

Feeding Guidelines (bottle puppies to 5 weeks old)

Thank you for fostering! The information provided below will get you and your puppy(s) off to a great start. Please let us know if you ever have any concerns or questions.

AID	Name	Starting Weight

Feeding Instructions:

Bottle Puppies

Follow Maddie's Fund Puppy Bottle Feeding and Stomach Capacity Chart for the correct amount of formula for the Puppy's age. Bottle fed puppies should not be fed more than what's outlined on this chart. Overfeeding a puppy can lead to stomach upset and vomiting.

Always measure and keep track of how much formula the puppy is eating at each meal. If the puppy is not eating the recommended amount contact the foster phone, 919-630-9680. Puppies under 4 weeks of age are very fragile and if they are not eating the recommended amount it can be an emergency quickly.

~Never use a sponge to bottle feed puppies

~Do not use goat's milk

Special instructions

- Add a pinch of Fortiflora to formula
- Use Miracle nipple
- Use bottle
- Use syringe
- Esbilac formula
- Pet Lac formula
- Breeder's Edge formula
- _____

**Always keep mixed and unmixed formula in the refrigerator

6 week old puppies

Dry: 1/8 cup of puppy kibble soaked for 15 minutes and then mixed. Feed 2x a day. Puppies this small will eat wet food better than dry. All uneaten food should be thrown out at your next feeding.

Wet: 1/4 - 1/2 can wet food gruel should be offered 3-4 times a day. You will need to reduce bottle feeding when transitioning to wet food. All uneaten food should be thrown out at your next feeding.

Weighing Instructions:

Puppies should be weighed at least once a week. If you do not have a scale and are able to purchase one please do so, this is an essential tool when fostering. If any of the puppies are not gaining weight or are losing weight please call the foster phone, 919-630-9680. Puppies under 5 weeks of age can become critical quickly.

Puppy weight

Puppy weight gain is a little more complicated since the breeds can vary so much in size. In general, puppies should be gaining approximately 10% of their current body weight per day. For example, a 3 pound puppy should gain 0.3lb that day. The next day, pup would weigh 3.3lb and should gain 0.33lb that day. Puppies should also double their weight from birth by 10 days old.

To calculate the appropriate daily weight gain:

Body weight in pounds x 0.1 = weight gain needed per day

Example: 4.5 pound puppy x 0.1 = 0.45lb weight gain needed

To calculate the appropriate total weight change for 24 hours:

Body weight in pounds x 1.1 = estimated appropriate total weight

Example: 2.6 pound pup x 1.1 = 2.86 pound is appropriate total weight

Let us know if you notice any of the following:

- Not eating
- Diarrhea
- Sneezing/ coughing
- Discharge from eyes and nose
- Lethargy
- Limping
- Any other abnormal behavior
- Weight loss