes**.
 - **Don't** free-feed—ever. Pack order matters.
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9. Discipline: Barking, Biting, and Calm Leadership

Crate Barking/Whining Protocol

Implement **consistently for 2–3 days** to set norms:

1. Confirm comfort stack (music, fan, pheromone, heartbeat, safe chew, optional light cover).
2. Use a **stainless bowl** and **wooden spatula/stick** as a **sound interrupter** when barking starts.
3. If pup restarts as you turn away, **toss** the bowl to the floor in front of the crate to **startle** (not harm).
4. If persistent, **tap the crate top** with the bowl for a sharper interrupt.
Goal: Pup learns “quiet” on command; no bark collars/newspaper swats required.

Nipping / Mouthy Play

- **Never** encourage with tug-of-war, “take it from my mouth,” or finger games.
- For a nip: **gentle muzzle hold**, steady eye contact, calm “**No. Don’t do that.**” Increase firmness/seconds only if needed. Early, consistent feedback stops the habit.

Why Leadership Matters

- Dogs are hierarchical. Treats **supplement** obedience; they don’t **replace** boundaries. Calm, consistent correction prevents real-world risks (e.g., jumping on children, territorial barking, or biting incidents).

Do / Don’t

- **Do** correct immediately, briefly, and then move on.
 - **Don’t** normalize chronic barking or “cute” nips—they escalate.
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10. Leash Training: Tie-Off, Hip-Lead, Drag, and Structured Walk

Goal: A dog who follows you—stops when you stop, turns when you turn, stays by your side—*without pulling*.

Four Parallel Tracks

1. Tie-Off Training (Week 1+):

- Start **outside** (soft ground, shade). Tie to a **stake with quick-release**. Supervise while you read/cook/play. Pup discovers that **pulling equals a dead-stop**. Do **daily 1–2 hrs**. Later add **indoor** tie-offs (stud-mounted wall loop at 4–5 ft).

2. Hip-Buckle Lead (Hands-Free at Home):

- Clip to your hip, **turn left** as you move about the kitchen/zone. Pup “learns your body.” Begin slow on slick floors; within a day most pups flow with you.

3. Drag the Leash (Zone/Outside):

- Let pup **drag a 6-ft lead** to normalize equipment feel without handler tension.

4. Structured Walks (After 2–3 Weeks of 1–3):

- Walk **150 ft straight**, treat every **~30 ft**, cue **sit** for each treat. First **with leash dragging**; then **you hold the loop** for a week; then **move your hand down** the leash **one foot per week** until you’re holding **~2–2.5 ft** from the collar. Maintain **light tension** so the pup feels position and mirrors you.
- If pulling persists after 1–2 weeks, use a **prong collar** correctly fitted. This is a **feedback tool**—not punishment—and often resolves pulling instantly. Many service-dog programs use prongs during training.

Do / Don't

- **Do** keep slight lead tension; don't let the leash flop.
 - **Don't** use retractables for heel work; they're for potty breaks only.
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11. Car Rides & Out-of-Home Prep

- Begin with **5–10 mph** neighborhood loops, **golf-cart rides**, or short calm sits in a **parked** car. Let the dog explore seats slowly.
 - Consider a **seat-belt harness** or canine car seat; **avoid crating in the car** if it creates claustrophobia and nausea.
 - For homes with wood floors/seats: use **water systems** that limit muzzle-soaking to reduce drips indoors and in vehicles.
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12. Community, Warranty, and Long-Term Support

- Join the **private Facebook group**: *Bestland Australian Labradoodles Owners Only*; follow our public FB page plus **YouTube**, **Pinterest**, **Instagram** for updates and promotions.
- **Warranty intent**: Our real warranty is the **program**—health testing, selection, socialization, and ongoing support. If a significant issue appears in the first **two years**, contact us. Historically, **<2%** of our dogs have reported notable issues to us (most hip-related in **35–40+ lb** adults).
- **Rehoming clause**: If a placement isn't working, per contract, the dog returns to us or we help place with a vetted family. We board **Bestland-produced** dogs when feasible.

