



## THINGS TO BUY FOR YOUR NEW BERNER PUPPY

New to dogs?

First recommendation - purchase a book on veterinary care. Be your dog's best friend. Aids for health management advocates are great tools for any Berner owner. Find them at <http://www.speakingforspot.com/advocacyaids.html>.



### Veterinary Care Books

Dr. Nancy Kay - Speaking for Spot ★★★★★ (trust us!) 👍

<http://www.speakingforspot.com/>

Dog Owner's Home Veterinary Handbook

(at amazon.com or other booksellers )

The Merck / Merial Manual for Pet Health

<http://www.merckbooks.com/mmmph/index.html>

### DOG GEAR – YOU & YOUR BERNER PUPPY WILL NEED THIS STUFF!

▶ Get a crate large enough to house an adult BMD. Your new puppy will grow very quickly; so investment in a crate large enough to be used throughout your dog's life is best. A crate sized at around 36" X 24" X 27" should be adequate for most Bernese.

Where can you find a crate? A local pet supply store; or check out Midwest crates at <http://www.midwesthomes4pets.com/category/default.aspx?submenu=2&catid=126> for a broader range of styles. Keep in mind a crate for car travel is not a bad idea. Many Berner owners have a crate for home use and one for car travel. Having 2 crates is convenient & saves time and effort involved in hauling crates from home to car.

- ▶ A 2 - 3 quart stainless steel or ceramic food bowl and a heavy ceramic or stainless steel 2 - 4 quart water bowl
- ▶ A six foot long training leash and a heavy duty flexi-lead
- ▶ A cloth buckle or break away collar (Choke collars should only be used when training and should never be left on an unattended puppy or adult.)
- ▶ Nail clippers or a nail grinder & Quick stop in case you accidentally cut your puppy's nail too short
- ▶ A dental kit, a dog tooth brush and teeth cleaning paste
- ▶ A mild dog shampoo - Ask your pup's breeder for a recommendation; or

#1 All Systems has a great selection of products.

<http://www.allsystems.com/doc-eng/menu-eng.html>

- ▶ Toys and treats that are safe for puppies.

"Kongs" are a great toy for pups. <http://www.kongcompany.com/>



**\*\*\*A note on dog treats** - choose treats that are preserved with vitamin E; treats that contain BHT, BHA, ethoxyquin additives and/or artificial coloring can cause allergic reactions in some dogs.

**\*\*\*Toys selection advice** - Puppies can eat cloth items or small toys and they can get their muzzles or heads stuck in small sized ring toys. Monitoring puppies with raw bones, rawhide chews and cloth toys is a good idea.

▶The food your puppy will be eating. Your puppy's breeder should provide you with your puppy's nutrition requirements, including the brand of food your puppy has been eating along with recommendations for where you can find the food, the amount of food to feed and feeding schedule. Young puppies often eat 3 times a day which may be continued for several weeks after placement. Always rely on feeding recommendations from the breeder, who has, through observing development of their own dogs, chosen a diet that works best for their families of dogs.

## **THINGS TO HAVE WHEN PICKING UP YOUR PUPPY**



- ▶ Bring a crate with washable bedding or a bundle of shredded paper or newspapers.
- ▶ Bring along safe toys for your puppy to play with on the journey to his new home.
- ▶ Bring water and an unbreakable water dish.
- ▶ Bring some food and an unbreakable food dish if the journey home is more than 8 hours.
- ▶ Bring an 8" - 10" Break-away collar and a leash or a martingale type slip lead. (To be sure the collar will fit, ask your puppy's breeder what size collar will be suitable for your new pup or dog.
- ▶ Bring paper towels and spray cleaner in case the puppy soils his crate.
- ▶ Bring treats.

**\*\*\*Please remember your puppy has been securely kept with his dam and litter mates since birth. The puppy may be a little scared and lonely for a few days until getting comfortable with a new environment, learning about what is expected and learning to trust you, his new caretaker. Patience and tender hands will go a long way to building a rewarding relationship with your new puppy.**