

# Puppywarmer Incubators

## Important - Read First



Read provided instructions before using any Puppywarmer® products

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbKscthd\\_I690x0a-UnjWXQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbKscthd_I690x0a-UnjWXQ) (or search Puppywarmer all one word)

Puppywarmer® products are instruments in the care of your puppies.

Your ability to monitor the puppies' conditions and response to their environment are essential to their health.

### Incubator best practices:

- Familiarize yourself with the incubator well in advance of the target due date. Make sure all items have arrived safely. Run the incubator for 12 hours to understand functions. Make sure you understand how to change temperature, oxygen level and add distilled water to the oxygen concentrator. Any questions or concerns should be answered prior to placing puppies in the incubator.
- Read our blog articles at [www.puppywarmer.com](http://www.puppywarmer.com) for operation and cleaning tips including understanding how to monitor the puppy's behavior inside the incubator to know if temperature adjustment is needed.
- Always use a surge protector with the incubator. Your oxygen concentrator should be plugged directly into the wall outlet.
- Use an anti-slip pad to secure unit on smooth surfaces
- **Keep doors closed as much as possible**, This allows for better temperature regulation
- Door lock (oval shaped knob in center of incubator front just under doors) is unlocked by turning down and to the left
- Place puppies in the Puppywarmer® incubator before first feeding. Feed after birth fluids are dried from fur.
- The bare mat is the best surface in most cases for the first 3-5 feedings. After that, bedding may be added. (If your breed can be prone to flatchestedness, placing soft, uneven surfaces in the incubator will provide an opportunity to take the weight of their head off of their chest.)
- **Temperature sensor (wire hanging down into the incubator from the top) should hang straight down and curved slightly away from under the heater. If you place bedding in the incubator, make sure the puppy cannot touch the sensor.**
- Oxygen line is routed from the oxygen output of the Oxygen Concentrator/Supply through one of two round holes in the rear corners on the top of the incubator. The small cup should be kept at a height about 1" above the puppies' heads. **Make sure the oxygen line is pointing away from the sensors.**
- Remove mat for cleaning by using a small flat head screwdriver to create room for your finger to pull out mat
- **Room temperature should be 70 to 75°F and room humidity should be between 30% to 45% for best results.**
- **If you are considering using an inverter in your vehicle, use a professionally installed 1000W inverter or Puppywarmer portable power systems. Do not rely on a lesser rated inverter or 120V supply that comes standard with your vehicle.**

### Recommended Starting temperatures:

Operating range for incubator is 80-100°F (26-38°C)

Newborn "wet puppies"	90°F (32°C)
Newborn Puppies after dry	88°F (31°C)
Small for gestational age or Premature Puppies	90-92°F (32-33°C)
5-14 day old Puppies	Refer to blog article " <a href="#">The Puppies Tell the Story</a> "
"Older" puppies (> 2 weeks)	May not need supplemental heat. Leave unit off in this case and make sure sensor is not within reach of the puppy

Please consult your veterinarian for temperature protocols to treat suspected canine herpes virus in your puppy

### Recommended Starting Oxygen flow rates:

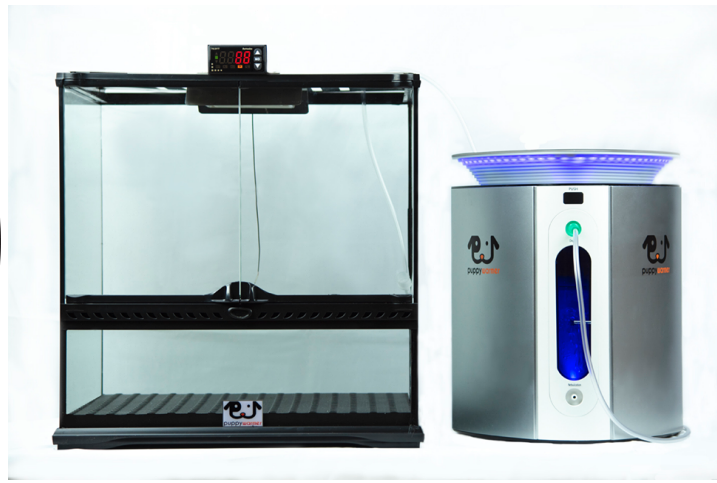
Puppywarmer® recommends the use of Puppywarmer® Oxygen Concentrators with our incubators, to create proper air exchange.

Puppywarmer® Incubator Size	Flow Rates (Liters Per Minute)
12x12	1
18x18	1.3
18x24	1.6

As puppies grow, and are better able to regulate temperature, you can gradually raise the flow rate to increase the rate of air exchange in the unit.

