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Welcome to the Sachs Great Dane Family!!

It is important that you read this document in its entirety as it contains your warranty information as well as a lot of information on the care and feeding of your new puppy. By taking possession of the below mentioned puppy you are agreeing to the information and terms provided in this document.

Your puppy was born on _____ AKC litter # _____
Sire _____ Dam _____
Sex _____ Color _____
Puppy registration# _____ Microchip# _____

Your puppy has been wormed at least three times rotating with Pyrantel Pamoate and Fenbendazole. He or she has a veterinarian issued health certificate, the appropriate vaccinations for an 8 week old puppy, and has been implanted with an AKC Reunite microchip. Your puppy's health certificate is included with this information. Please consult with your vet to plan for your puppy's ongoing health care plan.

You will be provided with the application for AKC registration, either full or limited as noted above, and the paperwork for the AKC Reunite microchip. You can register the microchip with your contact information at the same time you submit your registration application to AKC. You get a discount if you register both at the same time. Please do this as soon as possible so if your puppy can be identified should he or she somehow slip away from you!

This next paragraph is very important so make sure you read and abide by it. When placing a puppy with someone I expect he or she will be part of that family for life. This means an indoor loving home where they can be with their humans. Absolutely NO outside kennel housing. This is extremely important for Great Danes as they are very sensitive and need their people. As a breeder, I hold myself to the same standard. My dogs are mine for life and they live inside my home. When I make a commitment to a puppy, whether it is intended to be a breeding individual or a pet, that puppy will be a family member and will always have a home with me. I will never rehome retired adults or any dog just because he or she doesn't turn out as expected. With this commitment I

will never over breed as I will not rehome dogs to make room for more breeding dogs while abandoning those who are bonded with me. I expect the same from anyone who adopts a puppy from me. By taking possession of the puppy you are agreeing to this requirement.

All this being said there are occasionally extreme circumstances that may force someone to need to rehome their puppy. If you ever need to rehome your puppy you are not under contract to return him to me however, I must be informed. In that case, I will either take him back or help you to find a suitable home for your puppy. Do not rehome your puppy without communicating with me and if you must rehome please do not supply the registration papers as puppy mills are everywhere and are keen to get their hands on registered dogs. This would be a miserable life in a kennel for your puppy. I don't ever want any of my babies to end up in a puppy mill, or living outside in a kennel. For unscrupulous breeders, the dog isn't even important...sometimes it's the registration papers they want!! If your puppy has full registration, the registration certificate is like gold to a puppy mill!

My puppies are warranted from genetic health issues that can threaten quality of life, for two years. Should your puppy be diagnosed with a genetic issue please contact me immediately. The puppy must be returned to me and I will replace him or her with a puppy from a future litter. In order to replace a puppy, I will require a veterinary diagnosis and documentation of his or her environment and nutrition, as many issues can be caused by inappropriate diet and/or environmental conditions. If a puppy is not fed or housed properly the warranty may be voided. The genetic warranty does not guarantee a puppy will be a successful breeding or show individual. All puppies are placed as pets. If a puppy is placed with AKC full registration it is not a guarantee the puppy will be a successful breeding or show individual.

Deposits, puppy price, veterinary expenses, or any other costs incurred after you take possession of the puppy, are not refundable for any reason.

For the last few weeks the puppies have had outside play time during the daytime, in a safe and clean environment. They are learning to go "potty" outside and away from their play/sleep area. Generally Dane puppies are pretty easy to house train compared to smaller breeds. The key is consistency. After they sleep, take them outside!! After they eat, take them out!! After they play and intermittently during play, take them out!! Give them lots of praise for going outside. I watch for the puppy to go toward the door if they need to go out. Hanging a bell or other noisemaker from the door knob is a good idea so you will hear them even if you are not within sight of the door.

I generally crate my puppies for two reasons. 1 - It's easier to potty train if they are crated. 2 - I like my furniture and can't afford to replace it if a puppy likes how it tastes!! Some people have success without crating but at the least I would consider confining the puppy in some way rather than letting him have free run of your house. I have successfully used a pen (such as an x-pen) before but it's always nice to have your dog crate trained in case you have to confine him in a crate at some point. If he cries when in the crate, you must use tough love and not cave in and let him out. Just make sure he has gone potty before you put him in the crate. For an adult or large adolescent dane you would need a Giant size crate. My crates are 54" long, 36" wide and 45" tall. This does not mean you should put your puppy in a giant crate right now. If you already have a smaller crate, start with that and see if you feel crating is necessary when he/she outgrows the smaller one. If you are starting with a giant crate I would suggest putting a divider inside to limit the amount of space when the puppy is small. That will help with potty training. Some people use crates for life. I generally use them until I feel I can depend on a puppy not to destroy something in the house. Even after I stop crating, I have crates available and my adult dogs often go to sleep in them on their own.

Make sure your puppy has a soft bed as hard surfaces will cause calluses or hygromas. I like twin size mattresses covered with a heavy waterproof cover to keep the mattress from absorbing dirt or moisture. If you don't have space for that just be sure your dog has a big enough soft space to stretch out! Or there is always the sofa!

Be aware that slippery surfaces are not good for a puppy's joints. If you have tile or hard surface flooring please keep the puppy from a lot of vigorous activity on those surfaces. If he is having a case of the "zoomies", take him outside so he doesn't slip and fall or end up spread-eagle on the floor risking injury or future joint issues.

Please DO NOT use a raised feeder for your puppy. Feeding from a raised feeder has been proven to increase the odds of bloat. Dogs evolved to eat off the ground. Don't feel this is unnatural or uncomfortable for them because it's not.

