



Lionheart Kennels

AKC Miniature
Schnauzers

AKC Giant Schnauzers
Breed Specials

This document is designed to help with the most often asked questions about your Schnauzer puppy. The most comprehensive catalogs we use are: **J-B Wholesale of New Jersey 1.800.526.0388**, or **Cherrybrook 1.800.524.0820**. You may note the initials (J-B), or (CB) on a specific item, denoting a good place to get it. A great source to find almost any book is **4-M Enterprises, Inc. 1.800.487.9867**, or **Direct Book Service 1.800.776.2665**. If you have Internet access, we recommend **Amazon.com**.

We highly recommend **meat-based** dog food. The first ingredient on the label should be a meat product. If the first ingredient is anything other than a meat product, then it is likely to cause a terrier to have flaking, itching skin and a poor coat. Good brands from dog food dealers include Sensible Choice, Excel, and Fromm's. They are brown, with no dyes, as dog food should be. Table scraps with **no bones** may be mixed in, but only in small amounts (less than 20% of the total meal), and the calories need to be allowed for in the total diet. (Bones, onions, and chocolate are not good for dogs.) Adding to a balanced diet need not and should not be a regular thing.

Crates are excellent for housebreaking, feeding, and traveling. The airline approved Vari-Kennel #200 (for a Mini) or #500 (for a Giant) is the correct size. Your Schnauzer will appreciate having a crate pad or old rug inside the crate. Accessories for grooming on top of crates are available (J-B). Wire crates are not as easily moved, but are good in a definite place. They should be about 36" long by 24" wide for a Giant, with a height of 24-30".

Fleas are the scourge of dogdom, but they are NOT unavoidable. If your pet is free of fleas, check for them after walks, training classes, or other places they might lurk in ambush! These can be mechanically removed with a flea comb into a jar with cotton containing nail polish remover or flea spray. Vet-Kem (CB) has a complete line of treatments for the home, yard, and on the dog. There is a hormone marketed as **Precor**, which is an ingredient in several products. It prevents fleas from completing

their life cycle in your home and is excellent for indoor use on rugs, carpets, etc. A safe agent to use in your yard is **diazinon**, sold at most garden centers.

Grooming is not just for every 6 to 8 weeks at the groomer. Even if the coat is all grown out for cold winters, the pads of the feet need to have hair removed around and between them. The nails do need to be trimmed often. The eyes should be free of hair, and the dog's rear should be tidy. You will need a few tools.

Home care between appointments

Nail trimmers that cut side-to-side like scissors are best, rather than the type that cut up and down, like a paper punch. When the dog stands naturally, the tips of the nails should be just off a hard floor. Trimming more often is better than trying to trim more off. It is very painful for the dog to have the foot spread and held in an uncomfortable position due to long nails.

Comb of metal "Belgium" style with medium and coarse ends. Handles tend to tire the wrist.

Slicker, a square brush with many fine wire bristles. They are great for fluffing the coat and removing old, dead coat, especially on the long coats.

Scissors, short and straight, for keeping the pads neat. This really keeps the floors cleaner in your house since your dog's feet will carry in less dirt.

Home grooming

Oster A-5 clipper with #7 and #10 blades plus all the **Home Care** equipment

Pet stripping or show trimming (all previous trimming tools, with clippers optional, plus the following)

Hindes Palmer, made in England, a red rubber oval with flexible metal pins for the legs and face

"Real" knife, made by Hauptner of Germany. White handled "fine" made left or right-handed

Pearson Fine and Extra-Fine Knives, available through J-B Wholesale or by writing Pearson Products, Del Marr Est., 24 Rt 2, Wewoka, OK 74884

Dr. Scholl's Callus Remover or Foot File, available through the drug store. It is a sandy textured cylindrical stick with a flat side that is perfect for your thumb. It is an inexpensive way to give stripping a try. In my tack box, I always have one because there are just some places that it is the best for.

Stripping Broken Coated Breeds, an excellent video from Sonnen Productions, illustrates how to strip a Schnauzer's coat for conformation shows. Unfortunately, since it is no longer listed in the J-B catalog, it may be out of print.

Finding more information...

Giant Schnauzer Club of America (GSCA). Contact their Information Center c/o Kathy DeShong, 7855 Whistling Winds Lane, Brighton, IL 62012; 618.466.6768. Kathy's e-mail address is GSCAMERICA@aol.com.

