

Litter supply checklist

66 items in the order you need them. Bold items are essential. Get the real count from the X-ray at day 55 before ordering what scales with litter size.

The box and the room in place by day 45

☐ Whelping box, correct size Too small risks crushing; too big and puppies chill away from the nursing area	1	Day 45
☐ Pig rails The ledge that stops her lying a puppy against the wall	1 set (4 rails)	Day 45
☐ Whelping box liner or fleece pad Wicks fluid away, grips small feet	3-4	Day 45
☐ Disposable pads underneath Under the fleece pad. Changed hourly during whelping.	100+	Day 45
☐ Heat lamp or heat pad Neonates cannot regulate their own temperature	1	Day 45
☐ Thermometer for the box You cannot judge 86°F (30°C) by hand	1	Day 45
☐ Room thermometer The ambient temperature matters as much as the hot spot	1	Day 45
☐ Baby monitor or camera So you sleep in weeks 2 and 3	1	Day 45
☐ A chair you can sleep in You will be there all night. Plan for it.	1	Day 45

Whelping day in the house, not on order

☐ Digital thermometer for her A drop below about 100°F (37.8°C) is your 24-hour warning	1	Day 50
☐ Clean towels More than you think. For drying and stimulating each puppy.	20+	Day 50
☐ Bulb syringe or DeLee aspirator Clearing airways	2	Day 50
☐ Hemostats Clamping cords	2	Day 50
☐ Blunt-nosed scissors Cutting cords. Blunt so you cannot nick a puppy.	1	Day 50
☐ Unwaxed dental floss or cord ties Tying cords	1 pack	Day 50
☐ Iodine or chlorhexidine Navels, straight after the cord	1 bottle	Day 50
☐ Digital scales, accurate to 1 gram You will weigh every puppy every day	1	Day 50
☐ Puppy ID collars or ribbon Two black puppies look identical at 3am	1 set	Day 50
☐ Notebook and pen, not your phone Your hands will be wet	1	Day 50
☐ Gloves	1 box	Day 50



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continued

☐ Bin bags and a lidded bin Placentas and soiled pads	1 roll	Day 50
☐ Glucose or honey For a flagging dam mid-whelp	1	Day 50
☐ A hot water bottle or warm box Somewhere safe to put a puppy while she delivers the next	1	Day 50
☐ Torch or head torch If she whelps somewhere dark, or the power goes	1	Day 50

The first 48 hours

☐ Colostrum supplement The first feeds carry her immunity. Nothing replaces it later.	1 per puppy	Day 50
☐ Milk replacer In the house before she whelps. Not on order.	Scales with litter	Day 50
☐ Feeding bottles and teats Several teats — they tear	2 + spares	Day 50
☐ Feeding syringes, 1 mL and 5 mL For a puppy too weak to suck	6	Day 50
☐ Feeding tube and syringe Vet-directed only. Get shown how before you need it.	1 set	Day 50
☐ Kitchen scales for mixing Milk replacer is mixed by weight, not by eye	1	Day 50

Weeks 1 to 3 neonatal

☐ Puppy nail clippers Weekly from about day 10. Saves the dam's belly.	1	Week 1
☐ Weight chart or app A puppy that stops gaining for 24 hours is in trouble	1	Day 1
☐ Worming suspension for puppies From about two weeks, then fortnightly	Scales with litter	Week 2
☐ Worming for the dam Alongside the puppies	1	Week 2
☐ Puppy or growth food for her Lactation is the highest-demand phase of her life	Scales with litter	Week 0
☐ Calcium supplement AT WHELPING and during lactation. NEVER during pregnancy.	1	
☐ Laundry capacity Bedding changes daily. Some breeders buy a second machine.		Week 0

Weeks 3 to 8 weaning and raising

☐ Weaning pan, shallow and heavy Low sides, hard to tip	1-2	Week 3
☐ Puppy food for weaning Soaked, then dry	Scales with litter	Week 3
☐ Water bowls, tip-proof	2	Week 4
☐ Puppy pen or expanded area The whelping box is outgrown by four weeks	1	Week 4



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continued

☐ Litter tray or toilet area Start the habit before they leave	1-2	Week 4
☐ Enzyme cleaner Ordinary cleaner leaves the smell that says 'go here again'	2 L	Week 3
☐ Novel surfaces for socialization Vinyl, carpet, grass, metal, wobble board		Week 3
☐ Noise recordings Traffic, fireworks, vacuum, doorbell		Week 3
☐ Toys, safe for chewing Introduce before eight weeks	6+	Week 4
☐ Crate, one, for introductions Their first crate should not be in a stranger's car	1	Week 5
☐ Grooming brush Handling practice as much as grooming	1	Week 5

Health and paperwork

☐ Microchips, or a vet appointment Legally required in many countries before they leave	1 per puppy	Week 7
☐ Vaccination — book the vet First shot at six to eight weeks	1 per puppy	Week 6
☐ Vaccination cards	1 per puppy	Week 7
☐ Worming record sheets	1 per puppy	Week 2
☐ Registration paperwork Start it early. It takes weeks in some registries.		Week 1
☐ Puppy contracts, printed Signed before any money changes hands	1 per puppy	Week 6

The puppy pack going home

☐ Food to go home with Two weeks' worth prevents an immediate diet change	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ Blanket carrying littermate scent The single kindest thing in the pack	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ A toy they already know	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ Written care sheet Feeding amounts, times, toilet routine	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ Copies of BOTH parents' health tests This is what a good buyer asks for. Have it ready.	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ Insurance leaflet or activation code Covers the riskiest settling-in weeks	1 per puppy	Week 8
☐ A folder or bag to put it all in	1 per puppy	Week 8

If things go wrong worth having, hope not to use

☐ Your vet's out-of-hours number, written on the box Not in your phone. On the box.	Day 55
☐ A second pair of hands, arranged Whelping alone is how mistakes happen	Day 55



☐ Card or funds for an emergency cesarean Priced in writing, before her season		
☐ Oxygen or resuscitation kit Only if your vet has shown you how	1	Day 50
☐ Incubator or warming box For a fading puppy. Expensive; some breeders hire one.	1	Day 50

