

New Puppy Paperwork Checklist

The documents and first-weeks tasks that are easy to lose track of while a puppy dismantles your home. Check items off as they are done and file everything in one place.

Paperwork to collect on day one

- Adoption or purchase contract
- Health records from the breeder, shelter, or rescue (vaccines already given, deworming dates)
- Microchip number and registry transfer to your name
- Pedigree or registration papers, if any
- Local license or registration application
- Pet insurance enrolled or quote requested (waiting periods apply — earlier is better)

First vet visit (book within the first week)

- Appointment booked — bring ALL paperwork from above
- Vaccine plan confirmed for your area and lifestyle (series typically runs 6–16 weeks)
- Parasite prevention plan (fleas, ticks, worms, heartworm where relevant)
- Next booster date recorded and reminder set before leaving the clinic
- Spay/neuter timing discussed
- Emergency clinic identified and saved in your phone

First weeks

- Starting weight recorded (weigh weekly during growth)
- Food brand, amount, and transition plan written down
- Socialization plan agreed with your vet (controlled exposure before the series completes)
- Puppy class that verifies vaccines booked
- One storage place chosen for every record from now on

The habit that pays off for the next decade: photograph every document the day you get it, and keep it filed per pet.