

## WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF A PUPPY

So you want a puppy? Are you sure? We ask that you carefully explore the reasons for your desire to own a dog. While it is true that they bring a great deal of joy to a home, it is also a fact that they are a great deal of work. What is the picture you have in your minds eye about how life will be with a new pet.

Can you see him lazing on the floor near the picture window of your Duncan Fife living room, under the Princess Ann table with the really old old Royal Dalton figurines and the filigree frame of the picture with Auntie Matilda and Uncle Ronnie?

It is a nice spring morning. It feels as if it will be quite warm later in the morning. Perhaps this is a good day to do a bit of wash. Just pop down and put some in the washer. You call out to puppy "I'll just be a moment and then we will go out while I hang out the load I did last night." Puppy doesn't hear you. He is sooo cute with the sun streaming in on his shiny black coat. The white markings are shimmering in the spring morning and the air has such a clean and crisp smell. Only spring smells that way. Puppy is so soundly asleep and it will only take a minute to run down and put in a new load of wash. He will be fine.

While down there the phone rings (of course) and 10 minutes later mother returns to the upper level. She unsuspectingly calls the puppy. No response. She glances into the living room. He probably just didn't hear her, after all the TV is on.....

Shall I describe the mess for you—no I'll let you use your imagination. Oh and then add some, because it took mother 3 ½ hours to clean up the war zone. And that was exactly what it was.

Oh you are wondering where the puppy was,? She did find him two blocks away chasing a cat. You see he went through the picture window. Damages you ask. Well, the insurance agent appraised it at \$2600.00 household items, and \$1800.00 for the window. Oh the puppy—he went to the vet to repair the damage the window did. That was a mere \$1000.00 because all he had to have was stitches for cuts and abrasions. Oh-did I mention the stomach surgery to get what turned out to be a sock from the clean laundry hamper she was sorting in the kitchen.