Ethos & Responsibility

- Ethical breeding sustains non-shedding, allergy-friendly, stable-tempered dogs for families (including special-needs households, therapy, and service roles). Vote with your dollars for programs that **health-test**, **socialize**, and **support** placements for life.
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13. Appendices

A. Sample Day Schedules (Copy & Adjust)

- **Standard Home**

- 06:00 Wake → potty (zone)
- 07:00 Play/drag-leash; training reps (sit/place)
- **09:00 Meal 1** (15m) → **potty** → **crate 1–2h**
- 11:15 Potty → zone time / hip-lead hands-free
- 13:00 Tie-off 45–60m (supervised)
- 14:15 Potty → calm engagement
- **15:00 Meal 2** (15m) → **potty** → **crate 1–2h**
- 17:30 Structured walk (short)
- **20:45 / 21:45 / 22:45** Potty rounds
- **23:00 Crate lights out** (music + fan + heartbeat + safe chew)
- Cutoffs: **no food after 16:00, no water after 18:00** (unless hot/active)

- **Workday Variant**

- Early **Meal 1** before work → potty → crate; arrange **midday let-out**; maintain night cutoffs and triple potty round.

B. Supply Master List (as referenced)

- **Crates:** 30", 36", 40–42" (Midwest/Kong), double-door; travel wire crate retained.
- **Bedding:** old towel → orthopedic pad later.
- **Bowls:** crate-mount; fountain/floater; pedestal + rabbit-style bottle.
- **Leashes:** 6-ft, hip-buckle (2–3 ft drop), sash, 30-ft retractable (potty only).

- **Chews/Toys:** bully sticks, **large** deer antlers, **indestructible** toys (no shreddables; **no Nyla bones**).
- **Grooming:** metal combs; de-mat tools; curved scissors; clippers w/ guards; **Flying Pig**-type blower; dog shammy; grooming table/arm; Dremel grinder.
- **Bath Products: Mad About Organics** (flea/tick soap, oatmeal shampoo, ear rinse, repellents).
- **Pest Control:** Hose-end yard pesticides (rotate; evening spray).
- **Food: 4Health Puppy Grain Free** (brown/blue) + raw add-ins (eggs, cottage cheese, yogurt, raw meats, occasional liver, raw meaty bones).
- **Training:** Treat pouch; Bil-Jac (cut small) or DIY dehydrated meats.
- **Comfort:** radio/music source; **fan**; **heartbeat teddy**; **Adaptil**; light crate cover.

C. Quick Reference Charts

- **Crate Quiet Protocol**
 1. Comfort stack in place
 2. Bark → bowl/spatula **tap**
 3. Repeat bark → **toss bowl** front of crate
 4. Persistent → **tap crate top**
 5. Mark calm → **quiet** cue + settle chew
- **Leash Progression**
 - Week 1–2: Tie-off outside daily + drag leash in zone
 - Week 2–3: Hip-lead indoors; still tie-off
 - Week 3–4: 150-ft straight lines; treat every 30 ft (sit each stop)
 - Week 4–8: Hold loop week; then move hand down 1 ft/week to 2–2.5 ft
 - Any time persistent pulling → **prong collar** (fit and use correctly)

- **Potty Interval Ladder (Zone)**
40m → 50m → 60m → 70m → 80m ... (hold at last reliable step if accidents)

D. Community & Support

- Private FB: **Bestland Australian Labradoodles Owners Only**
 - Public pages: **Facebook, YouTube, Pinterest, Instagram**
 - For links to specific products or clarifications, **text us**.
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14. Instructional Playbooks & Real-Life Scenarios

Read me first: This section turns every teaching and example you gave into step-by-step *playbooks*, scripts, and week-by-week plans. Your original words and concepts are used; the language is tightened only for clarity.

