

# Better Built Bulliez Kennel

**Congratulations on your new**

**Puppy!**

**And WELCOME to the BBK  
Family!!**

Below is a list of products that we **HIGHLY** recommend. We've tried most and these are what have stood up to this special breed the best.

Also, below, some helpful hints and tips. Just in case:)

## **Bringing your Puppy Home**

Before you even go in your house, take puppy immediately to the "spot" where you want them to go potty. **PRAISE THEM** when they go. Have a "party"! Pet and clap and say good boy/girl. They will catch on. They **WANT** to please you! You can also implement a command for going potty as described below under House Breaking.

Introduce your puppy to existing family members (both human and four legged) slowly. We recommend bringing your puppy inside in a crate or kennel. Sit them in the living room or kitchen (wherever the most activity is) and let them stay there for a little while. Let other pets "examine" the new baby while he/she is still in the comfort of their kennel. Once you're ready, open the kennel door and let puppy exit on its own to "check things out". Just watch out for excessive sniffing or circling. This likely means, **I GOTTA GO**.

Give puppy time to warm up to new environment. Some will jump right in; others might need a little time.

## **Helpful Hints and Recommended Products**

### **1. Toys...**

These babies are land sharks, as we like to call them, at this age. They will sink their teeth into they can get ahold of. Don't worry, it's temporary. But we would recommend getting products for extreme chewers. My personal favorites are:

Nyla bone- **POWER**

**CHEWER Kong- EXTREME**

**BONEBOOS- Turkey Chew and Fish Chew.** These can be purchased at [barkbuddiez.com](http://barkbuddiez.com). They are our dogs **FAVORITE** chew toy!

**Gorilla Chews**

This is a long-lasting natural wood chew. No worries of choking on small pieces! Use outside only! It will make a mess in the house!! We leave ours in the yard. They kind of look like rocks:)

Make sure all toys are supervised. We don't recommend anything that has stuffing or filling or that is soft. They will most likely eat it. We also do not recommend any toys that encourage jumping (i.e., Flirt poles) or any type of rope or pull toys. They **LOVE** to pull but, in my experience, it can lead to a fight or aggression. Anything that might introduce that these babies is a no no for

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me. Also, ropes can be extremely dangerous if ingested. And they will eat them. Lastly, jumping is a big no no. You want to baby and protect those joints. Especially before the age of two while they're still growing.

## 2. Bedding...

For your sanity and peace of mind, **CRATE TRAIN!** This can be anything from a wire kennel you purchase at Walmart to a high dollar "indestructible" kennel like Impact Crates or Gunner Dog Kennels. We personally use the latter two, but it is not a must for most.

For bedding outside of the kennel, we recommend Kuranda or K9 Ballistics. Kuranda makes an excellent elevated bed and is the better value over K9 Ballistics. It will also stand the test of time if you get the aluminum frame. Ours like the Deep Den Dog bed from K9 Ballistics for a comfy spot. These are durable and can be washed!

Both companies make options for inside the crate as well.

Your bed is also another option for your puppy once obedience training is established. But only when invited. Don't want them thinking they run the place 😊 And **NEVER** let them jump off.

## 3. House breaking... both for accidents and your belongings...

Umbilical Cord method!! This is the most foolproof method I know of. Any type of hands-free leash can be used. Basically, your puppy is attached to you at all times inside the house. No running off to hide and have an accident!

Another good training tool is to put bells on the door. **ALWAYS USE THE SAME DOOR**, until puppy is trained. We also use a command word when we want them to go potty. The goal being that at some point they potty "on command". Our word for it is "hurry up." So, when exiting the door, they hear the bells and us saying "let's go hurry up." Once outside, "hurry up" and then "good hurry up" once they've gone.

If you have an older dog that is already house-trained, try to take them out together. Puppy should learn quickly from an older dog.

Kennel! Your puppy can spend several hours a day in their kennel. A good rule of thumb is that for every month of age they should be able to "hold it" for one hour. But remember no two puppies are the same. And 4 hours is a long time for anybody!

Schedule! We recommend taking puppy out every 30 minutes at the beginning then gradually increasing that time until you "trust" your puppy not to have accidents. Also, most will poop within 30 minutes of eating!

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When they have an accident, never scold or swat. This only scares them. If you catch them in the act, scoop them up and take them immediately to where you want them to go. Praise them if they go.

For cleaning up accidents, we use Nature's Miracle Stain and Odor Remover.

## 4. Obedience/Leash training...

You will want to implement this as soon as possible. These are **LARGE** animals that **NEED MANNERS**. Our personal dogs all know sit, stay, come, down, heel and place. They also only eat when "released" and always **WAIT** for their food. With our personal dogs, from a young age, we will also pick up food while they're eating and/or put my hand in the bowl while they're eating. I am the **ALPHA**; I control the food.

Ours also know Gentle. We use this for them taking anything from us whether it be food, treat or toy. We also teach from an early age that teeth and skin don't go together. Anytime a pup is getting mouthy or nipping they receive a firm correction. Anything involving their mouths is always **GENTLE**.

For leash training we recommend a harness for puppies and a wide flat collar with a handle as they mature. If you are familiar with a "choke chain" and know how to use it properly, they can be a great tool. We personally use them. **HOWEVER**, if you're the dog is a puller or the chain is ever causing actual choking, this is not the tool or you. Permanent damage can be done. The idea with training is never to hurt the dog or cause damage but to correct. Choke collars **DO NOT** hurt when used correctly. These should only be worn when training or walking.

