

SARAVILLA GREAT DANE

A GUIDE TO RAISING
YOUR SARAVILLA DANE

GENERAL CARE FOR YOUR NEW GREAT DANE

The following instructions are to help the new Dane owner with any questions that will arise with your new pup. I have compiled a great deal of beneficial info, regarding the care of these wonderful dogs. If, at any time, you have questions or concerns, please call me.

Feeding Your Pup

Great Danes are classified as a giant breed. They reach their ultimate height by 2 years, but are very close to it by a year. Because of this very fast growth rate, they are prone to skeletal problems. Studies have found

that if you slow the rate of growth, especially at an age

where it is the fastest, then you can help to prevent such problems as Wobblers Syndrome, hip dysplasia and other bone disorders. To slow the growth on my pups, I feed a dog food of 23% protein. INEVER FEED PUPPY FOOD but rather I feed a good adult

dog food such as *Eagle Pack* or *Chicken Soup for the Adult Dog Lover's Soul*; *Nature's Recipe Adult* or *Natural Choice Adult*.

DO NOT supplement with calcium or table scraps. One supplement that I highly recommend is Vitamin C or Ester C. 500-1000mgs given 2 times a day helps with the immune system and growth of your pup.

Danes should always be fed 2 times a day and on the next page is a feeding chart.



Great Dane Training

Your puppy should be well socialized from the time you bring it home; kindergarten puppy classes for puppies three to six months old are strongly recommended. These classes should be followed with a basic obedience class. Your puppy will grow as much his first year as a child grows in fourteen years.

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Growing Pains

Growing pains or wondering lameness (pawo) is exactly that: growing pains. The pups will limp at different times on different legs. Crate rest the pup if this occurs and supplement with coated aspirin, (Ecotrin or Ascripton) if the pain persists.

beginners class to have them learn basic obedience. This can start around 3 month.

Crate training is an excellent idea. Get a large enough crate for them to grow into and keep them in the crate while you are away, but not for more than 4-5 hours, if possible, or overnight.

Great dane pups sleep a great deal so do not be alarmed. They do this as they are growing very quickly.

Keep the pup well socialized with people and strangers. They can be shy, so they need to go with you in the car and keep socialized.



General Care

Danes are a family companion and are happiest when they are raised within the family and also around other dogs. They are NOT a dog that should be kept in the backyard as a watch dog. They can not take extreme temperatures of any kind and should only go outside in the cold for a few minutes at a time.

Although they are generally mild mannered, they do need obedience classes. It is an excellent idea to enroll the pup in a

FEEDING CHART

AGE	TOTAL DAILY AMOUNT	FREQUENCY (meals/day)
2 Months	2 - 4 Cups	3
3 Months	3 - 5 Cups	2
4 Months	4 - 6 Cups	2
5 Months	5 - 7 Cups	2
6 Months	6 - 8 Cups	2
7 Months	7 - 9 Cups	2
8 Months	8 - 10 Cups	2
9-12 Months	9 - 11 Cups	2

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Life Threatening Emergencies

Hypertrophic Osteodystrophy (HOD) is a condition affecting young, fast growing pups between 3-8 months of age. It can be brought on by a vaccine reaction, antibiotic allergies; or too much protein. Symptoms include: fever, lethargy, swollen joints and pain. Even a lethargic pup with a fever should be checked by a vet. If caught and treated early, it can be corrected. Diagnosis with x-rays and treatment consists of Vitamin C injections, antibiotics, specifically Chloramphenicol or Chloramycetin, and steroids. Consult me immediately if such a condition arises.

Bloat or Gastric Torsion is a life threatening emergency that needs immediate attention. In my 13 years of having danes, I have only had this happen to 2 of my adults and they had the surgery and made 100% full recoveries.

The symptoms: a distended belly; trying to vomit but can not, distress, restlessness. Time is of the essence. The stomach is filling with gas and will then twist or torsion. As the stomach twists, the blood supply is cut off and the dog goes into shock and dies. The vet will try to first pass a stomach tube to relive gas, and then surgery may be performed. This surgery can cost between \$2,000 - \$3,000 dollars and after which, the heart can give out. The vets will also "tack" the stomach to help to keep it from twisting again.

How can bloat be avoided: do not over feed your dog. Do not exercise your dog right before or right after feeding. Limit water intake. Do not constantly switch foods.

In looking for a vet, make sure that your vet is knowledgeable with giant breeds. If not, find a vet that is. Please let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns. My email and both phone numbers are listed and no concern is too small. Not only have you gained a new pup, but I feel that you have gained me as a lifetime support system for you and your Dane!

Medication and Vaccines

Drugs to steer clear of, if possible for dane pups under 12 months: Steer clear of all Sulfa drugs until after 12 months of age.

IMPORTANT: FOR THE PUPS 9 AND 12 WEEKS SHOTS, SEE IF YOUR VET CAN DIVIDE UP THE DOSES SO THAT THE PUP WILL NOT HAVE A VACCINE REACTION. NO RABIES VACCINES UNTIL AFTER 6 MONTHS.

*Enjoy!! Fondly,
Mimi Kim*