

Check this list to make sure you have everything you need to care for your canine companion!



Dry dog food (or an appropriate puppy food for your dog's age and size - check with your veterinarian for their recommendation) - Read the list of ingredients carefully. Meat is the best source of protein for dogs. Is it the first ingredient? Ingredients such as flour, sugar, large amounts of corn, artificial colors, artificial preservatives, and "animal digest" are common in many foods. At MHS, we typically feed Eagle Pack dry food. Dry food that says on the label that it has passed "AAFCO" tests provides proper nutrition and helps keep your dog healthy. If changing to a new food, make the change over the course of a week to minimize stomach upset. In general, feeding your pet twice a day is better than feeding one large meal.

Two ceramic or stainless steel bowls - one for food, one for water. Some dogs are allergic to (and might chew on) plastic bowls.

Nylon or leather buckle collar - At least two fingers should fit between your dog's collar and neck. (Puppies need several collars as they grow - check the sizing every week.) Choke chains or slip collars (nylon, chain, or leather) are unnecessary and should never be left on your dog while unattended, tied out, or playing with another dog! They can cause serious injury or death.

Leash(es) - sturdy nylon or leather to keep your dog safely under control. You'll need a short leash (4-6 feet) for training and walking and a long one (15-30 feet) for training and exercise. If you already have dogs at home, make sure you have at least one "walking" leash for each dog.

Play plan - Plan to have a place and time to play with and/or exercise your dog at least twice a day. Dogs that don't get enough playtime with people make up their own games (say "t-r-o-u-b-l-e"). Just remember... a tired dog is a good dog.

Chew toys - if you don't provide interesting and sturdy chew toys, your dog will find her own! A Kong® or Busy Buddy® can be stuffed with peanut butter or canned dog food (and even frozen) for a long-lasting treat. (Don't forget to wash it out later!) Make sure to buy the right size for your dog, and always supervise your dog when she plays with a new chew toy. Don't leave your dog unattended with rawhide; many dogs try to swallow chunks that are too big for them. !!Don't let your dog play with old sneakers, socks, or gloves... she can't tell old ones from new ones!!

Dog crate and Baby gate - Use for confining your dog until she is fully trustworthy in the house.

Dog bed or folded blanket and **brush, comb, and nail clippers.**

Enzyme cleaner - one that **eliminates** odors to clean up those inevitable accidents during your dog's adjustment period.





NO PAIN IS HUMANE!! Many pet supply stores and dog trainers still suggest the use of prong or pinch collars for strong (or aggressive) dogs. We do not recommend these collars because dogs often associate the pain of the pinch collar with an approaching dog or human, resulting in *increased* aggression. If your new dog is difficult to control, ask MHS about the Gentle Leader® head collar or a Sense-ation™ harness - humane, painless alternatives that have proven extremely effective for dogs of all sizes. Trainers, Behaviorists, and humane societies across the country and across the globe use these humane training tools.

Many of the supplies you need are available for purchase at the Adoption Desk at MHS.



□ Monadnock Humane Society, 101 West Swanzey Road, Swanzey, NH 03466 □ (603) 352-9011