American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC). Contact Secretary Carma Ewer, 8882 S. Easthills Drive, Sandy, UT 84093-1813; 801.943.5077. Carma's e-mail address is AMSCsec@aol.com; the club's Web page is currently at <http://www.akc.org/clubs/amsc/index.html>

Books — prices listed are current as of January 1999 at Amazon.com

- ☞☞“The New Miniature Schnauzer,” by Dan Kiedrowski (Howell, 1997; \$19.57). An authoritative breed history with good information on grooming of Minis.
- ☞☞“Book of the Miniature Schnauzer,” by Anna Nicholas (T.F.H. Publications; out of print).
- ☞☞“Giant Schnauzers,” by Arthur Lockley (T.F.H. Publications, 1993; \$6.96).
- ☞☞“Mother Knows Best: The Natural Way to Train Your Dog,” by Carol Lea Benjamin (Howell, 1985; 16.07). A delightful read that both informs and entertains. Provides many solutions to common problems and gives suggestions on correct ways to discipline and reward according to your dog’s temperament.
- ☞☞“The Dog Who Loved Too Much,” by Nicholas Dodman (Bantam, 1997; \$10.36). Common behavior problems, what caused them and how it could be changed, written in the form of case studies by a licensed veterinarian and behaviorist. Very Interesting!
- ☞☞“Dogs and Kids: Parenting Tips,” by Bardi McLennan (Howell, 1993; \$13.30) or “Becoming Best Friends,” by Jane Leon and Lisa Horowitz (Pecos, 1991; out of print). How to avoid problems by preparing your dog to live with young children and infants. How to help your children enjoy and play with a dog in the family.
- ☞☞“Dog Training For Kids,” by Carol Lea Benjamin (Howell, 1988; \$12.57). Written for the 8-14 age group.
- ☞☞“The Pearsall Guide to Successful Dog Training,” by Margaret Pearsall (Howell, 1980; \$18.17). A good basic text to start with.
- ☞☞“Dual Ring Dog,” by Jacqueline Fraser and Amy Ammen (out of print). Great advice for conformation and obedience competition.
- ☞☞“Beyond Basic Dog Training: The Workbook”, by Diane Bauman, et al. (Alpine, 1994; \$14.95). The best thing I have seen for all of you taking obedience classes and not getting enough individual attention from instructors!
- ☞☞“Don't Shoot the Dog,” by Karen Pryor (Bantam, 1985; \$5.20). The basics behind dog training for everyone.

Let’s talk training...

There are two important facts in life the owner and puppy **must** get straight: the first is dominance, and the second, related to the first, is the concept of accepting limits on behavior. It is easy to teach a puppy, so easy that people are constantly teaching behaviors to the dog that they are not pleased with, without meaning to. Refer to **Don’t Shoot the Dog**, by Karen Pryor. You can make huge strides in making your dog the best pet you ever had by teaching the **touch release**. If you sit your puppy, **keep** it sitting until you say “O.K.”, with a light touch under the chin, a pat on the chest, or on the shoulder — this is a touch release. If you down your dog, tell it stay, then **ALWAYS** give a **touch** release! Be consistent! Remember, if your dog has to look to you for permission to stop doing what you said, the dog will never be the dominant member of your “pack” and you will always have the control to care for your dog, and keep him safer. As a thoughtful caring owner, you should never abuse that trust by asking for too long or too hard a task. This results in an obedient dog that has good manners as people view it.

Now, about setting limits...What is cute in a 3 month old puppy definitely can not be tolerated in a 75 pound adult. When people ask, "When should I start training?", I answer, "NOW —The puppy is already learning, so make sure it learns the right things!" Puppies usually test limits with mouthing. It is not properly called biting because it does not stem from aggression or fear and is not done with the intent to inflict damage. It is rough play, which will get gradually rougher and rougher until you get it across to the puppy what the limits are.

First, you need to set a rule you can be consistent with, such as: "No puppy teeth on my skin!" Next, when the puppy breaks the rule, even a little (this is about testing limits — remember?), take control away from the puppy by **immediately** taking the collar firmly and assertively. Think to your self, "This is NOT to be tolerated!", and let the puppy know verbally what you think about it. Your tone must be stern and serious. Your eyes must make direct eye contact with the puppy's eyes. If you have trouble being stern, remember that many people end up losing their pet because they could not handle this — setting limits. Then, give the pup the cold shoulder: you are NOT playing.

After a few minutes, take the puppy for a walk or think of a structured activity where the puppy can once more be in good favor with you. Let the puppy **earn** your approval. If you have trouble with this, don't put off getting help. Call your breeder, call a trainer, or get an additional videotape that can visually show you the techniques to set these most important limits. Puppies are cute, but it is the owner's responsibility to the dog to make it well mannered in human company — or what future will this puppy have?

