



Lagotto Romagnolo Club of Canada

OWNING A LAGOTTO ROMAGNOLO

FIRST MOMENTS

When you receive your puppy, it is important to remember that he/she has never been away from his/her mom and siblings. Your puppy will require lots of your time and patience to help them have a smooth and easy transition into their new surroundings. Don't forget that, like a new baby, the world is new to them so lots of contact with their new owners is crucial at this time. You may want to consider giving the puppy something with your scent on it (such as a sock or blanket) to help make them more comfortable and to help ease the anxiousness of new surroundings.

HOUSEBREAKING

Do not expect a baby puppy to be housebroken—expect many mistakes. Don't get frustrated; some puppies may take longer than others and it is important to take them outside every few hours. Always take them outside immediately after feeding. Your puppy will not manage a full night at first so you may need to take them outside every several hours.

WORMING

Please consult your veterinarian for a worming protocol that is suitable for your geographic region.

SHOTS

Please consult your veterinarian for an appropriate vaccination protocol.

EARS

Please keep your Lagotto's ears cleaned. This breed has a tendency for ear yeast infections so it is important to keep the ear canal free of hair. You can do this using tweezers or a haemostat or you can ask your groomer to do this for you. Clean their ears often! You may also want to consider speaking with your veterinarian about what you can do to help prevent this from occurring.



Lagotto Romagnolo Club of Canada

OWNING A LAGOTTO ROMAGNOLO

GROOMING

Your puppy's first grooming should happen when he/she is approximately 3 months old. Regular grooming and clipping as puppies will help their coat develop tighter curls. For the first few grooming sessions, consider clipping the hair quite short to help the curl come in. Be careful not to over brush as this can straighten out the curls. If you are seeing matting (some coats mat easier than others), there are specific products that can help you to remove the mats. The longer the coat, the easier it is for it to mat. Trim the head longer than the body or legs.

SOCIALIZING

One of the most important things you can do for your Lagotto puppy is socialization. You want to do this as much as possible. Arrange for your puppy to meet new people, lots of children and other dogs as much as possible as soon as you can. If you have children or other dogs, it is not enough for your puppy to only be socialized with other members of the household. Socialization happens best when the puppy is taken out of his/her home. Consult with your veterinarian about when and where you can take your puppy (remember that he/she hasn't had all of his/her shots yet so the puppy is more susceptible to infection). Consider puppy school or day care for socialization. This breed learns by positive reinforcement, not thru discipline. Lagotto are very smart and love to please.

TOYS

You may wish to avoid giving your puppy toys with stuffing, toys made of felt or tennis balls. The Lagotto have very strong jaws and are very intelligent so it will not take them long to destroy the toy to get out what is on the inside. Most toys do not have stuffing that is safe if eaten by a dog so it may be best to avoid it. Lagotto love their toys but it's best to keep them simple.

CHEWING

Your puppy will love to chew and will love to chew on anything in the house. Try redirecting your puppy's energy to an age appropriate chew toy or treat chews. Consider avoiding chew toys when the puppies are unsupervised as they are aggressive chewers and may destroy chew toys (and end up eating the bits they broke off).