

WHY PUPPIES SHOULD NOT LEAVE BEFORE 8 WEEKS



Brain Development (Weeks 3–8)

- Stress response is forming
- Emotional regulation develops
- Confidence and resilience are built

! Early removal can increase fear and anxiety

Bite Inhibition

Puppies learn bite control from:

- Littermate play
- Corrections from mom

- ➔ Teaches how hard is too hard
- ➔ Cannot be fully taught later by humans

Social Skills With Other Dogs

Between 5–8 weeks, puppies learn:

- Dog body language
- Calming signals
- Respecting boundaries
- When to disengage

! Missing this stage raises reactivity risk

Emotional Stability

Mom provides:

- Security
- Calm behavior modeling
- Stress regulation

! Early separation increases separation anxiety risk




WHY 8 WEEKS MATTERS

By 8 weeks, puppies have:

- ✓ Better emotional control
- ✓ Proper bite inhibition
- ✓ Healthier stress responses
- ✓ Stronger social foundations

BOTTOM LINE

Waiting until at least 8 weeks creates:

-  Better brains
-  Better behavior
-  Better lifelong companions