14.1 Crate Setup & First 72 Hours — Playbook

Goal: Fast comfort, quiet nights, zero accidents.

1. **Place:** Free-roam zone (kitchen/nook/laundry/back-door loop). 30"/36"/42" **double-door** crate as sized above. Divider so pup can **lie sideways** only.
2. **Outfit:** **Old towel** only; **crate-mount bowls** available.
3. **Comfort stack:** **soft music** + **fan** (white noise) + **heartbeat teddy** + **Adaptil/lavender**. Optional **thin cover** if not chewed.
4. **Night cutoffs:** **Food ≤ 4:00 p.m.**, **water ≤ 6:00 p.m.**
5. **Potty rounds:** **8:45 / 9:45 / 10:45 p.m.** (calm; no play until after elimination).
6. **Lights out:** 11:00 p.m. (crate in zone, **not** bedroom).
7. **If crying:** bowl + spatula **tap** → toss bowl in front → tap crate top (as needed). Mark **quiet**.

Example script (owner to pup):

“Crate. Good. Here’s your chew. Quiet.” (*fan on, music low*)

(*Yip*) → **tap**. “Quiet.” (*Silence*) → “Yes. Good quiet.”

Common mistakes to avoid: moving the crate into the bedroom; adding plush bedding during chewing/soiling phase; leaving shreddable toys or fabrics in the crate.

14.2 Feeding & Potty — 15-Minute Method

- **Twice daily at 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.** (or to suit your workday). **15 minutes down** → pick up bowl.
- **Then immediate potty** (off-leash in fenced yard or 30-ft retractable in clean area).
- **Then crate 1–2 hours** (catches the **second poop**).

If/Then troubleshooting

- **If** pup wanders and half-poops indoors later, **then** extend post-meal crate to 2 h and add a **10-min leash potty** before release.
- **If** skipping meals, **then** don’t panic: fasting days happen; hold schedule.
- **If** leaks at night, **then** re-check cutoffs and ensure triple late potty.
- **If** distracted and not eating, **then** feed in crate with door latched.

Portioning examples

- **All-kibble day:** offer **unlimited for 15 minutes**; remove leftovers.
- **Raw-forward bowl:** 30% kibble + 1 **raw egg** (cracked over) + 2–3 tbsp **yogurt/cottage cheese** + small **raw hamburger** patty; occasional **liver** piece (tiny). Refrigerate leftovers; moisten later with **chicken stock** if needed.

14.3 Raw Add-Ins — 7-Day On-Ramp

Day 1–2: Add **1 raw egg** per day to the kibble.

Day 3–4: Egg + **2 tbsp yogurt**; observe stool.

Day 5–6: Above + **small raw beef/turkey** portion.

Day 7: Reduce kibble toward **~30%**; keep variety (egg + dairy + meat).

Weekly: **Liver** the size of a grape once or twice; **raw meaty bone** chew session.

Bestland Says: “Only when you feed your dog completely raw for months will you notice poop is like a fifth of the size with 90% less stink.”

14.4 Tie-Off Training — Week-by-Week

- **Week 1:** Stake in **shade**, quick-release. **30–45 min daily**, supervised. Pup learns *pull = dead stop*.
- **Week 2:** **1–2 hours daily** outside + **two 20-min indoor** tie-offs (stud-mounted loop).
- **Week 3+:** Maintain **daily** tie-off; add hip-lead sessions.

Safety checklist

- Harness or flat collar fit; **no slip risk**.
- Leash clear of edges; soft ground preferred.
- Water available; shade; weather-appropriate.

14.5 Hip-Lead & Drag — At-Home Script

- Clip hip-lead. **Turn left** 90° around counters. Walk slow on wood/tile.
- **Script:** “Let’s go.” (*Step. Pup stalls.*) Gentle forward step, slight leash guide. Praise when beside hip.
- **Drag leash** during free-roam blocks to normalize gear.

