

Magic Berners
MagicBerners.com 310-614-2075
NEW PUPPY INFORMATION

Welcome to Magic Berners, and,
Congratulations on your New Magic Berner Puppy...

Many of you have asked excellent questions about various treats, diets, equipment etc. for your puppy. Such good questions that we thought to assemble the information and answers here in one place.

We recognize that there is a huge spectrum of products and possibilities for many of these categories, and you certainly should take that into consideration if and when the need to make a purchase arises. There certainly is no one “perfect” product or solution, no one size fits all, but the suggestions/recommendations listed below are based on our experience with Berners and are what we currently use and fall back on - everyday!

EQUIPMENT

Collars

- puppies need a soft collar for training and identification
- Our favorite nylon collar is made by [White Pine Outfitters](http://www.whitepineoutfitters.com/)
 - <http://www.whitepineoutfitters.com/>
 - It will not break or damage your Berner's coat
 - available in two styles: 1) a snap collar and 2) a half martingale style.
 - our favorite the 9/16 in. soft-slip collar
 - yes - a plethora of colors is available
 - very adjustable, start with the medium for puppies
- For advance training, obedience, etc. (when the puppy is older and ready for classes)
 - - we use a standard chain collar
 - smallest diameter possible to fit over their head
 - the thinner (not thicker & heavy) the better
 - I actually prefer our ‘Show Collars’ which we purchase at dog shows.

REMEMBER- THE MOST DANGEROUS COLLAR IS THE ONE THAT IS TOO LOOSE

Leashes

- - your choice - nylon, leather, thick, thin - whatever is best in your hands
- remember standard length for “all” dog obedience is 6 feet.
- ** FLEXI LEASHES ARE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND NOT USED—EVER

[Dr. B's Pet Club {www.DrBsPetClub.com}](http://www.DrBsPetClub.com) your resource for reliable pet care.

Dover Shores Veterinary Hospital, 2075 Newport Blvd, Costa Mesa, Ca 92627 949-722-7387

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Crates

- wire crates are our first, second, and third choice. made by (e.g. [Midwest](http://www.midwestpetproducts.com/) etc. <http://www.midwestpetproducts.com/>) available through most large retailers, (eg. petsmart, petco, or on line)
- one, two, and three doors are options.
- they are collapsible for easy storage
- well ventilated for cooling your Berner.
- buy big” 42” will house comfortably most girls
- the largest 48” long is needed for boys...
- I generally buy the three door crate - you can put them anywhere and still reach an access door easily.

Resources

Dog Training:

So many “experts” these days -

- If you loved your last trainer use him/her.
- If you are just starting out: The Art of Raising A Puppy
 - By Monks of New Skete
- Our Trainer is Roger Bortz “Your Dog Trainer”
 - Santa Ana, CA _____
- The time to START training is NOW
 - Not When they're older
 - Not when you're older
 - Not when you feel like it

Veterinarian:

[Dr. B... Bruce Bauersfeld, DVM](#) 2075 Newport Blvd. #112
○ Costa Mesa, CA 92627 949-722-7387

Treats:

- Rawhide - the bigger the better.
 - Rawhide is only dangerous when it is ‘small’
 - i.e. eaten too fast and choke or
 - too much at once and get sick
 - need supervision
- Real Bones - Large “uncooked” - Knuckle Bones

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- Only dangerous if too small
- needs supervision
- Bully Sticks
 -

I AM ONLY COMFORTABLE WITH PRODUCTS MADE IN THE USA

** Made in China is a Big RED FLAG for me **

Training Treats:

- we generally use
 - String Cheese (people stuff) and/or
 - [Red Barn Loaf](#) This is actually a dog "food" much more "balanced" than a "treat" and very tasty! ⇒ 3+ flavors. Your Berner's choice
 - <http://www.redbarninc.com/chicken-rolled-food>
 - dice into niblet (small crouton) cubes
- training treats must be tasty and consumable instantly.
 - no chewing required or the training process is interrupted and confused.

Toys:

- Kong Toys - great and safe
 - can be 'stuffed' for extra value
- Nyla bones - great and safe (not desired by all dogs)
- Toys must be selected with "destructo-dog" in mind
 - Make your selection knowing that Berners are aggressive toy tuggers and destroy soft fluffy toys readily.
 - Avoid loose dangly appendages and eyes that can be ripped off and swallowed.
 - Fabric that is tough / "armor" is best

Please let us know your favorites and which ones your Berner chooses to love.

Diet - See our separate document: "Puppy Feeding Guidelines"