Altering: You are not under contract to spay or neuter your puppy however if you have an intact dog you need to be a responsible pet owner and not allow your dog to create unwanted pets. If you are going to neuter or spay it is important to wait until he or she is at least a year and a half old. Early altering strips your dog of many necessary hormones which are key in their physical development. The absence of these hormones can disrupt the growth of your dog and cause many growth issues including bone and joint problems and a predisposition for osteosarcoma and many other health issues later in life. This has been proven in many studies, this is not just my opinion. So please, if you plan to alter, wait as long as you can.

On that subject I do think dogs, especially females, should be altered at some point to reduce the risks of issues like pyometra. Pyometra is an infection of the uterus in females. This can happen to dogs that have been bred or have never been bred. This is a devastating issue that can easily take your dog's life. I personally lost a girl, who had never been bred, to pyometra, at the age of 11. She was healthy and athletic and acted like a two year old just a week before, so I expected her to be with me for several more years. Unfortunately the pyometra hit during an approaching hurricane and all veterinary offices (even the emergency clinics) had closed to evacuate. There was no vet available to do an emergency spay so I lost her. I had never experienced pyometra before so now that I am aware of how quickly things can progress, I will always spay my girls at some point to rule that out. Males can also have testicular cancer. Although I have never experienced this, it might be prudent to neuter your boy at some point to rule that out as well even if it's at 6 or 7 years old. My older boys are generally neutered just to make life more stress free for me and for them. Note that most of the record "tall" Danes you have seen were neutered very early. The lack of hormones interferes with the closing of the growth plates in their bones and causes them to grow very tall, but with poor structure and bone strength. Most extremely tall dogs are gangly in appearance and sadly they generally don't live very long. Don't be the person who wants a record "tall" dog.

Now comes the most important part. Nutrition. I am adamant about appropriate nutrition. I am not a certified nutritionist but I have spent many hours researching nutrition for dogs and reading dog food labels. (that's what I do in my spare time...seriously)

Proper nutrition for a giant breed puppy is key. Keep proof of what you are feeding your puppy because many health issues can happen due to improper feeding and I will NOT warrant a puppy who has been fed inappropriately or hasn't had proper veterinary care. IE; if you take your puppy home and feed him Pedigree, Old Roy, Kibbles and Bits or any similar junk food, you will void your warranty.

Your puppy has been weaned on a quality chicken and rice formula that contains no corn, wheat, soy, sorghum or by products. This is a food that is manufactured by Diamond but is marketed by Costco under the Kirkland brand. Diamond manufactures many different brands including the Diamond line, Canidae, 4 Health, Taste of the Wild and many others. The Kirkland line is better quality than most of the Diamond branded foods as it does not contain sorghum but many of the Diamond foods as well as other foods they manufacture do. Grain Sorghum has become a common substitute for corn but has a similar nutrient value which is not biologically appropriate for dogs. Kirkland

food is a safe and reasonably priced food that rates 5 stars on Dog Food Advisor. I am not suggesting you must feed Kirkland, there are many good options out there that don't include suspect ingredients. If you choose to use the Kirkland food, I recommend the Chicken, Rice and Vegetable formula. They have a lamb formula but it has more filler (likely to compensate for the fact that lamb is more expensive than chicken) and lamb has less taurine than chicken. Taurine is important to heart health. I would be happy to discuss food choices with you including raw. I believe raw food is hands down the best option however feeding raw is not for everyone due to effort and expense. My adults are eating a hybrid diet of kibble in the morning and raw at night. Whatever you choose to feed, PLEASE READ THE INGREDIENT LABEL and pay attention to what you are feeding your puppy. Kibbles which include cereal grains like corn, wheat, soy and sorghum, or if they have fat in the top 4 ingredients have been found to increase the odds of bloat. There are plenty of decent options out there so please pay attention to what you are feeding. I highly recommend the addition of pure Salmon Oil to your dog's food. It does wonders for their coat and overall health. I also add ground flaxseed and eggs to my dog's kibble meals.

It's important to keep the calcium/phosphorus ratios in the ratio of 1.0 - 1.4 calcium to 1.0 phosphorus to avoid potential joint issues in giant breed dogs. Protein is not an issue. Years ago people thought a high protein diet caused joint issues. That is old wisdom. Studies have shown that the calcium/phosphorus ratios are the cause. If the calcium and phosphorus ratios are not shown on the ingredient label, do not feed it to your growing puppy.

Note that overfeeding can cause a puppy to experience loose stools, knuckling (bending over at the knee joint) or panosteitis (growing pains). If you see any of these issues back off the food a bit. It's hard for me to tell you exactly how much to feed your puppy because in the puppy palace they are all eating together. I generally tell people to give them as much as they want three times a day. If your puppy is a super aggressive eater, or shows signs of knuckling or growing pains, you may have to limit him/her. I would suggest starting with 1 to 1 ½ cups three times a day but keep an eye on the poo! If it's soft feed less. If your puppy is still hungry and his poo is solid then you can feed more. It's entirely possible some of the puppies may be eating 2 cups per feeding very soon. Vitamin C can also help with knuckling. You can use regular human vitamin C, 500 to 1000 mg per day, split into two doses.

If your puppy or any dog has soft stool, you might want to consider using Probiotic Miracle. I always keep it on hand. It's reasonably priced and is available on Amazon.

Another benefit of avoiding cereal grains in your dog's diet, and feeding raw or fresh foods or even part raw or fresh is that your dogs will be less appealing to fleas.

I also highly recommend visiting: www.drkarenbecker.com. Dr Becker is a vet nutritionist who has recommended species appropriate food for dogs for many years. There are many articles about the issues with commercial dog foods on her site.

Any time you have any questions or concerns please reach out to me. 904-504-2558. Please don't post your questions on Facebook pages before talking to me, as you will get many confusing and uneducated answers often based on old wisdom or complete lack of research.

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