Puppywarmer® is a registered trademark of Warmer3

Contact us at 269-568-3450 (text/call) or [customercare@puppywarmer.com](mailto:customercare@puppywarmer.com)



Thank you for purchasing the Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> incubator. The Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> incubator is designed to create environmental conditions that provide the best start in life for neonatal puppies and puppies at risk.

### Our Purpose

The Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> incubator utilizes advanced heating systems, sensing and control technology to provide a repeatable and simple to operate method of maintaining optimal temperature, oxygen and humidity levels. It adds an experienced breeder protocol to give low birthweight and gasping puppies the best start in life and dramatically increase survival rates of at-risk puppies.

### Important Notice

The Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> allows the opportunity to manage warmth, oxygen and humidity in the first critical hours or days of life. The Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> incubator greatly increases the success rate of excellent protocol of neonatal puppy care. It is not a substitute for experience, access to a mentor or preparedness to address conditions that may arise not directly related to the control of environmental temperature, oxygen and humidity. Using experience to take prudent action early in the identification of a health risk, the Puppywarmer<sup>®</sup> will greatly increase the effectiveness of action taken. If you find yourself in a situation with a puppy at risk and feel your best option is a web forum - please call your veterinarian immediately.

**Important Notes: The system is designed to operate with the doors closed. Leaving the doors open for extended periods of time will result in the infrared heater having to reach a higher internal temperature to maintain set point. When doors are closed after having been open for a long period of time, the heater will dissipate the residual heat into the incubator even though no electricity is being sent to the heater. This can cause temporary elevated temperatures beyond set point and a mat that is warmer than it should be at set point.**

## **Quick Start - Changing Set Temperature (Sticker provided with this information)**

### **To change set temperature:**



**Step 1:** Tap -DO NOT HOLD -the **MD** Button, "Su" (setup) will flash, followed by the set temperature

**Step 2:** Use the **Up ▲** and **Down ▼** arrows to adjust the flashing set temperature

**Step 3:** Tap the **MD** button again to return to sensed temperature

**Process complete: Set Temperature is changed**

**Caution:** If you see anything other than a flashing "Su" followed by a flashing temperature setting--you held the **MD** Button too long--hold the **MD** button down until the sensed temperature shows and try again.

**TC4Y Controller can operate as above--or simply use the up and down arrows to change set temperature.**

### **Notes about the controller:**

▲ This means your incubator temperature is above the set value / target temperature

■ This means your incubator temperature is at the set value / target temperature

▼ This means your incubator temperature is below the set value / target temperature

**OUT** Short for "output" This means there is electricity being put to the heater (**note: this will be red on a TC3Y controller**)

**°F** This shows you the incubator is sensing in fahrenheit.

- **If the temperature is flashing on the controller, that is your set value / target temperature**
- **If the temperature is not flashing on the controller, that is what the sensor is reading**

## **The Goal**

The Puppywarmer® incubator provides opportunity to positively influence three important environmental conditions:

- **Warmth** - While your own experience may vary - the following guidelines have been proven to deliver strong results.
  - Newborn until dry 90°F (32°C)
  - Newborn after dried and fed 88°F (31°C)
  - C-section puppies until dried and fed 90-92°F (32-34°C)
  - Small for gestational age puppies 90°F (32°C)
  - Canine Herpes Virus - consult your Veterinarian for protocol.
- **Oxygen**
  - To save gasping puppies, apply the oxygen cup directly to the puppy's nose and mouth for 45-90 seconds at 1.0-1.5 LPM, this often makes them "pink up"
  - These puppies often are singletons, first born, and larger puppies that had a long or stressful birth process.
  - Often the skin color of the puppy will be noticeably purple or blue.
  - We recommend our Puppywarmer Oxygen Concentrator be used in conjunction with your incubator.
- **Humidity**
  - 40-60% humidity is generally considered ideal (will show as 32-52% at the sensing location of the incubator).

Please note: The incubator environment is most effective when it is consistently within the temperature and humidity target ranges. If changes are made, they should be applied gradually.

