**J BAR T RANCH**

*Breeders of Quality ASDR Toy and Miniature Australian Shepherds & AKC English Bulldogs*

Here at the J Bar T Ranch our customers frequently ask us, “What should I purchase before bringing my new puppy home?” So, we have compiled a list of some items that you may want to have at home before your puppy’s arrival along with what products we feel work best and where to get them at the best price.

* Kennel for crate training

We strongly recommend crate training your new puppy. For their safety as well as the preservation of any items that you don’t wish to have chewed. You can purchase a kennel that is large enough for your adult dog but has a divider for using as it grows. The divider means you only need to buy one kennel, instead of several different sizes as puppy grows. By keeping your puppy in a smaller area, you will be able to potty train much faster. Puppies don’t like to potty where they eat and sleep! We get our crates at either Tractor Supply or on Chewy.com as for best prices!

* Collar, Harness and Leash

Leash training will go faster if you start now while your puppy is young. Even if you don’t plan on having him on a leash often, he needs to know it is ok. There are times when it will be necessary to have him on a leash. You can use a collar or harness whichever you prefer!

* Chews & Toys

We recommend Nyla bones for chewing and to help with teething. They have ones for puppies and then as they grow for power chewers! Rawhide can come apart and the puppy can ingest large chunks that can cause blockages, which can cause costly surgeries. We have found that the stuffing free toys are a favorite of the pups and are less mess for you since the “stuffing” won’t end up all over your floor or yard. Balls and Frisbees are also good things to use to engage your puppy in play. Racquet Balls work well as they don’t get as slimy as tennis balls. While your pup is young a fabric type “Frisbee” is easier on his smaller mouth and teeth. Remember to supervise your puppy when they have any kind of toy that could be chewed into pieces and they could swallow or ingest!!

* Dog Food

We feed and recommend Purina Pro Plan Focus Puppy Chicken for our Toy & Mini Aussies and English Bulldog PUPPIES! You can purchase this dog food at Petsmart or Tractor Supply or anywhere online, but we have found the cheapest place to purchase it is probably at chewy.com on auto ship as long as your order is over $49 your shipping is free and they will deliver your food straight to your front door. We feed our ADULT Toy & Mini Aussies Pro Plan Sport 30/20 and our English Bulldogs Purina Pro Plan Focus Salmon Sensitive Stomach & Skin Formula. \*\*\*We no longer advocate or promote Grain Free Foods in general for many health reasons that have now surfaced that we have recently learned about and have experienced with our own dogs! Unfortunately, most of the Grain Free Foods are loaded with phytoestrogens & legumes which can cause a multitude of health issues in dogs from reproductive & hormone imbalances and fertility issues to other major health and heart issues. WE have seen these issues first hand with our own dogs and with our customer’s dogs and know that the negative effects are REAL for these dogs! I know we have all bought into the grain free food fad and believed the hype of how it is so much better for our dogs than grain inclusive foods but with what I now know I would question “at what cost to our dogs!?” In my research I have found that the grains (I once was so horrified to see in dog foods due to false information I had been led to believe) aren’t so bad for our dogs after all with nutritional value. They are also a much lesser evil than what has been loaded into our dog foods now in excessive amounts. Unless your dog has a specific allergy to grain (which is rare as most food allergies are due to a meat source) there is no reason to feed Grain Free dog food! Most of these dog foods are loaded with Peas, oh and More Peas & Legumes, Potatoes and other phytoestrogens and even vegetables & herbs and oils that are toxic to dogs. There is quite a few dog food companies (especially Pet Boutique Brands) that haven’t done their due diligence to determine whether the new formulas of dog foods that they keep loading with these ingredients are safe to feed dogs and in my research along with my personal experience with quite a few dogs I would say they are not!! If you are curious to what negative effect on your dog things like legumes (such as peas), lots of potatoes and other phytoestrogens (soy, flaxseed), vegetables (such as tomatoes) herbs such as rosemary extract you can easily find information on it with a little research. Dog food research can be very confusing, and we are happy to discuss this with you if you have questions or would like more information. Not every dog is going to do well on the same dog food so if you have questions on a list of dog foods that we feel like are good to feed to choose from let us know and we can get that information to you.

