

What is normal?	Week 1	Week 2	Weeks 3-4	Weeks 5-6
Temperature, rectal	96 - 98° F	96-99 ° F	100 ° F	100 - 101 ° F
Ambient Temperature	75 to 80 ° F	70 to 80 ° F	70 to 75 ° F	65 to 75 ° F
Heart rate & Blood Pressure	200 to 240 beats per min; systolic blood pressure 61 mm Hg	200 to 240 beats per min, sinus rhythm	160 to 200 beats per min, sinus rhythm; systolic blood pressure: 139 mm Hg	Varies with breed
Blood Volume	75 ml/kg			
Respiratory rate	15 to 35 per min	15 to 35 per min	15 to 25 per min	15 to 25 per min
Mucus Membranes Color/ CRT	Pink to hyperemic if recently nursed	Pink/1 second	Pink/1 second	Pink/1 second
Urine color	Very pale yellow, <1.020	Very pale yellow, <1.020	Pale yellow	Pale to moderate yellow
Weight	May lose up to 10% in the first 3 days. Birth weight: Toys 100-200 gms; Large 400-500 gms; Giant 700 gms	Gaining 5 to 10% daily, many double birth weight by day 10. Calculate weight gain of 2 -4 gm/day/kg anticipated adult weight.	Calculate weight gain of 2 -4 gm/day/kg anticipated adult weight.	Calculate weight gain of 1 -4 gm/day/kg anticipated adult weight. Giant and large breed at faster rate than small breeds.

Activity	Sleeps & eats 90% of time, twitch while sleeping. Movement is a crawl.	Sleeps & eats 90% of time, twitch while sleeping. Begin to support themselves on their forelegs.	Beginning to stand and walk by day 21. Start to play when eyes open. Can sit.	Walking, climbing, playing, may bark, begin to explore environment, mouthing. Normal postural reflexes.
Attitude	Quiet, cry infrequently.	Quiet	Quiet, more active	Start to develop “personalities”
Body Tone & Reflexes	Flexor dominance for 1 st 4 days, then extensor. Righting, rooting, weak withdrawal.	Extensor dominance, righting, rooting, crossed extensor. Withdrawal developing.	Approaching normal for adult. Suckling reflex & crossed extensor disappears.	Normal adult
Vision and hearing	No vision but blink with bright light. Limited hearing.	None to limited vision and hearing, menace present but slow initially. Limited hearing, waxy discharge.	Vision blurry, Pupillary light reflex present within 24 hours of eyelids opening, respond to sound. Startle reflex develops.	Approaching full vision and hearing
Teeth	None	None	Deciduous incisors & canine erupt	Deciduous premolars erupt

Breeder's interaction	Assure pups are nursing, supplement if necessary. Once to twice daily take and record temp, weight, urine & stool character. Start Early Neurologic Stimulation day 3-16	Assure pups are nursing, supplement if necessary. Daily temp take and record, weight, urine & stool character. Continue Early Neurologic Stimulation day 3-16	Continue to assure pups are thriving, begin to enrich environment by variation of toys, surfaces.	Continue to assure pups are thriving, continue to enrich environment. Lots of human interaction for socialization
Veterinary care	Assess & treat if not thriving, taildocks and dewclaws prior to 5 th day if appropriate for breed.	Assess & treat if not thriving. Dispense pyrantel pamoate to use on day 14 after birth.	Assess & treat if not thriving. Dispense pyrantel pamoate to use on day 28 after birth.	Veterinary wellness visit – assess pups for any abnormalities to allow breeder to sell pup with full disclosure. First vaccinations (DAPPv) end of 7 th week. Dispense pyrantel pamoate to use on day 42 after birth.
Food and water	Nursing only If supplementing, 60 ml/lb/24 hours divided by 12, fed every 2 hours.	Nursing only If supplementing, 70 ml/lb/24 hours divided by 8, fed every 3 hours.	Offer water, then gruel to start weaning. If supplementing, 90 ml/lb/24 hours divided by 6, fed every 4 hours.	Teething. Many pups weaned, on full food and water, some still nurse for social interaction.

