

Published based on [Preparing To Introduce your Pet Dog And Your New Baby.](#)

Preparing To Introduce your Pet Dog And Your New Baby.

Many new parents have great concerns over how their dog is going to react to the arrival of their baby. In fact, there are many steps you can start to take as soon as you find out that you are having a baby, which will help the transition to be a smooth one...

There's loads more useful tips and advice on introducing your dog and new baby at [Preparing Your Dog For The Arrival Of Your New Baby](#)

It may not be possible to give so much time to your dog as he is used to when your baby comes, so begin to condition him for this now. Think about shortening his walks now. Your local veterinary practice and your GP may be able to give you some expert advice on what steps to take to prepare for your new baby's homecoming. Reinforce your dog's obedience training so that you can count on him to carry out your commands. Keep practicing these commands, even after your baby has arrived. When the baby is born, you will need to know that you have absolute control over your dog.

Mimic some of the new tasks you'll be carrying out when the baby arrives to let your dog become familiar with these actions, i.e. feeding, nappy changing. Have your dog obey your commands whilst you complete these tasks. Use a doll with a blanket to get the dog used to you cradling and talking to the baby. Be sure to give your dog a treat for being obedient to your instructions whilst doing this.

Have your dog get used to wearing a muzzle before the baby arrives, so that you can be confident that he will wear it if you need him to when the baby is born.

Ensure that other family members strengthen their bond with the dog. Doing this will help the dog to feel security within the family upon the new baby's arrival.

If you want to read more useful tips and helpful advice on preparing your dog for the arrival of your new baby, why not have a look at [Introducing Your New Baby To Your Dog](#)

Get your dog used to the sounds of the new baby toys which you will have in the house. Ensure that the dog's toys look very different from the new baby toys, so your dog does not become confused as to which ones he is allowed to play with.

Also, allow your dog to become familiar with the new smells which will be around the house, such as baby milk and sterilising solution. Once your baby has been born, bring home an item of his clothes which has been worn, and let your dog get used to his scent. Your dog will feel more secure if you are able to have him looked after at home while mum and baby are in the hospital.

I hope you've found this article interesting – there are plenty more tips on what to do once you bring your baby home at [Tips On How To Manage Dogs Around Babies](#)

You can also find this article published on [Preparing To Introduce your Pet Dog And Your New Baby.](#), and on the tag pages [babies and dogs](#), [dogs and babies](#), [how to introduce babies to dogs](#), [how to introduce dogs and babies](#).