## Getting Started

- Unpack your incubator, inspect for shipping damage. If you find shipping damage to the enclosure, contact Puppywarmer®. To find setup videos--search "Puppywarmer" (all one word) on Youtube.com
- Whenever possible, prepare for use of the Puppywarmer® by running the unit to familiarize yourself with its operation.
- Being prepared with oxygen will save puppies, even if you don't think you need it. Attach oxygen lines from your Puppywarmer® Oxygen concentrator. (Gasping puppies need to be aspirated and have oxygen held to their nose and mouth immediately.)
- Fill the humidity vessel in the oxygen concentrator with distilled water. You may need to raise or lower the water level in response to your ambient humidity, which can vary depending upon the humidity of the room.
- To simplify use, there is no "On/Off" switch on the incubator. It is recommended that the Puppywarmer® be plugged into a quality surge protector with an "On/Off" switch. If your area has frequent power outages, plan what your strategy would be to gain access to power in advance of the event. This will allow the Puppywarmer® to continue operation during a power outage.
- Turn on your incubator by using the power switch on your surge protector.
- The incubator is designed to reach target temperature in under 10 minutes.
- The Puppywarmer® mat absorbs infrared heat energy. At target temperature, the mat will be warmer than the air. A warmed mat is an important component of the thermal system. It is best to allow the incubator to heat for 15 minutes or more before the first puppy is born. If the temperature inside the incubator is still above target temperature at the time of the first puppy, the heat will dissipate through the vents. The puppy will also absorb the heat energy as it is warmed.
- Monitor humidity levels. (The humidity gauge is embedded in the front left of the stainless steel top.
- Get ready to save puppies. Make sure your supplies are organized and nearby.

## Using the Puppywarmer® incubator

- **Average sized healthy puppies** benefit from drying in the incubator. Evaporation is a major source of heat loss in puppies in the first few hours of life. All puppies benefit from drying off in a precisely controlled warm environment.
- As the bitch is delivering puppies, it is often best to use the incubator as a holding/ warming station. Between whelps, remove puppies from the incubator and allow them to feed and be with the mother. You know your bitch and should adjust your protocol to the well being and comfort level of the bitch and her puppies.
- If there is a **gasping puppy**, it is likely to be the first born or early in the birth order. Suction with bulb syringe or DeLee mucus trap gasping puppies immediately and place the cup of the oxygen line at the mouth and nose, until the puppy's color returns and it has stopped gasping. Once a puppy has stopped gasping, is maintaining good color and does not appear to be under stress in any way, it can generally be placed in a warmed whelping pen within a few hours.
- **Undersized puppies** (less than 60% of the average birthweight of the line) require a longer time in the incubator. Warmth is essential and proper humidity level is important, if there are any signs of respiratory distress. Smaller puppies require precise environmental heating due to a higher skin surface to body mass ratio. This creates more risk of body heat loss. Weight gain is an excellent indicator that the puppy is digesting well and increasing in strength. Before each hand feeding, give the puppy an opportunity to feed from its mother. As the puppy gains strength, its sucking reflex will strengthen. It is important to monitor the puppy's behavior and acceptance from the mother and littermates during this transition period. While all puppies are different, breeders have been able to transition the smallest puppies they have saved in their experience, from the incubator to a ceramic infrared heated whelping pen in about four days

## **Please Stay in Touch**

- Please send your questions, photos, videos and stories to [customercare@puppywarmer.com](mailto:customercare@puppywarmer.com). A photo of a saved puppy is the best part of our day. By sharing experiences, you will help others save puppies.
- Please visit our website: [www.puppywarmer.com](http://www.puppywarmer.com) and facebook page. We will regularly share technical information and breeder input with the goal of creating a learning community.
- Join "Team Puppywarmer" on Facebook. This is a closed group for Puppywarmer customers to share experiences and help each other save puppies. You can also give PuppyWarmer® feedback on this page.
- If the problem is more of a veterinary concern not related to heat, oxygen or humidity - it is best to speak with a veterinarian or an experienced breeder nearby that could see the puppy first hand.

## **One Last Thought**

Your investment in a Puppywarmer® incubator is an indicator you are prepared to do all that you can for your puppies. We take your trust in our company and products very seriously. Our testing has proven that the combined use of Puppywarmer® incubators and whelping warmers greatly increase the probability of successfully saving puppies at risk. While your success rate will improve, there may still be times where you have done all you can and the puppy was not able to be saved. Though a high percentage of puppies at risk can be saved with well controlled warmth, oxygen and humidity - there are some conditions that are not directly related to these environmental factors. As more of your puppies have healthy starts, you will be better able to identify these circumstances - and determine a course of action that is best for those puppies. You may over time become comfortable with the "new normal" of having a higher success rate saving puppies. Even five years from now, we hope you still celebrate the puppies you save - as it is a direct result of the commitment you have to your line, your breed and your profession. We look forward to hearing of your success. Saving puppies makes us happy.