TERRA CHRISTA’s PUPPY CARE

1. SHOPPING AND PREPARING FOR YOUR NEW PUPPY ! ☐ The best way to prepare for your new arrival is to be informed! Please read the entire PUPPY page on our site, including the article « 15 Mistakes » located at the bottom of the PUPPY page.

 ☐ Get some chew toys, plain rawhides, and treats! We like the plain rawhide chips from Wal Mart, no staining on couches! **Collar should be an adjustable 10 to 14 in** version and it will NOT be the last one you buy, lol!
 ☐ Make an appointment with your veterinarian for a physical ( Well Puppy exam) done within three days of arrival!

 ☐  We will provide an Official Health Certificate with all shots and veterinarian notes (bring to your vet); puppy will not be due for any vaccines until two to three weeks after initial shots, this is just a physical exam to verify puppy is in good health upon arrival in his/her new home. **We recommend spaying at 6 mos of age or later.**
 ☐  Order our recommended supplement, **NuVet at 1-800-474-7044, Order Code 52502.** Puppy will eat one waffer per day, added to the food or as a treat.
 ☐  Get puppy food. We feed Diamond PUPPY, a magenta colored bag.  **NOT Large breed.**

 ☐ Crate: we recommend a standard **42 inch wire crate for an adult ridgeback**. You can by a version with a partition and make it smaller for now and adjust as the puppy grows. Don’t get the one with three doors, overkill.

2. AIRPORT AND FLYING INFORMATION ONLY

 ☐  We generally ship with United PetSafe and they can be reached 24/7 at 1-800-575-3335. Reservations are made five days in advance so airline can check weather. You will be sent an email with flight and airport information. Please call the given number to make sure there is not a delay in picking up your puppy and to verify pick up location (Cargo or Passenger Terminal). You should have extra bedding material for the crate we provide (27Lx20Wx19H).
☐  Bring ID as airline will only release to designated receivers; once we leave the pup in the care of the airlines, we are no longer the primary contact anymore and you will be notified of any changes
☐  Don’t forget a leash or collar (airlines will not allow us to send, “chocking hazard”). Collar should be adjustable 10 to 14 inch version.
☐  Potty your puppy ASAP; just in case, bring paper towels and sanitizing wipes
☐  Hugs and kisses are highly encouraged to make your puppy feel safe!

3. FOLLOW UP CARE

 ☐  Feed and water when you get home(to avoid motion sickness).

 ☐  We feed our 8 to 12 week old puppies twice a day, 2 to 3 coups per day. A good rule of thumb is one cup per feeding. Add warm water to the kibble to aid in rehydration and make a tasty gravy. Remove uneaten portion in ten minutes.
☐  Puppy will need to potty about ten minutes (or less!) after eating and encourage playing to ensure he/she will be tired for the night. Expect the puppy to pee more than once since he/she will drink a lot after trip.
☐  Dogs are den animals and prefer the feel of a den, so cover the crate on three sides with a towel or other breathable fabric; leave the front open so he/she can see the rest of the family.
☐  The best time to place the puppy in the crate is when he/she is winding down and looking for a place to settle. Some whining is normal and the puppy will settle down. No food or water in the crate, but a rawhide is recommended. If you have another dog, place crate close to him/her.

 ☐  Potty training is much easier if you follow a consistent schedule. We feed at 7am and 7pm and I find our puppies will do their business earlier in the evening and then can hold for 6-7 hours until their bladder gets larger.
☐  Limit food and water after 7 pm to reduce the need to potty through the nite.
☐  Potty the puppy as soon as he/she wakes from a nap. They may be sleeping, but their digestive system is not, so just like us, need to potty when they wake.

 ☐  **Call us with ANY health concerns or if you think you have an emergency, day or night, we will provide as much assistance as we can! Home (352)299-0882, Cell (352)572-7720.**
☐  Please read the “Going Home” section on the Puppy page for additional information or call us! Take lots of pictures as this puppy stage flies by! Enjoy your new family member!