

# THE HAPPY CHIHUAHUA & YOU

A Complete Guide to Breeding, Feeding, and Training

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Professional Breed Care Series

# Introduction

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Welcome to the ultimate guide for the world's smallest dog with the biggest heart. Chihuahuas are not just pets; they are life-long companions that require specific care due to their unique physiology. This guide combines nutritional science, behavioral training, and essential health facts to ensure your puppy thrives.

**Breed Discovery:** Chihuahuas are named after the Mexican state of Chihuahua. Despite their size, they are incredibly bold and were once considered sacred in ancient cultures.

## Chapter 1: Welcoming Your Puppy

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### The "Puppy-Eye" View

Before your puppy arrives, get down on your hands and knees. Any gap larger than 2 inches is a potential escape route or trap for a Chihuahua puppy. Ensure all electrical cords are tucked away and no small objects (like coins or buttons) are on the floor.

**The Safe Zone:** Because Chihuahuas love to burrow, provide a "den" style bed with a soft blanket. This helps them feel secure in a world that looks giant to them.

## Chapter 2: Essential Health Facts

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**Critical Care - The Molera:** Most Chihuahua puppies have a soft spot on the top of their head where the skull bones haven't joined. While this is normal for the breed, a fall or a knock to this area can be fatal. Handle their heads with extreme care.

## Why do they shiver?

Chihuahuas have the highest metabolism-to-body-mass ratio of any dog. They shiver to generate heat, but also when they are excited or nervous. Always have a harness-ready sweater for outdoor walks if the temperature is below 65°F (18°C).

## Chapter 3: Feeding & Recipes

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Chihuahuas are prone to **Hypoglycemia** (low blood sugar). A skipped meal can lead to lethargy or seizures. Puppies should be fed 4 times a day.

### Sandra's Signature Puppy Mash

- **Protein:** 1/2 cup boiled minced chicken breast (lean)
- **Fiber:** 1/4 cup mashed steamed carrots
- **Carbohydrates:** 1/4 cup soft boiled white rice
- **Supplement:** 1 drop of Salmon or Coconut oil

*Serve slightly warm to enhance the aroma for picky eaters.*

### The "Energy Boost" Turkey Bowl

- 1 lb ground turkey (cooked)
- 1 cup mashed sweet potato
- 1/4 cup finely chopped green beans

*This recipe is high in complex carbs to keep their blood sugar stable throughout the day.*

# Chapter 4: Training & Socialization

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Do not treat your Chihuahua like a toy. Treating them like a "big dog" prevents anxiety and aggression later in life.

**Pro Training Tip:** Start house training immediately. Because their bladders are tiny, puppies need a "potty break" every 2-3 hours. Consistency is the only way to succeed with this breed.

## Socialization Checklist

- Introduce them to at least 5 new people a week.
- Expose them to the sound of vacuum cleaners and hair dryers at a low volume.
- Encourage walking on different textures: grass, gravel, and pavement.

## Final Thoughts

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Owning a Chihuahua is a 15 to 20-year journey. They are loyal to a fault and will become your shadow. By following this guide, you are giving your tiny friend the best possible start in life.