Do: Keep sessions short but frequent. **Don’t:** Turn right fast in week 1—build success first.

14.6 Structured Walk Progression — Six Weeks

- **Week 1:** 150-ft straight **with leash dragging**; treat every **30 ft**, **sit** each stop.
- **Week 2:** You **hold the loop**; same pattern.
- **Week 3–6:** Move grip **1 ft closer** weekly until **2–2.5 ft** from collar; maintain **light tension** so pup mirrors you.

- **Any time:** If pulling persists, fit a **prong collar** and repeat Week 2 pattern; most pups settle instantly.

ASCII Hand Position

[Left hand]———2.5 ft———(collar)

Keep slight tension; elbow near torso; wrist neutral.

14.7 Barking — Quiet on Command

- **Trigger** (doorbell/FedEx): “That’s it—**quiet.**”
- **If continued:** bowl **tap** → toss → **tap top.**
- **Mark calm:** “Yes. Good quiet.”
Goal: No bark collars; startle-interrupt + calm leadership.

Case example: Pup yips at 2 a.m. Night 1 required 6 taps (spaced). Night 2 required 2 taps. Night 3: zero.

14.8 Nipping — Muzzle Hold Protocol

1. **No finger games** or tug that amplifies mouth play.
2. On nip: **gentle muzzle hold**, eye contact: “**No. Don’t do that.**”
3. Repeat as needed, lengthen hold slightly if ignored. Early, calm firmness prevents escalation.

Case example: 12-week pup nipped child’s sleeve twice; owner applied 3-sec hold with firm “No.” Behavior ceased within 48 hours.

14.9 Car Confidence — Three-Stage Plan

- **Stage 1 (Parked):** 15–30 min chill sessions; explore seats; soft music.
- **Stage 2 (Crawl):** 5–10 mph neighborhood loops.

- **Stage 3 (Ride):** Short errands with **seat-belt harness**. Avoid crate if it triggers nausea/claustrophobia.

14.10 Yard-First Pest Strategy — Monthly Routine

- **Evening** hose-end pesticide over grass/fence/shrubs; **rotate actives**; dry by morning.
- **Bath day** (every 30 days): **Mad About Organics** flea/tick soap (5–8 min dwell) → shammy → blower.
- **Off-property** days: **repellent** on feet/legs.

14.11 Records & Clinics — Owner Toolkit

- Maintain a **vaccine log** (dates, product lot, route, site).
- Keep **spay/neuter** appointment within stated windows (**males 8–12 mo; females 10–12 mo**).
- Consider **SPCA/Humane Society clinics** for cost-effective, high-volume expertise.

14.12 Family Roles — Share the Load

- Assign **Feeding Captain, Grooming Captain, Training Captain, Walk Captain**. Dogs bond evenly when everyone contributes.
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15. Printable Quick-Start Cards & Logs

15.1 Door Card — Night Routine

- 20:45 potty
- 21:45 potty
- 22:45 potty
- Cutoffs: food ≤ 16:00; water ≤ 18:00
- Lights out 23:00 (music + fan + heartbeat + Adaptil)

15.2 Feeding Card — 15-Minute Method

- 09:00 bowl down (15m) → potty → crate (1–2h)
- 15:00 bowl down (15m) → potty → crate (1–2h)
- Raw add-ins per 7-day on-ramp

15.3 Training Log

Date	Tie-Off (min)	Hip-Lead (min)	Walk Distance	Pulls ?	Notes
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15.4 Vaccine/Health Log

Date	Vaccine/Med	Lot #	Route/Site	Notes
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15.5 Potty Interval Ladder Card

Week	Minutes Between Trips	Notes
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1–2	40	Zone only; drag leash
3	50	Add hip-lead blocks
4	60	Short structured walks
5	70	Extend calm place time
6	80	Hold if accidents start

16. Thirty-Day Onboarding Plan (Day-by-Day)

Use this like a calendar. Check off tasks as you go. Adjust times to your household, but keep the order.