First night....Yipe, wail, and howl? Maybe not!

Bringing home a puppy is something like bringing a new baby home from the hospital. It is an infant, and will cry, eliminate with only partial control, and generally turn your life upside down for a time. There are fortunately several ways to ease the adjustment of a puppy to a new home and the family to the puppy. It is separation anxiety that makes a puppy cry. There are no littermates or mother, and everything is new and stressful. If you put the puppy in your bedroom, within reach from the bed, you can give a few little reassurances when he wakes up in a strange place. If your family includes children, let them "camp out" with sleeping bags around the crate, or in their bedroom. If it has been 4 or more hours since the little one last went outside, a trip out may help a whining or yipping puppy. The benefits of this companionship at night will have the puppy bonding to the family quicker and forming a closer bond. Just for the first few nights, everyone will get some sleep and the puppy will actually be learning whom to look to for help.

Housebreaking makes faster progress since the puppy stays clean. With this in mind, plan where the puppy will be sleeping. Many people feel that a dog should sleep in one specific room of the house, yet the puppy is not ready to be left alone the first night, in some distant part of the house. Plan a place somewhere near where people will be sleeping. The best method is to have a crate with washable towels as a bed for the puppy. The crate should never be too far from a door to go out for housebreaking. By teaching the puppy to sleep in a crate, you can then move the crate to any room of the house later. Control of the housebreaking process continues even during the night. If you ever wish to travel with your dog in the future, he will settle right down in new places in his familiar and secure crate.

It has been common practice to isolate a loud puppy, such as out in the basement or garage, which does muffle the noise. However, the puppy will be more highly stressed, becoming louder and more upset, until he finally falls asleep exhausted. He will reawaken periodically through the night, and call for his mother and littermates. The lesson he will learn that there is no one to come when it is frightened and alone, or when he needs to eliminate. The puppy will probably be dirty and smelly in the morning — with no one to help him to go out and keep himself clean. Is that what you want your puppy to learn?

Housebreaking

First, set up a regular routine. Many complete books are available on this topic, with more complete information about special schedules such as working long hours while the puppy is home alone. The important points are:

- ☞☞ Feed a quality food to produce small, well-formed, firm stools (the lower volume helps the puppy control elimination better).
- ☞☞ Feed on a regular schedule, allowing 15-20 minutes for the puppy to eat and take away the food (if you know when the puppy ate, you can predict when it will have to eliminate).
- ☞☞ Set up a crate, not too large, with a blanket or terry towel that is easy to wash and just one or two toys inside. (Keep the others outside, since the crate is for napping, most of the time)
- ☞☞ Feed in the crate (the puppy will know that it is expected to hold for a short time after eating, even though eating triggers the reflex to eliminate).
- ☞☞ Provide water as part of the routine also. Since Schnauzers sometimes play in the water, you might consider keeping the water just outside the door you will be using as you exit for housebreaking. The puppy will be going out frequently enough to get plenty of water. In very hot weather, be especially sure the puppy has plenty of water (drinking triggers the reflex to urinate).
- ☞☞ Control and organize the puppy's time. Three main activities should occupy your puppy during the day...napping in the crate, going outside for elimination, and that safe period, just after the puppy definitely eliminated, when you can play together. Set a timer for a period of time that experience tells you is safe (For example, at 7 weeks, only 5-8 minutes while at 12 weeks, perhaps 10-20 minutes is safe from "accidents") You can always play outside without time limits.
- ☞☞ Use the same door every time, carrying the puppy out quickly. Go to the same place in the yard every time. Scent from previous visits is a trigger to eliminate. Keep the puppy on lead or within a small fenced area. A short movable 3-foot high section of fence just a few feet square is great for housebreaking, but you cannot leave the puppy unsupervised.
- ☞☞ Clean up accidents with a cleaner appropriate to the surface, and rinse with diluted apple cider vinegar to destroy any odor. Since scent is an important trigger to elimination, control unwanted scent. Carpeted areas should be off limits for a time as it is very difficult to completely deodorize them. There are several commercial cleaners available just for this purpose.
- ☞☞ Limit the number of rooms the puppy has access to. The instinct to keep a sleeping area clean is the basis of housebreaking. You need to convince the puppy that the whole house is considered one large "sleeping area" in the basic

instincts. Stretch that instinct to include one room first, then gradually add rooms as the puppy progresses in training.