* Vitamins

We use and recommend NuVet Plus Vitamins for optimum health and as an immune system builder for your puppy!! They are not available in any retail stores. They may be purchased on-line at [www.nuvet.com/98896](http://www.nuvet.com/98896) or you can call 1-800-474-7044 and use your order code 98896 for special pricing and for us to get the notification that you are purchasing vitamins so we can enroll you in the extended health contract guarantee we offer. If you select the auto ship program you can also save 15%. Your new puppies’ health contract congenital defect guarantee will be extended from 12 months to 5 years if you continue to keep your new puppy on the NuVet Plus vitamins for this time (Please see our puppy contract for complete details.)

* Dog Bed

 You may want to purchase a dog bed for in your puppy’s kennel or for wherever they will be spending most of their time. Just keep in mind that during the teething stage a puppy’s bed often looks like an overstuffed chew toy!! So, you could always substitute a cheap fleece blanket until they are older and not so likely to destroy their bed!

* Revolution or Multi Advantage

We use and recommend Revolution or Advantage Multi for our flea, tick and heartworm preventative and as a monthly wormer. They are topical product that is put on the dog’s skin between their shoulder blades once a month that kills certain type of worms and prevents heartworm and fleas!! We use Revolution on our puppies at 6 weeks (it is safer to use on younger puppies) and if they are here still at 10 weeks of age we use Multi Advantage monthly after that. Your puppy will come with their first application complete and you will just get a supply from your vet when you go in for your first puppy visit to continue monthly. Please be cautious when using some of the newer and stronger products that are out for flea/heartworm preventative as we have seen and heard horror stories of dogs having severe reactions to a lot of these medications. With the Australian Shepherd breed in particularly be cautious when you use these products to not ever overdose these medications! We use the above-mentioned products because we have safely and effectively used them on all our puppies/dogs of varying sizes with no severe reactions!!

* Probiotics

We use Purina Forti Flora packets that can be sprinkled on food or ProBios paste or Propectalin Paste given orally anytime during stress, worming or vaccinations. Either one of these products can be bought at your vet or any place where dog and vet supplies is sold. We buy ours at Lambert Vet Supply or Chewy.com but you can also get probiotics through your vet, some pet stores and Tractor Supply! Plain yogurt is also a good substitute to help put the good bacteria back into their systems.

* Bath and Grooming Products

We use NuVet Labs Shampoos, Soothing Skin Spray, Conditioning Spray and Ear Cleaner. You can order these products at <http://www.nuvet.com/98896>. They are natural, hypoallergenic, detergent & soap free with Botanical Extracts that help restore natural moisture & deodorize well!! They do a great job of moisturizing their skin and coats and smell wonderful. Remember to not over bathe your pet as it strips the natural oils from their skin. Bathing once a month is enough and you can give them a good brushing & use the conditioner/deodorizer spray in between baths!! I would also suggest keeping nail trimmers, eye wash, ear wash and a good quality brush for keeping your new puppy clean and groomed. For the Bulldogs hypoallergenic, unscented baby wipes are good to keep on hand to clean folds & wrinkles on face and around tail!

* NuVet Labs, Lambert Vet Supply, Chewy.com or Dog.com

We have a lot of customers that ask us where we purchase some our products and dog supplies ~~~We purchase our Vet & Health Supplies, Probios & Propectalin Paste from Lambert Vet Supply. You can find them at [www.lambertvetsupply.com](http://www.lambertvetsupply.com/). We buy our crates, dog pens, puppy training pads, dog toys and some of our dog supplies at either Tractor Supply or online <http://www.chewy.com> or <http://www.dog.com>! We buy our vitamin supplements, bathing & grooming products at [www.nuvet.com/98896](http://www.nuvet.com/98896). \*\**Use this link and code when you order from NuVet Labs and you will extend your health contract guarantee with us on your puppy!!*