

# I'm a puppy – Let me be a puppy – Let me be a happy puppy!



Pet Professional Guild of Australia  
- Member Resource Tool

<http://www.ppgaaustralia.net.au>

As humans when we think about our puppies, some of us can sometimes forget that puppyhood is not a preparation for life as an adult dog.

## **Puppyhood is part of a dog's life**

**Puppyhood does not train them to become sensible, reliable, safe dogs.**

Your puppy is a living, breathing, sentient being and a puppy should not be denied or miss out on the zest and joy of living. There is nothing more delightful than a happy puppy!

Puppies live in the HERE AND NOW – not the future. It's what happens to them NOW!

Your puppy is already a part of your family life as a canine and is participating and contributing to your everyday life. They are learning from YOU and YOU are possibly learning far more from them, even if you are unaware of it.

Your puppy is teaching you patience, compassion, responsibility, humility, to have a sense of humour, how to exercise, the cycle of life, how to love a species another than another human, how to share and care for another living creature - without prejudice and without fear of rejection.

You are EVERYTHING to your pup – the giver of a home, food, water, warmth, cool, toys, playtimes, company, love, companionship, environmental enrichment, health care, an education ... EVERYTHING – your pup owns nothing. They came to you in the little fur coat they were born in and only know how to be a canine puppy.

The early education that these gorgeous pups receive during puppyhood is what will help mould them into Responsible, Reliable, Safe and Friendly family pets as adults. The way they are treated by humans and other dogs is what they are going to remember forever. Their treatment as a puppy, will be imprinted in them, as puppyhood is the CRITICAL LEARNING AGE.

TRY NOT TO BE IN A RUSH with your training – all puppies learn at different rates. Be patient – they are puppies – big neon signs on their heads flashing “We are crazy fun-loving weirdos!” – Yes, they are normal puppies enjoying life!!!

ENJOY your pups – Let them be pups - EDUCATE them at puppy level – SLOW, steady, using KIND, FAIR, FORCE-FREE, PAIN-FREE, FEAR-FREE positive reinforcement training.

A professional pet dog trainer who can assist you with further education for your pup can be found at the Pet Professional Guild Australia (PPGA), [www.ppgaaustralia.net.au](http://www.ppgaaustralia.net.au). Click on your State on the map and search for a professional trainer near you. It's that simple!

There is also FREE Membership to PPGA for pet dog owners, providing access to valuable current best practice training resources and webinars.