✂️ Forget corrections. Corrections in housebreaking teach the puppy to fear you, confuses the issue of where to potty, and is extremely ineffective. Corrections are an ineffective way of saying “Don’t do that,” while housebreaking is about telling the puppy WHERE to do that.

✂️ If the routine is disrupted, and if you are not sure when the puppy last eliminated, such as a long play session outside, a trip to the vet or classes, a long walk, etc., start up the routine again with a nap in the crate for 30 minutes to an hour. This will put everybody back on the easily predictable routine again.

Puppies have good days and bad days. Expect to see a setback once in a while. Consider the effect of bladder infections, vaginitis, diarrhea from a virus or change in food, or other medical reasons. Be sure the puppy with a housebreaking problem is healthy first. Then analyze your routine to see if it is consistent.

Housebreaking is about physical control of elimination, and young puppies have very small internal space for storing the by products of metabolism, and their metabolism is processing food and water at high capacity to allow for the demands of growth, development, and energy to play. As they grow older, puppies will have more physical ability to “hold it.”

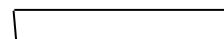
Forget about the puppy feeling “spite,” “anger,” “getting back at me for —,” and the puppy “knows” better. All of these are useless approaches to working with a puppy’s housebreaking and will only confuse the task and stress the owner emotionally. One of the great things about dog ownership is that dogs just do not think this way!

Schnauzer ears

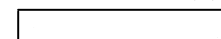
Correctly carried ears are a major part of the Schnauzer’s expression and are vitally important to a dog in competition or just to look nice. During the teething period and rapid growth phase from 12 to 20 weeks, some ears develop creases or uneven carriage. To prevent this, the Giant’s ears need to be supported during this phase. They must be positioned and occasionally checked by an experienced terrier person. Most veterinarians should also be able to help you with ears. NOTE: Taping or gluing ears to correct an existing problem is seldom effective after the second molars are in, at about 20-24 weeks of age. Ears of Minis rarely need to be taped.

We use a Popsicle stick wrapped with a Carefree panty liner to support the ears. The tape we recommend is Johnson & Johnson brand adhesive sports tape, which can be obtained at most drug stores.

1. Fold the panty liner around the stick, sticky side out. Wrap with strips of tape, also sticky side out, to hold in place.



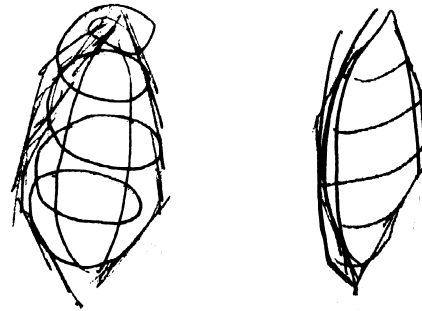
strips approx. 1 inch wide



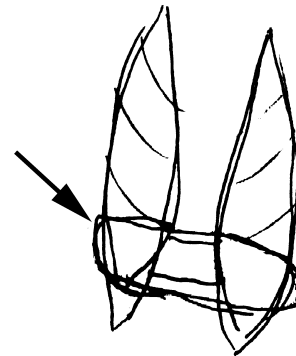
2. Place the taped stick right into the ear canal, and stretch the ear as far as it will go.



3. Tape the ear tightly to the stick, starting at the bottom and covering the outer portion of the ear.



4. Wrap strips of tape around both ears to hold them in place.



Once up, the ears should be kept up throughout the period, with as little time as possible between settings. As the tape tatters, snip off loose pieces, but don't pull. Ears must be stretched and taped every 5 to 7 days; they should be changed when a slight odor is noticed. A day or two untaped is O.K., but one week up, one week down is not effective.

As the puppy teethes, the adult teeth come in. Watch for doubled puppy/adult canines, in the same socket. It is painful and the stress affects the ears. If you cannot dislodge the puppy tooth in 2-3 days, see if your vet will do it.

While the puppy is rapidly growing, the ears are trained to the adult, correct position. After the rapid growth and teething are completed, ears cannot change to any great extent. If a problem exists, it will stay. Regular grooming of the head and ear, especially inside and around the base of the ear, is important. We trim the inside and outside surfaces of the ears with a #40 blade. This allows the ears to stay erect naturally, and you can see what the ears are doing.

If you want to show your puppy when it is older, or if you want to make that choice later, the time to see to the ears is during teething! Although it is optional, no one has ever regretted setting ears that belong to a pretty Schnauzer — but some regret not setting them.