



DRAGON MIST FARM IRISH WOLFHOUNDS NEW PUPPY "DO'S AND DON'TS"

DO:

1. Remember your puppy is a baby who may look big, because he/she is growing quickly, but the pup is still a baby who will do the most growing during the first year, and will start to fill out during the second year. Feeding amounts ought to even out toward the end of the first year...really! Be patient, loving and consistent-IWs are very sensitive dogs.
2. Use single word commands if possible, because dogs are not able to understand more than that. They simply won't understand a whole paragraph from you, explaining what you expect.
3. Use positive reinforcement when teaching your dog. Newspapers, hitting, and yelling will get you nowhere, except your dog will be frightened of you. Patience and consistency are key. Obedience training is recommended.
4. Crate train your puppy if possible. If he/she chews, remove the object with a stern "no" and immediately give the pup something appropriate to chew on in their crate. An example of an inappropriate toy would be a plastic shoe: your dog will never know the difference between the toy and your shoes. **Crating is NOT to be used as a punishment!** Giving your pup food and water in its' crate will help make it feel comfortable.
5. "Out!" should be associated with praise and a happy tone of voice.
6. Your Irish Wolfhound is a Gazehound/Sighthound, and may chase small animals, especially if they aren't socialized when young (i.e. cats). Keep everyone safe; teach your puppy well and early.

DON'T:

1. Don't feed your puppy any bones, raw meat, or other people food. A well formulated Puppy kibble mixed with a little canned puppy meat is the best diet for your dog. We feed and recommend Pedigree dog food,

(p.2, New Puppy Dos' and Donts')

and that is what your pup has been eating. If you want to change over, mix the new with the old, gradually decreasing amounts of the Pedigree. Hopefully, this will alleviate diarrhea, which could happen because of the change in diet.

2. Don't keep puppy in a crate too long—bones are growing rapidly, and you don't want any arrested development.
3. Don't over exercise for the first year. The pup is a galloping hound, but for the first year of life, exercise must be moderate. Don't let your pup stand up on its' back legs!! Never start allowing your dog to stand up on you—it's not funny at 150 pounds...
4. Don't overfeed your pup!! OCD (osteochondritis) can be caused by over exercise and/or overfeeding.
5. Socialize your dog so it isn't timid. Never, ever let anyone tease your dog.
6. Don't ever hesitate to contact me: I am here for you and your dog. I will always take a dog of mine back or help you rehome it if you can't keep it!

Meg Crocker-Curtis: (207) 732-3861. I can be e-mailed at:
drgnmstfrm@yahoo.com



Irish Wolfhounds are extremely sensitive to anesthesia—be sure your veterinarian knows this.