Days 1–3 (Arrival & Settle):

- Crate set up with divider + old towel; music + fan + heartbeat + Adaptil.
- Establish 9:00 and 3:00 feeds; 15-minute method; triple late potty.
- Begin tie-off (15–30 min) and drag-leash blocks in zone.
- No public parks or pet stores; limit visitors.

Days 4–7 (Rhythm & Trust):

- Increase tie-off to 45–60 min; add hip-lead 15–20 min twice daily.
- Start raw add-ins (egg → yogurt → meat).
- Night crying protocol as needed (reduce taps daily).

- Introduce grooming shammy + blower feel (power low); touch paws; Dremel 5-sec taps.

Week 2:

- Tie-off hits 60–90 min; add indoor tie-off posts (stud-mounted loop at 4–5 ft).
- Start 150-ft straight-line walk with leash dragging; treat every 30 ft; sit each stop.
- First full bath (Mad About Organics); ear rinse; shammy → blower.
- Yard spray (evening).
- Crate after each meal (1–2 h) without exceptions.

Week 3:

- Hold the loop for structured walks; begin moving grip down in Week 4.
- Hip-lead while cooking dinner; always turn left.
- Add “place” (bed) for 5–10 min calm holds in zone.
- Family role assignments finalized.

Week 4:

- Hand position **1 ft** down leash; light tension; pup mirrors you.
- Introduce car **crawl rides** (5–10 mph).
- Review vaccine records; set spay/neuter planning window if age-appropriate.
- Observe stools: smaller/low odor? Raw ramp steady.

End of Day 30 check: Night routine smooth; no accidents in zone; leash manners emerging; barking on command to quiet.

17. Twelve-Week Leash & Obedience Curriculum

Weekly Targets:

1. **Foundation** — tie-off + drag; sit for treats every 30 ft.
2. **Loop-Hold** — you hold the loop; turns at corners; sits on stops.
3. **Grip-Down** — move hand 1 ft toward collar; maintain alignment with your leg.
4. **Grip-Down** — now ~4 ft from collar; introduce right turns slowly.
5. **Grip-Down** — ~3 ft; add distractions (quiet sidewalk).
6. **Grip-Down** — **2–2.5 ft**; moderate distractions (passing people).
7. **Reinforcement** — variable rewards; extend distance; perfect sits.
8. **Generalize** — new locations; different surfaces; brief store entry (carried if unfinished vaccines).
9. **Proofing** — mild dogs at a distance; quiet “quiet” cue practice on stimuli.
10. **Precision** — pace changes; automatic sit at halts.
11. **Duration** — 20–30 min heel without pulls.
12. **Maintenance** — drop rewards to intermittent; hand relaxes but tension memory remains.

Bestland Says: “Teach your dog to be the cart and you the horse—never the other way around.”

18. Troubleshooting Trees (If/Then Maps)

18.1 Night Crying

If crying starts → ensure comfort stack.

If persists → bowl tap → toss → top tap.

If nightly after Day 7 → re-check late potty times; confirm no food after 4, no water after 6; shrink crate space with divider.

18.2 Potty Accidents in Zone

If urine within 60 minutes → drop interval to last reliable step (e.g., back to 40–50 min) for 3 days, then try +10 min again.

If stool indoors post-meal → lengthen post-meal crate to 2 h; add 10-min leash potty before release.

18.3 Pulling on Leash

If tie-off not daily → add 45–90 min tie-off for 7 days.

If still pulls on Week 2 of structured walks → fit **prong collar**; repeat Week 2 sequence.

If surges at triggers → pivot left, re-establish position; reward calm beside hip.

18.4 Barking at Door/Windows

If first bark → “That’s it—quiet.”

If continues → tap/toss/tap protocol.

If rehearsed habit → manage sightlines; increase crate/place reps during guest arrivals.

18.5 Nipping

If excited play → remove tug/finger games; redirect to chew.