You want to be **ALPHA** or leader of your "pack", but violence is **NEVER** the answer. Only through patience, hard work, consistency, **CONFIDENCE** and **RESPECT** will your dog see you as pack leader.

If you are feeling frustrated or like you want to pull your hair out, and at some point, you probably will, put your puppy in its kennel (after going potty, of course). Take time to regroup. Training sessions should **ALWAYS** end on a positive note. Short 10-15-minute sessions for a puppy are about all you'll get.

In my opinion, this breed has an unfair stigma attached to it. **LET'S PROVE THEM WRONG!** We breed for size, structure and temperament. We have complete confidence letting anyone approach our dogs. However, like children they are a product of their environment. Establish rules and expectations and enforce them through consistency. Never by hitting, kicking or any other type of violence (You wouldn't want someone to do it to you). Use **ONE WORD** for unwanted behavior like nipping or jumping. Our word is "EHH". This will be your dog's cue he is engaging in unwanted behavior. We also use the Brandon McMillan Shaker Cup for correction in conjunction with our correction word.

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Praise them ANYTIME they are doing what you want them to do. Even if it's just laying calmly on the floor. We are quick to tell a dog NO but forget to tell them when they are doing right. If puppy realizes I get attention or pets when I do this, he is likely to do more of that. Bottom line, your dog WANTS YOUR ATTENTION and negative attention is still attention.

If you have questions or want more info on training, please contact us. We work closely with an excellent trainer that offers board and stay PUPPY PRESCHOOL. And we're ALWAYS here to help!

## 5. SOCIALIZE

Take your puppy anywhere and everywhere! Let EVERYONE pet them and handle them. Expose them to the most random of objects and noises. This will create a confident, well adapted dog. You will be glad you did when they're 100lbs or more. But remember, NO public places where other dogs frequent (vets or pet stores) or public grass until puppy is fully vaccinated after the age of 16 weeks.

## 6. Exercise

A 30-minute walk twice a day is more than sufficient exercise for these guys. Preferably early morning and/or late evening. Remember these guys are HEAT SENSITIVE. Whether walking or playing or just being outdoors, excessive panting or foaming at the mouth are signs of heat stroke. Wet them down and get them to a vet immediately if this occurs. Every year bullies are lost to heat stroke during summer months. Heart breaking and COMPLETELY AVOIDABLE. If your pup is being hyper or misbehaving, they probably need an outlet for their energy. A walk is one option, or better yet, work on obedience training. These dogs are SMART, and you'll be surprised by what they can learn. Mental stimulation will "wear a dog out" faster than physical exertion. Put the two together, you can't go wrong! REMEMBER, a tired dog is a well-behaved dog!

Please note they can be sensitive to weather. Watch them carefully during temperatures above 85 and below 65.

## 7. BLING!!

If you want to make a statement (not that your dog won't all on its own) we purchase all of or Cuban chains from @pitbullstore\_az. You can find them online or IG. This is NOT an everyday collar but great for going out and making a statement.

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## 8. Food

We feed Purina Pro Plan. We 'float' all of our dog's food, puppy and adult. This means their food is soaked in warm water. Food is served "floating" in water. We also feed from an elevated bowl. This will keep your pup's chest strong and front feet pretty.

If you want to switch your puppy to a different food, please do so gradually as not to upset their bellies. We recommend mixing the two foods for a period of 7-10 days. Starting with mostly what we feed and gradually adding more of the new food until it's only the new food. We feed twice a day after 16 weeks of age. For amount refer to the back of bag of food. Never over feed pups in attempts to make them bigger. This will only harm their joints.

## 8. Grooming

Bathing once a month is sufficient, unless otherwise needed. Bullies do shed some, most not a lot. Brushing weekly keeps ours looking good and shedding under control. Occasionally they get heat bumps or other skin irritations, so we always bathe with TrizCHLOR 4 Shampoo and spray with TrizCHLOR 4 Spray once dry. Make sure and spray tummy and creases:) This will keep their coat looking great and skin healthy.

## 9. Medical

Make sure you keep your puppy healthy by getting all required vaccinations. Also, VERY IMPORTANT, are monthly flea/tick prevention and Heart Worm prevention. We use Simparica TRIO for a once monthly, all in one, flea, tick and heartworm prevention. I'm not a fan of flea/tick collars as they can come off and be eaten:/ If you need a vet and are in the Dallas area, we use Casa Linda Animal Clinic. They are familiar with

Bullies 😊

We also give all of our dogs over the age of 6 months a once daily Cosequin supplement for joint health.

## 10. Micro-Chip

We have already micro-chipped your puppy. Please make sure and register the microchip using the info in your pup's folder. If ever lost or stolen this is your only guarantee that they will be returned to you if picked up or turned in to a vet/shelter/animal control.

## 11. FOLLOW US

Last but not least, follow us! Tag us. Text us. Email us. Send smoke signals. Don't be a stranger! We want to see your baby as he/she grows! @betterbuiltbulliez and if you have an IG page please share. We want to follow:)

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Enjoy your new baby and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us. Again, we are here to help!

P.S I can email/text a link to any of the recommended products:)

