Day one: Bringing your Hattie's Texas Cavapoos Puppy Home

Congratulations! Today is the beginning of an exciting journey. Your puppy is adjusting to a brand-new home, new people, new smells, and being away from their littermates for the first time. A calm, patient first day will help them settle in.

Potty breaks on the way home

If you have a long drive home, your puppy will likely need a potty break.

- **Choose your potty location carefully.**
  Avoid dog parks, pet store lawns, rest areas with heavy dog traffic, and other places where unknown dogs frequently eliminate. Young puppies are not fully vaccinated and can be exposed to illnesses such as parvovirus.

- **Look for a clean, low-traffic grassy area** away from where other dogs commonly walk or potty.

- **Do not allow greetings with unfamiliar dogs.**
  While it may be tempting to introduce your adorable new puppy, it's safest to wait until they have completed their puppy vaccination series.

- **Offer a small drink of water** If your drive is long, especially during hot weather, but avoid letting your puppy drink from public water bowls.

Your puppy may be tired...

Moving day is exhausting! Don't be surprised if your puppy naps frequently between short bursts of play.

They may cry or seem usnsure

This is completely normal. Your puppy has just left everything they've ever known. Offer comfort, but avoid rewarding constant crying by immediately picking them up every time they whine.

Accidents will happen

Take your puppy outside:

As soon as they arrive home
After eating or drinking
After every nap
After playtime
Every 30-60 minutes while awake

They may not eat much

Some puppies skip a meal or eat less on the first day because of stress. Continue offering the food they were sent home with and make sure fresh water is always available.

Keep introductions calm

Avoid inviting lots of visitors on the first day. Give your puppy time to bond with their new family before introducing many new people or pets.

Keep the first day simple

Instead of overwhelming your puppy with every toy, room, and adventure, allow them to slowly explore one area at a time.

Tonight's First Bedtime

The first night is often the hardest.

Expect some whining.

Keep bedtime calm and consistent.

Place their crate near your bed if possible.

Take your puppy outside for a potty break if they wake during the night, then quietly return them to their crate.

Your Goal Today

Your only job today is to help your puppy feel:

- Safe
- Loved
- Secure

Remember...

The first few days are an adjustment for everyone. Most puppies begin settling into a routine within several days. Be patient, stay consistent, and enjoy these precious first moments together.

Welcome to the Hattie's Texas Cavapoos family- we're always here if you have questions!