

8 Signs of a Healthy Puppy

Being a new puppy owner can be a challenge but here are few tips to let you know your puppy is healthy.

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We know that you'll do anything when it comes to taking care of your dog and we want to help. Use the Dog Lovers' Yellow Pages to find dog services, dog words and phrases, and helpful lists that will keep your dog safe and happy.

1. **Eyes:** A puppys eyes should look clear and shiny. There shouldn't be any signs of cloudiness or discharge from the eyes.
2. **Ears:** Do the pups ears look and smell clean? The inside of the ear should not look red or inflamed. Any odor or brown discharge could signal an infection.
3. **Nose:** It should be slightly moist to the touch, but there should not be excessive discharge. The puppy should not be sneezing or sniffing persistently.
4. **Skin and coat:** The puppys coat should be soft and shiny, without flakes or excessive shedding. Watch out for patches or missing hair, redness, bumps or sores. The pup should have a pleasant smell. Check for parasites, such as fleas or ticks.
5. **Rear end:** It should be free from debris and fecal matter.
6. **Abdomen:** You should be able to feel the puppys ribs, but the ribs shouldn't poke out. The tummy can be round, but not swollen or potbellied.
7. **Kennel and bedding area:** This should be a relatively tidy area. Watch out for signs of diarrhea or vomiting.
8. **Behavior:** A healthy puppy may be sleepy, but not lethargic. A healthy puppy will be playful at times, not isolated in a corner. You should see occasional bursts of energy and interaction with littermates. When its mealtime, a healthy puppy will take an interest in its chow.

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