Doberman Tips And Tricks

**Ears**

* Stitches to be removed no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by a veterinarian.
* Keep clean and dry at all times
* Use a mild solution of vinegar and water for cleaning the insides of ears.
* Make the foam last as long as possible at least 30 days (less time posting).
* No scratching at ears EVER a simple no and give a toy or chew to deflect attention.
* Never let the puppy sleep on untaped ears EVER.
* We suggest the use of regular CARDBOARD tampons for posts.
* -Hockey tape, not so sticky hockey tape, gauze, triple action polysporin
* - Posting do it every 3-4 days or when the posts smell, become soft, or look dirty.
* For ear posting guidance please refer to my [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com/) video. I suggest my way simply because I have had perfect results and cannot speak for other ways. Simply Search (Doberman Ear Posting, myhuskyrox)
* When posting do your best to maintain the same distance between the ears each and every time. If they lean too far in once out of the posts, simply repost a little farther out and vice versa.
* Remember the puppies ears are made of cartilage, which is soft as a puppy and gets stiffer as they grow. The objective is to always have them posted in your position and as the puppy grows and the ears get stiffer they will stand the way you have posted for the last 2, 3, 4 months. Each puppy is different and patience is key here do not be in a rush to leave the ears out of postings you WILL regret it. When you think they are done and standing keep posting for another month.
* From day one do not EVER let the puppy get away while posting hold him/her firmly and do not let go. We suggest 2 people one holding and one posting, if the puppy never gets away it will eventually learn that trying is worthless making your posting procedures quick and easy.
* I only take apart one ear at a time so as to always have them in a post, even when I take the one apart I still hold it in its position so as not to allow it to fold.
* When posting be sure to stretch the ear to the point where it almost may seem like you are going to hurt the puppy. Obviously use care and common sense here but the goal is not to create what breeders call a pocket. It happens when there is slack in the ear within the posting and it sits for days like that.
* When posting after the stiches have just been removed DO NOT stick tape to the fresh scabs because when you take the tape off the scabs will come off too creating a bloody mess. We use a small strip of gauze with a SMALL amount of polysporin triple action applied only to the scab areas, and only until the ears are fully healed.
* Keep in mind that ears sweat and sweat smells so after 3 days of having the posts in they WILL have an odour simply clean, dry and post its normal. If it gets HORRIBLE visit a veterinarian immediately better to be safe than sorry.
* For further info from other breeders we suggest forums, any questions or concerns you may have WILL be listed in there with factual information. Do not base your conclusion on just one persons opinion read a few and make your own educated judgement call.

**Feeding**

* We suggest free feeding as puppies until about 6 months of age, they need all the nutrients they can get. Puppy food is cheap so let them eat as much as they like. After 6 months of age reduce intake to 4 cups per day or what your veterinarian suggests.
* We recommend Iams large breed puppy food, its first ingredient is chicken, it has a 4 star rating, and it is the best bang for your buck.
* Low grade foods costs more because the puppy does not retain as much which causes weight loss and more poops!

Training

* Puppies/dogs are animals that have a pack instinct and in the pack there is the Alpha male whom all others obey and listen to. You, your family, and your puppy are now a pack someone needs to be the Alpha male and that CANNOT be the puppy/dog. It will lead to many, many, many, many, issues regarding dominance, training, listening skills, etc..
* In each and everything you do with the puppy you are the leader no matter what. If the puppy beats you once it WILL try and try again, so just always be consistent and ALWAYS follow through with your commands the same way every time.
* No hitting, no yelling, just a stern no with a finger point and redirection with the right thing or anything to stop the behavior.
* Always think one step ahead of your puppy and it will make training easier. For example if you are worried about your new leather couches we suggest SHOUT an aerosol can that you can purchase at Petsmart that you spray on anything you think your puppy would like to chew on. If this is applied from day one the first time he/she takes a nibble on your table leg they realise it tastes awful and never try again. So get on your hands and knees crawl around like a puppy would and see what is attractive down there and spray as directed.
* Puppies especially Dobermans need something to do otherwise they find something to do. So buy lots of toys, and chews to keep them occupied. Keep in mind they need to be taught what is fun to do so do not just dump a bag of toys on the floor and expect the puppy to know what to do. Play with them that is why you got a puppy to have fun.
* We used a small duck from Petsmart that quacks when you squeeze it, actually we bought 5 but that is besides the point. We would toss it, quack it, and play with it all the time. It became the favorite toy inside and out, and as the dog got older the ducks got bigger. The dog learned fetch and has never ever chewed our furniture. If the puppy is about to chew on a no spot simply say no and toss the duck it WILL work.
* Do not ever play tug of war or rough house your Doberman it is a game of dominance in which some cases the Doberman will win, and if it wins once it will try and try again to dominate you making him/her the alpha male.
* We recommend crate training for the first month or so to teach the puppy what a bed is and where not to poop/pee. There is much information about crate training online via the internet.
* Do not leave your puppy locked in a crate for 15 hours and not expect a poop/pee it is inevitable. First thing you do when letting the pup out of the cage is put it outside EVERYTIME.
* After play, feeding, sleep, drinking the puppy must be put outside EVERYTIME and ALWAYS. The more consistent you are the better and faster results you will see.
* Socialize your puppy at every opportunity with animals and people of different genders, sizes, and breeds. You want a well rounded Doberman.

Treat your Doberman with Loyalty, Respect, Friendship and it will return the same for many years to come.

! Have Fun !