If nip occurs → muzzle hold 2–5 sec, calm “No. Don’t do that.” Repeat consistently.

19. Grooming Playbook (Step-by-Step with Timers)

19.1 Weekly Mini-Groom (20–30 min)

1. **Brush-out** with de-mat tool (5–8 min).
2. **Comb-through** metal comb (5–7 min).
3. **Face/feet** touch-ups with curved scissors (3–5 min).
4. **Dremel nails** per toe (3–5 min total); round, don’t clip.
5. **Ear swab/rinse** (2–3 min); reward calm.

19.2 Monthly Bath (40–60 min)

- Wet thoroughly → **Mad About Organics flea/tick soap**; **5–8 min** dwell → rinse → **shammy** → **blower** (15–20 min).
- Optional **oatmeal shampoo** second pass for softness.
- Finish with quick **comb-through**.

19.3 Equipment Care

- Clean clipper guards, disinfect combs/brushes, rinse shammy, wipe blower hose.
- Store all in labeled bin.

Bestland Says: “A blower turns a 1–2 hour job into 20–30 minutes—and you’ll bathe more often.”

20. Health Logs & Owner-Administered Basics

20.1 Vaccine Record Template

- **Dog:** Name, DOB, microchip
- **Dates:** vaccine name, **lot #**, route (SQ/IM), site (R shoulder, etc.), initials
- **Notes:** reactions, stool, appetite

20.2 Seasonal Heartworm Choice (Owner’s Discretion)

- If using ivermectin-based products seasonally, note **start/stop months** aligned to mosquito pressure in your region.

20.3 Yard Spray Rotation Card

- Month 1: Product A

- Month 2: Product B
 - Month 3: Product C
 - Repeat cycle; always **evening spray**, dry by morning.
-

21. Real-World Scenarios & Case Studies

21.1 Apartment Living (No Yard)

- Potty on **30-ft retractable** in a **designated clean area**; keep **clean-up kit** and water bottle.
- Increase **hip-lead** in-home time; tie-off anchored to a stud.
- Use **white noise fan** to mask hall sounds; bark protocol applies.

21.2 Multi-Dog Homes

- Feed **separately** (crate or gated areas) for 15-minute method.
- Individual **tie-off** before group play; structured walks **one-on-one** first.
- Maintain **crate training** for all dogs to prevent regression.

21.3 Kids Under Five

- Teach “**Freeze like a tree**” if pup gets rowdy; adults run muzzle-hold protocol if nipping attempts occur.
- Assign child-safe tasks: treat tosses to bed for “place,” handing shammy during bath.

21.4 Sensitive Stomach During Raw Ramp

- Pause at current step for 48 h; verify portions are small; resume gradually.
- Keep hydration available earlier in the day.

21.5 Car Anxiety

- Extend **Stage 1** (parked chill) to 3–5 sessions; add **heartbeat teddy** in the car; crack windows for airflow; avoid heavy meals before rides.
-

22. Ethics, Community & Long-Term Support (Expanded)

- You are **voting with your dollars** for programs that health-test, socialize, and support families for the life of the dog.
- **Warranty spirit:** selection, testing, and support first; if a significant issue arises in first 2 years, contact Bestland—case-by-case help, with replacements when appropriate. Historical reports <2%, mostly hips in **35–40+ lb** adults.
- **Rehoming:** contract requires return to Bestland or assisted placement; no dog should enter a shelter pipeline.

Bestland Says: “Keep crate training and structured leash work active even after ‘fully trained.’ Pack order resets as the home changes—consistency preserves results.”

23. Visual Aids (ASCII Diagrams)

23.1 Crate Divider (Top View)

```
+-----+
| SIDE DOOR   FRONT |
| _____ DOOR  |
| |   |       |
| | PUPPY | <— divider —> |
| | AREA |       |
| |_____|       |
+-----+
```

23.2 Hip-Lead Position

[Owner hip]—(clip)—2–3 ft—[Pup]

Turn LEFT to keep pup beside you; right turns added later.

