

Canine Pregnancy Plan

The following information will help you prepare for your puppies' arrival.

Day of Pregnancy	Date
Day 0	Day of Insemination
Day 21	Pregnancy Ultrasound for Puppies Fecal Exam for the Bitch
Day 42	Switch Bitch to Premium Quality Puppy Food - Continue Until Puppies Weaned Start Dewormer (e.g. pyrantel pamoate) and Give Every Other Week
Day 58	Abdominal X-Ray to Count Puppies - If Planning C-Section, Start Progesterone Testing and Continue Every 1-2 Days (Based on Results) Until Surgery
Day 60	Prepare Adequate Whelping Box and Review All Materials Needed

Pre-Whelping

24-48 Hours Prior	You May Notice Decrease in Appetite and Increase in Nesting Behavior
12-24 Hours Prior	Decrease In Bitch's Body Temperature
12 Hours Prior	Mucous Vaginal Discharge May Develop
1-2 Hours Prior	Vaginal Discharge May Become Greenish/Black

Whelping:

- If obvious contractions occur for longer than 60-90 minutes without passing the first puppy, or longer than 60 minutes between puppies, please call your vet immediately.
- If a bitch successfully free whelps, we recommend doing a follow-up examination of her and the puppies the next day.
- Puppy dewclaw removal and tail amputations (if needed) are performed at day 3.

Recommendations:

- Weigh the puppies three times a day, prior to feeding. Use a kitchen scale that measures in grams and record the puppies' weights. Call your vet if the weights are not increasing daily.
- Monitor the puppies bowel movements.
- Monitor the bitch's mammary glands for adequate milk productions, abnormal swelling or discharge.
- During weaning, do not decrease the bitch's food; this will NOT "dry her up" and only leads to malnourishment.