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# Puppy-Proofing Checklist

## Preparing Your Home for Your New Labradoodle

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### Before Your Puppy Arrives

Bringing home a new puppy is exciting! Preparing your home in advance helps keep your new family member safe and gives you peace of mind. Use this checklist to puppy-proof each area of your home.

### Essential Supplies Checklist

- Collar and leash (I.D. tag with puppy's name and your phone # recommended)
- Crate — 36" metal crate with divider is best
- Comfortable crate bed or blanket
- Stainless steel food and water dishes
- NOW Fresh Puppy Food mixed with Sojos Fruit & Veggie
- Ear cleaner (Vetoquinol Care) — purchased from your vet
- Nail clippers or grinder
- Slicker brush and metal comb
- Toys — Nylabones, bully sticks, plush toys
- Puppy shampoo and conditioner
- Enzymatic cleaner for accidents
- Baby gates or exercise pen
- Poochie bells (optional — great for potty training!)
- Bitter apple spray (optional — deters chewing)

### Kitchen & Living Areas

- Secure trash cans with lids or place inside cabinets
- Store cleaning products in locked/high cabinets
- Move breakable items out of tail-wagging range

- Secure loose electrical cords with cord covers
- Remove or elevate houseplants (many are toxic to dogs)
- Pick up small items that could be swallowed (coins, rubber bands, hair ties)
- Install baby gates to restrict access to certain rooms

## Bathrooms

- Keep toilet lids closed
- Store medications in closed cabinets
- Remove accessible toiletries and cosmetics
- Secure trash cans
- Keep doors closed or use baby gates

## Bedrooms

- Pick up shoes, socks, and clothing from the floor
- Secure charging cables and electronics cords
- Remove or elevate items on low shelves
- Check under beds for small items

## Outdoor Areas

- Check fence for gaps, loose boards, or areas puppy could dig under
- Remove toxic plants (lilies, azaleas, sago palms, tulips, daffodils)
- Secure garden chemicals, fertilizers, and pesticides
- Remove or fence off pools, ponds, or water features
- Check for and remove mushrooms after rain
- Ensure gates latch securely
- Remove cocoa mulch (toxic to dogs)

## Garage & Storage

- Store antifreeze, motor oil, and chemicals on high shelves
- Keep tools and sharp objects secured
- Remove rodent poisons and insect traps
- Ensure no small hardware (nails, screws) on the floor

## First Week Home Tips

- Keep things calm and quiet — limit visitors for the first few days
- Establish a potty routine immediately: first thing in morning, after meals, after naps, before bed
- Introduce the crate gradually with treats and praise

- Supervise all interactions with children and other pets
- Start with a small, puppy-proofed area and expand access gradually
- Keep your puppy's schedule consistent — puppies thrive on routine!

■ **Tip:** *Your puppy will come home with a blanket carrying their littermates' scent. Place this in their crate for comfort during the first few nights.*