

## Puppy Proofing Your Home\*

- Puppies, like babies, are very **inquisitive**, wanting to explore every corner of your house and put things into their mouths.
- Put all **shoes** in closet and close door securely.
- Make sure socks and **nylons** are out of your puppy's reach.
- Make sure all **electrical wires** are hidden and off the ground.
- Remove **poisonous plants**, such as poinsettias.
- Make sure all **household cleaners**, insecticides, fertilizers, mothballs, antifreeze, insect poisons, rat poisons and other poisonous household items are secured in cabinets or on very high shelves.
- Make sure all **medicines** are stored high above your puppy in a secure cabinet and never leave individual pills on counters or tables as they can be gobbled up in a split second.
- Pick up any low level **trash** containers.
- Make sure there aren't any **plastic bags** within your puppy's reach.
- Get down on all fours for a puppy's-eye view of any unsafe, but enticing dangers.
- Keep bathroom doors closed so your puppy doesn't turn your toilet paper roll into a winter wonderland.
- Keep your **toilet lid** down
  - Puppies are often interested in playing in or drinking the water, which can be difficult to break to later and toilet cleanser may be harmful if ingested.
- Keep your puppy off balconies, upper porches and high decks where he could slip through cracks or fall.
- Keep buttons, strings, sewing needles, pins and other sharp objects out of reach.
- If you have a **fenced yard**, great! Walk the perimeter of your fence and look for any place your puppy may be able to squeeze through.
- A good rule to follow is that anything that is unsafe for children is also unsafe for your pet.

\* Information compiled from various online sources. We encourage you to do your own research and to consult with a qualified dog trainer and your veterinarian as needed.



Compliments of the Forsyth Humane Society  
61 Miller Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
(336) 721-1303  
[www.forsythhumane.org](http://www.forsythhumane.org)