

# First-Time Dog Owner Starter Kit Checklist



Use this checklist to make sure you have the true essentials ready before bringing your dog home. Tick off each item as you go. Keep it practical—extras can come later.

## Identification & Control

- ☐ Well-fitting collar or harness
- ☐ ID tag with surname and contact number (UK legal requirement)
- ☐ Comfortable 1.2–1.5m lead

## Feeding Essentials

- ☐ Food bowl
- ☐ Water bowl
- ☐ High-quality dog food suitable for age and size
- ☐ Measuring scoop or cup

## Comfort & Rest

- ☐ Dog bed, crate, or designated sleeping area
- ☐ Blankets or bedding
- ☐ Quiet space away from heavy foot traffic

## Training & Enrichment

- ☐ Training treats (small and soft)
- ☐ Chew toy
- ☐ Soft toy
- ☐ Interactive or enrichment toy

## Grooming & Care

- ☐ Brush suitable for coat type
- ☐ Dog-safe shampoo
- ☐ Nail clippers or groomer appointment planned

## Cleaning & Hygiene

- ☐ Poop bags
- ☐ Enzyme cleaner for accidents
- ☐ Old towels for muddy paws

## Before Your Dog Arrives

- ☐ Food transition plan (if changing diet)
- ☐ Vet registration
- ☐ Microchip details checked and updated
- ☐ Time blocked out for settling-in period

Remember: you don't need everything at once. Start with the basics, learn your dog's needs, and add items only when they serve a real purpose.