

Puppy Program Take Home Instructions

For the ultimate success with your puppy

1. Take your puppy out with only one gunner the first few times that you hunt.
2. Make sure Your puppy sees a bird and chases a bird before shooting over your puppy. They need to know why they are there. **Do not shoot over your puppy unless it is actively involved with the bird.** This means if you are with another dog and a bird gets up in front of the other dog you cannot shoot the bird – unless your puppy is actively in the bird, sees the bird and is chasing the bird.
3. Take your puppy out a couple of times with an experienced dog and let them jump in the middle of the birds, run in front of the older dog. The older dog will teach them how to find birds. After they have learned to find birds take them themselves so they don't always depend on the dog.
4. **Your puppy does not know WHOA. DO NOT USE THE TERM.** Do not try to make them stand. This will come after the breaking process.
5. Don't assume your puppy will know how to go into cover and find birds. You may have to walk into the cover with them. Make sure you get your pup out alone on a regular basis.
6. Do not shock your puppy off birds. If they are actively chasing let the bird get a good distance away before you call them back (few hundred yards)
7. Wild birds – wild birds – wild birds. If you take your puppy to a hunting preserve they WILL catch birds. They will not learn to point properly. First season on un-broke puppies needs to be wild birds.
8. Do not worry about puppies backing. Refer to #3. Let your puppy run in front of the other dog. They need to get bird experience. If your pup has natural backing ability it will start backing on its own after a few times. **DO NOT SAY WHOA when it does this. They don't know WHOA.**
9. If your pups acts concerned confused or disoriented in a new place – DO NOT SHOOT. It takes time for pups to gain experience in different places.
10. Do not let your pup catch birds. This is why we encourage only wild birds for puppies. If you must go to preserve then keep your puppy on a check cord. If your puppy catches birds it will quit pointing and start flagging)
11. Do not take your puppy out without the e-collar! Have it on every time!
12. If you are unable to hunt soon after picking up your pup then you need to keep the gun acclimation going. Once a week or so take pup out have gunner shoot then you throw a bird a few times. This will keep the dog actively involved with the gun.
13. Be cautious going to dog parks as they carry many diseases and can be extremely dangerous for your pup – dog fights, posturing can destroy pup's confidence. There are lots of conservation areas and public land use places to take your pup.

The instructions apply to any dog who has completed our Puppy Program. Please read and follow these instructions carefully for continued success with your hunting partner.

ONE GUNNER THE FIRST FEW TIMES OUT.