

NEWBORN PUPPY

Milestones Tracker

(BIRTH TO 8 WEEKS)

WEEK 1: NEONATAL STAGE

- Eyes and ears closed
- Feeding every 2-3 hours
- Daily weight gain logged
- Whelping box kept at 85-90°F
- Minimal handling (only as needed)

WEEK 2: EYES OPENING

- Eyes partially open (day 10-14)
- Ear canals beginning to open
- Slight increase in movement
- Daily weight gain continues
- Begin brief, gentle handling sessions

WEEK 3: SENSORY AWAKENING

- Hearing and vision improve
- First baby teeth visible
- Puppies begin to stand and wobble
- Introduced soft blankets and toys
- Stimulate elimination if needed



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WEEK 4: SOCIALIZATION & WEANING BEGINS

Play fighting starts

Introduced gruel/soft puppy food

Exploratory behavior increases

Human interaction begins

Pen kept clean and warm (75-80°F)

WEEK 5: PERSONALITY SHINES

Increased energy and barking

Puppies respond to familiar voices

Potty pad area introduced

Toys provided for stimulation

Gentle handling by different people

WEEK 6: BONDING & BASIC TRAINING

Eating solid food 3-4 times daily

Learning bite inhibition with littermates

Crate training introduced

First short car ride taken

Vet appointment scheduled



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WEEK 7: EXPOSURE & PREP FOR NEW HOMES

- Confident walking and playing
- Introduced grooming tools
- Practiced household sounds (vacuum, doorbell)
- Socialization with children or calm pets
- Routines for feeding and potty reinforced

WEEK 8: READY FOR ADOPTION

- Fully weaned from mom
- Responds to name or simple cues
- First round of vaccines completed
- Puppy pack prepared (toys, blanket, info)
- Health & weight records shared with adopters

💡 TIPS:

- Use this checklist weekly to monitor progress.
- Highlight any areas of concern for your vet.
- Make notes about each puppy's behavior and temperament for new owners.

