Puppy Socialization Checklist

Tips for Socialization:

- The critical socialization period in puppies closes at 12-16 weeks, so every day counts!
- Every experience should be a FUN, positive one for your puppy. If the puppy is fearful, go at their pace and don't force the interaction.
- Use lots of treats, pairing new things with the association that new stuff = awesome noms!



Checking the ears Examining mouth and gums Opening the eyelids Squeezing the feet Handling and trimming nails Pinching skin Poking the skin with a capped pen Touching and squeezing the nose Gently restraining the puppy Gentle hugs Pulling the collar (gotcha) Wiping the body with a towel Putting on a harness Putting on a muzzle Touching the tail Putting on an e-collar (cone of shame) Bathing or getting wet Nail clippers/dremel Being picked up Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks Motorcycles		
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Touching and squeezing the nose Gently restraining the puppy Gentle hugs Pulling the collar (gotcha) Wiping the body with a towel Putting on a harness Putting on a muzzle Touching the tail Putting on an e-collar (cone of shame) Bathing or getting wet Nail clippers/dremel Being picked up Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Pinching skin	
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Putting on a harness Putting on a muzzle Touching the tail Putting on an e-collar (cone of shame) Bathing or getting wet Nail clippers/dremel Being picked up Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Pulling the collar (gotcha)	
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Nail clippers/dremel Being picked up Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Putting on an e-collar (cone of shame)	
Being picked up Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Bathing or getting wet	
Brushing fur WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Nail clippers/dremel	
WHEELS Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Being picked up	
Skateboards/rollerblades Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Brushing fur	
Strollers Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	WHEELS	
Wheelchairs Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Skateboards/rollerblades	
Bikes Cars Buses/Trucks	Strollers	
Cars Buses/Trucks	Wheelchairs	
Buses/Trucks	Bikes	
	Cars	
Motorcycles	Buses/Trucks	
	Motorcycles	

DEODLE	
PEOPLE	
Women	
People of different ethnicities	
Men	
People with deep voices or facial hair	
People wearing hats/helmets/hoodies	
People wearing backpacks/bags	
People wearing sunglasses	
People with canes, walkers, walking sticks	
Children standing and playing	
Toddlers	
Infants	
Joggers	
Hugging/kissing	
People in uniforms	
People nearby when they have food/toys	
Shouting/yelling	
Costumes	
DOGS	
Dogs who play well, will correct appropriately	
Dogs on leash the puppy will not meet	
Dogs they will meet but not get to play with	
Different sizes of dogs	
Other puppies	
ANIMALS	
Cats	
Ducks/geese (from a distance!)	
Other animals they may encounter	

SOUNDS	
Thunder	
Fireworks	
Babies and kids	
Alarms	
Doorbell/knock on door	
Vacuum cleaner	
Sirens	
Washer/Dryer/Dishwasher/Microwave	
Car honk	
Hair Dryer	
Popcorn popping	
TV (especially with animal sounds)	
Lawnmower	
OBJECTS	
Pots/pans	
Blankets/rugs being shaken	
Brooms	
Balloons	
Umbrellas	
Plastic bags	
Garbage cans	
Ceiling fans	
Vacuum cleaners	
Mirrors	
Glass doors	
Bouncing balls	
Crates	
Furniture and dog beds	
Sprinklers/hoses	

PLACES	
Trails/Parks	
Inside buildings (ie Home Depot)	
City street	
Parking lot	
Veterinary clinic	
Car rides	
Pool or other water	
Pet Store	
Crowded restaurant, store, fair, etc	

