



**English Translation of the  
Arabic language booklet of  
basic dog care by  
The Egyptian Society of  
Animal Friends**

### **Take care of your dog!**

- Reward your dog with love and good treatment
- Let it play and move freely. If you must tie it up, make it in a way that doesn't prevent him from moving

Local "Baladi" dogs also make excellent pets – very intelligent and protective, and well-adapted to Egyptian conditions.

### **What your dog needs**

- A balanced diet including protein, fats, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins (for example, a mixture of beans (including fooul), meat, rice, bread, vegetables all cooked together. Don't just give table scraps.
- Large bones can be given to chew after meals to clean the teeth and to improve jaw muscles, but these bones are not to be eaten as food. Small bones, including fish and chicken bones, may be harmful.
- Puppies after weaning (older than 6-8 weeks) need 4 meals per day. At six months reduce gradually to twice per day while increasing the quantity of each meal.
- Provide a bowl for eating and wash it daily.
- Dogs must always have clean water. Clean the water bowl daily and replace water daily (do not just top it off).
- A dog needs shelter – comfortable, warm and dry in winter, shady and airy in summer. Change and clean bedding weekly to prevent bacteria growing.
- Dogs need to play to work off energy. Give them toys (ball, old belt, etc, but not too small to avoid swallowing).
- Walk your dog at least twice per day for 10 minutes.
- Train your dog to obey your orders such as Stand, sit, come, etc. Use positive reinforcement: give a small reward (a treat or small bit of meat) when he obeys. Do NOT punish when he disobeys. Don't hit the dog if he doesn't obey– maybe he doesn't understand your command.
- Give your dog a name and use it often, especially when training and the dog obeys well.
- Provide a collar with your address and phone number on the collar or a small tag. Don't make the collar too tight – you should be able to get three fingers under the collar.
- Use a leash when walking or training. A harness is best when walking to avoid stress on the throat and neck
- Treat the dog nicely with love and mercy.

Continues on reverse

## **Cleaning your dog**

- Brush the fur daily for several minutes with a soft brush to keep the skin and fur in good condition. Also brush gently behind the ears, and around then the stomach, tail, and legs. Shedding is normal twice a year or even year round. Comb more frequently when shedding. In the skin becomes bare, consult your vet.
- Bathe your dog when it looks dirty or smells bad. (Note that too frequent bathing dries the skin. Many people give a bath every two to four weeks).
- In winter, bathe the dog indoors, dry with a towel, and leave it inside for several hours to avoid becoming cold.
- In summer, you can bathe the dog outside, dry with a towel and leave it outside.
- Shampoo for human beings may not be good for the skin of your dog. Use high oil soap like face soap, or special dog shampoo available from pet shops.
- Bathe small puppies inside in a sink or plastic tub. Bathe larger puppies inside in a bathtub or large tub of water. In summer, they may be bathed outside.
- Do not get shampoo in the eyes. Do not get water in the ears.
- Rinse well after soaping with warm water to remove all the shampoo and dry the animal very well.
- Use a rubber mat in the bathtub to avoid slipping.

## **Taking Care of Your Dogs Health**

- Take good care of your dog. Start vaccinations against disease from 12-14 weeks (so that we don't interfere with the natural immunity taken from the mother). Vaccinate against rabies starting about age 16 weeks. In case of epidemic, begin immunizations at age six weeks. The initial vaccinations must be repeated, and then the dog must be revaccinated each year after that. Older dogs never before vaccinated must also be vaccinated. Your vet will provide a schedule and can provide information about protection from internal and external parasites (like fleas, ticks, etc.)

## **Hurry to your vet at the observation of any of these symptoms**

- Loss of appetite, regular vomiting, losing weight
- lame or hiding in dark places
- Blood in urine, mucous or blood in stool
- Swollen stomach or the stool is smelling bad
- Discharge from the mouth, nose, or the eyes
- Regular coughing all the time
- Itching or biting the feet – change or dryness of skin
- Shaking head all the time or scratching the ears

## **What you should not do**

- Don't leave your dog alone looking for food in the garbage
- Don't leave the dog in your parked car on a hot day even for a very short period
- Don't tie the dog with a short chain and without water in a sunny place or in the cold winter.
- Don't let the dog sleep on your furniture or lick your face
- Don't arouse your dog's anger while eating or taking care of puppies
- Don't arouse any dog or throw a stone at him

## **Neuter your dog to avoid:**

- Undesired pregnancy
- Running away and getting lost and having accidents in the streets
- The problems and the diseases caused by pregnancy and delivery
- Problems of aggressive behavior during mating season
- Problems of getting other dogs in your yard during mating season
- Increasing the stray dogs in the streets