



Other Animals in Your Household

Guiding Eyes for the Blind believes that our puppies benefit from experiencing a variety of different people and animals throughout their time on Puppy Program. Having pets in your household can be of great benefit to our puppies.

1) Raisers **may** raise a Guiding Eyes puppy if they have pets of their own such as other dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, etc. Household pets must be fully vaccinated,** must not pose a risk to the puppy, and the puppy must not pose a danger to them. Guiding Eyes recommends that you allow ample time for any new animal you introduce to settle in whether it be a new pet or a Guiding Eyes puppy. There is no hard and fast formula for the time needed to settle in. This is determined on an individual basis depending on the particular animal. This adjustment time can take anywhere from a month to several months or more. It is essential to check with your Regional Manager prior to the time you bring a new dog or animal into your home. They will work with you in order to make the best possible decision with the best impact for all concerned.

2) Guiding Eyes does require that any other dogs residing in the house have at least a **six month age difference** from the puppy you are raising. Having two puppies in the house at once can be intensive and often means that the amount of 1-1 time the puppy receives may be more limited. Puppies very close in age are also more likely to bond more to each other and form less of a relationship with the people in their life. The human-dog relationship is at the center of the work we do.

This includes:

- dogs that were in the household prior to the Guiding Eyes puppy arriving
- any dogs you may acquire during the time you are raising
- other Guiding Eyes puppies (i.e. in the case of 'overlapping' where you start another puppy while finishing your current Guiding Eyes puppy)

This does not include dogs that are visiting for a limited amount of time such as a Guiding Eyes puppy sit.

**Vaccinations that are required by that state's health requirements must be current on all animals that are living in the household for any period of time. Puppies should not be in contact with dogs and puppies at any time who are not current with their vaccinations. Written proof of vaccination records must be available upon request.