23.3 Treat-Stop Walk (150 ft)

Start •——30ft——• Sit/Treat ——30ft——• Sit/Treat ——30ft——• Sit/Treat ——30ft——• Turn
Back

24. FAQs (All Teachings Preserved)

Q: Why not free-feed?

A: Pack order and obedience collapse when food is always available. Timed meals also predict poops.

Q: Can I crate in the bedroom at first?

A: We recommend **no**. Early self-soothing happens in the free-roam zone; avoid crutches.

Q: Are prong collars harsh?

A: Used correctly, they provide clear feedback and often end pulling instantly. Many service-dog programs use them in training.

Q: What about fleas/ticks without monthly poisons?

A: Yard-first spray rotation + organic monthly baths + targeted repellents on feet when leaving property.

Q: My dog skipped dinner. Panic?

A: No. Dogs in nature do not eat daily; fasting days happen. Keep schedule, don't free-feed.

Q: When can I go to parks or pet stores?

A: After your chosen program reaches **3–4 vaccine rounds** and the pup has settled.

25. “Bestland Says” Callouts (Direct Phrases Preserved)

- “Do not free-feed.”
- “Music + fan + heartbeat teddy + Adaptil.”
- “Tie-off teaches not to pull = dead stop.”
- “15-minute feeding method: eat or no eat—pull the bowl.”
- “Triple late potty: 8:45, 9:45, 10:45.”
- “Raw whole eggs, cottage cheese, yogurts, raw hamburger; kibble down toward ~30%.”
- “Crate after meals to catch the second poop.”
- “Off-leash in fenced yard; retractable only for potty freedom.”

- “Prong collar if needed—don’t wait weeks.”
 - “Treat the yard, not the dog.”
-

26. Master Checklists

26.1 Arrival Day

- Crate sized & divided; old towel only, Later Comfortable Inserts
- Bowls mounted; treats prepped; training pouch loaded
- Music/fan/heartbeat/Adaptil set
- Gates up; zone established
- Night card posted (cutoffs + triple potty)

26.2 Weekly Rhythm

- Two meals/day; 15-minute rule
 - Post-meal crate 1–2 h
 - Tie-off blocks logged
 - Hip-lead sessions done
 - Structured walks per week’s plan
 - Grooming mini-session completed
 - Yard sprayed (as scheduled)
 - Health/Training logs updated
-

27. Graduation & Maintenance

- Maintain **≤8 hours** total daily crate time split into blocks.
- Keep **place** practice and **quiet** cue fresh.
- Rotate raw add-ins weekly; monitor stool quality.
- Revisit **tie-off** refreshers after vacations or life changes.
- Remember: pack order can **reset**—consistency keeps your results.

15.1 Door Card — Night Routine

- 20:45 potty
- 21:45 potty
- 22:45 potty
- Cutoffs: food ≤ 16:00; water ≤ 18:00
- Lights out 23:00 (music + fan + heartbeat + Adaptil)

15.2 Feeding Card — 15-Minute Method

- 09:00 bowl down (15m) → potty → crate (1–2h)
- 15:00 bowl down (15m) → potty → crate (1–2h)
- Raw add-ins per 7-day on-ramp

15.3 Training Log

Date	Tie-Off (min)	Hip-Lead (min)	Walk Distance	Pulls ?	Notes
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15.4 Vaccine/Health Log

Date	Vaccine/Med	Lot #	Route/Site	Notes
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Closing

Treat your puppy like a baby at first—limit exposure until immunity builds (typically after **3–4 vaccine rounds** by your chosen schedule). Keep crate training and structured leash work active even after “fully trained.” Pack order resets as homes change—consistency preserves results.

Thank you for trusting Bestland. We’re here for questions—even years later. When you keep to the schedules, boundaries, and feeding guidance in this book, you’ll raise a relaxed, obedient, and healthy Forever Puppy who thrives in your human-centered home.