



Socialization can start before vaccines are finished—observe the world safely without touching the ground.



Quality beats quantity: one calm, known dog is a safer and more effective introduction than a crowded

## ✓ A Simple Socialization Checklist (First 2–4 Weeks at Home)

Use this as a practical checklist. The goal is calm exposure 3–5 times per week (even short sessions count).

### ✓ People

- adults of different ages
- kids (from a distance at first)
- people wearing hats/sunglasses
- people with beards / different voices
- people using wheelchairs/walkers (*observe calmly*)

### ✓ Sounds

- vacuum (distant, then closer)
- doorbell knock sound
- blender / kitchen noise
- traffic / motorcycles
- thunder / fireworks audio -tj love!, volume: calmly

### ✓ Handling & grooming basics

- touch paws + reward
- look in cars + reward
- brief brushing + reward
- collar/leash practice indoors
- short car rides

### ✓ Environments & surfaces (controlled)

- tile / wood / carpet transitions
- walking over a towel or mat
- steps (one or two, safely supervised)
- being in a stroller/wagon (clean)

### ✓ Dog exposure (controlled, when appropriate)

- observe / dogs from a distance
- meet one calm dog you trust
- brief "sniff and move on" (avoid rough play)

If anything worries your puppy, back up and make it easier next time. Socialization should