

[Raising A Chihuahua To Be Happy And Healthy](#)

The pint sized stature of the Chihuahua makes it a dog of choice for someone who is short on space but long on the desire to have an adorable pet. Be aware, though, that the small size that makes them so cute also brings on it's own set of challenges for raising a Chihuahua.

One of the funniest things about Chihuahuas is that they have no clue how small they actually are. Many times they are referred to as a "big dog in a small dog's body" and they are so defensive that they don't think twice about confronting the biggest dog on the block. Consequently, you need to always keep tabs on your Chihuahua without ever letting them go outside without you monitoring them.

If your Chihuahua is still a puppy, you have to provide him with a nutritious diet. Take note that he has different food requirements depending on his age. From the time he starts to eat until he reaches 3 months old, he should be fed four small meals a day. From 3 months to 6 months old, reduce his meal to three times a day. After 6 months, two meals a day is sufficient for his food requirements until he reaches one year old.

When your Chihuahua is already one year old, he only needs to be fed once a day. But he will like it better if you give several small meals in a day rather than serve it in just one big meal. Observe what kind of food he really likes but usually canned foods are hard to digest and might cause diarrhea.

Chihuahua are not only lovable but they are also easy to take care of. In fact, they are quite easy to bathe without any great resistance from them. It is recommended that anyone raising a Chihuahua bathe them once in a month. Over bathing could remove the natural oils from their furs and would also cause dandruff.

When giving your Chihuahua his bath, it's very important that you're careful to avoid getting water into his ears. If the ears happen to get wet they can cause a horrible infection. Due to the possibility of infection, you want to make sure you thoroughly monitor your dog's ears and call your Vet immediately if they appear to be red at all or you notice him scratching them.

Properly training your Chihuahua is required for the dog's safety, as well as the convenience of having an obedient dog. The initial training you will need to begin on is house training (potty training) your puppy, but afterwards you need to begin teaching him or her general commands so that he or she will obey you and can be prevented from getting into dangerous situations.

Every month you should clip your Chihuahua's nails. One method that's good to use are cat claw trimmers which resemble traditional scissors, only they have a curved notch for the claw. Starting cutting your pet's nails early-on is beneficial because it allows him to become familiar with the whole process. Not only will this make things easier for your pet in the future, it will help you as well.

Chihuahuas are susceptible to weak knees and this can affect them as they get older. Monitor your Chi's gait as he walks and if you notice him beginning to have trouble, take him to the Vet's and have him checked out.

Getting proper veterinary care for is an important part of raising a Chihuahua. When your dog is a puppy, he will need to go to the vet in order to get his shots, and then he will need to visit the vet in order to get his ears and teeth cleaned, for regular checkups, and any booster shots the vet recommends.

Chihuahuas are loyal pets with a sweet temperament. Take good care of your Chihuahua and you will be rewarded with a devoted and healthy pet for many years to come.

About the Author

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