



## Checklist for Finding the Best Kennel For You

Kennel Name DogBoy's Dog Ranch Date \_\_\_\_\_ Spoke With \_\_\_\_\_

	Question	Cost	Yes/No	Comments
1.	What do you charge for boarding?			
	First Dog	\$30/night		
	Second (additional) Dog(s)	30% off (\$21/night)		
2.	Do you charge by the dog's weight?		NO	
3.	Do you charge by the day or night?		PER NIGHT	Most kennels charge a lower daily rate. So if you drop off Monday morning and pick up Tuesday night, you would be charged for two days.
4.	If you charge by the night, what time do I have to pick my dogs up in order to avoid being charged for another day?			You can pick up and drop off anytime during office hours.
5.	What is included in your daily/nightly rate?			Everything listed below is included.
	Playtime		YES	From about 7am –3pm each day, weather permitting. Times are shortened during hot summer months. Time varies depending on dog's tolerance to heat and behavior. Playtime is not guaranteed – it must be earned!
	Medication		YES	
	Special Diet		YES	
	Swimming (Unfortunately our pond is not accessible at this time. We are making arrangements for it to be accessible more year-round than it is currently. We apologize for any inconvenience.)		YES	Dogs can go swimming in the pond 3-4 times a week, weather permitting and they have to behave (i.e. have a good recall, and don't run off from the pond...). Just let us know when you drop off that your dog likes to swim, and it will permanently go in his record and be put on his kennel card every stay. (Bath is highly recommended)

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	Other Special Needs		YES	Shots, extra time indoors with staff, you name it.
6.	If above items are not included, how much do these services cost?			
7.	What size are your runs, and are they indoors or outdoors?			Our Indoor/Outdoor runs are 3 ½’ - 4’ wide x 17’-19’ deep. Dogs are only in their runs for rest during the day, dinner & bedtime.
8.	Do you provide playtime with other dogs?		YES!	Compatible dogs are grouped together by size, temperament and personality. Dogs must be friendly with other dogs to qualify.
9.	If so, how do you evaluate dogs prior to putting them in playgroups?			A formal evaluation is required prior to boarding for the first time. This can be done during a day of day care, or if that is not possible, during their first boarding stay (\$10 extra). Once they are deemed a good fit for DogBoys, they are tested with our staff dogs. After that they are placed in playgroups with easy-going “politician” dogs – dogs who know how to get along with everyone.
10.	What if my dog doesn’t get along with others? Do they still get time outside?		YES	ALL dogs get time outside their runs. However, DogBoy’s is designed for playful, friendly dogs, so human-aggressive and dog-aggressive dogs are asked to board elsewhere. The formal evaluation will tell us if this is a good fit for your dog, and if it is not, we can suggest alternative boarding options for you.
11.	How large are your play areas?			We have 20 play areas that range in size from a small suburban backyard to half the size of a football field. There are 15 acres here, so there’s lots of room to roam.

	Question	Cost	Yes/No	Comments
12.	What do you do if my dog gets sick or injured?			After assessing the seriousness of the injury we will do one of two things. If the illness or injury is minor, we usually call you first, tell you what's going on and then suggest a plan of action for your approval. If the illness or injury is major, we act first (rush to the vet – yours or ours, depending on who is closer and more available) and then call you to give you an update. We make choices based on what we would do if your dog were our own.
16.	What do you do if my dog seems under stress?			Does who are stressed out get increased people time, i.e. more attention and human interaction. With your approval.
13.	How long have you been in business?			December 2005 marked our 10 <sup>th</sup> year (that's 70 dog years)!
14.	How long have current employees been with the company?			We have one employee who has been with us over 5 years, two over 3 years, and two over a year. There are also many newcomers who are also excited about joining our team.
15.	Do you do anything special if my dog is afraid of thunderstorms or fireworks?		YES	<p>For “T-storm” or “Firecracker” dogs, we administer a few drops of an herbal tincture called Rescue Remedy (a flower essence) into their water bowls or onto their tongues. It is not a sedative, just something that helps ease the anxiety that is caused by thunderstorms, fireworks, etc. We are also happy to administer any medication you bring for anxiety at no charge to you.</p> <p>On “firecracker holidays”, like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and New Year’s Eve, we have staff members come in during the evening hours and stay until 2 or 3 am; throwing a “dog party” of sorts for all those who are sound sensitive. This helps to distract them from all the noise and flashes of light so they are less stressed than they might otherwise be.</p>

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
16.	What do you do if my dog seems under stress?			Dogs who are stressed out get increased people time, i.e. more attention and human interaction. With your permission, we might also pair them up for the night with a canine buddy who can make them feel more at ease.
17.	What do you feed the dogs?			<p>Once a day in the evenings, we feed our boarders California Natural, a high quality lamb and rice dry kibble that has no additives or allergens.</p> <p>If you choose to bring your own food, we ask that each meal be prepackaged in Ziploc baggies with the dog's name. Bring a little extra since we tend to burn more calories out here. Please be prepared that if we think it is a poor quality food, we won't be shy about telling you so. We do our best to educate all our clients about the importance of feeding your dog a healthy diet, and how it can affect their health AND their behavior.</p> <p>We feed once a day to help prevent bloat – a potentially deadly condition - and to prevent any throwing up that may cause an aggressive reaction in playgroup. We can feed twice a day if your dog is a puppy or has a morning medication that requires food.</p>
18.	What kind of grooming services do you offer?			Dogs get dirty at DogBoy's, so baths are relatively cheap - \$15 - \$25 depending on weight of dog and length of coat. Nail clips are only \$10 and are not done if the dog is under too much stress. We want this to be a place filled with great memories, and therefore we do all we can to avoid anything that might cause the dog not to want to come back.
19.	Do you offer pickup and delivery, and if so, what is the cost?	\$1/mile round trip	YES	We prefer to pickup and deliver with a person home, and we can work within a time frame (morning, afternoon) but not at an exact time. Usually it is the owner who picks up or delivers a dog, so the delivery schedule is limited.

21.	Do you offer Training?		YES	<p>Group Classes for beginners to enthusiasts. Agility classes, Leash Walking and Search and Rescue classes are also offered. Check our website for dates and prices.</p> <p>Private Lessons are offered at \$75 each or \$175 for three lessons, all done at DogBoy's.</p>
22.	If so, what training methods do you use? Do you use choke pinch or shock collars?			<p>At DogBoy's, we believe that a dog should behave out of a desire to please you, rather than out of a fear of being punished. For this reason, we use only all-positive training techniques, and focus on the relationship with the owner through games and other fun exercises.</p> <p>We do not condone the use of any choke chains, pinch or shock collars, nor do we believe in Invisible Fences, a board-and-train setup or the alpha roll.</p>
23.	Is there a spay/neuter requirement for my dog to board with you?		YES	<p>All dogs over the age of 6 months must be spayed or neutered to come for boarding or day care. There are few exceptions: Dogs who are actively working as a show dog, retired show dogs, or dogs who have a medical condition that puts them at risk during any surgery requiring sedation.</p>
24.	Do you have a website where I can find out more information?		YES	<p><a href="http://www.dogboys.com">www.dogboys.com</a></p>
25.	What is the best way to make a reservation? Phone/Fax/Email/Online			<p>You can make a reservation by faxing in an online reservation request form, found on our website, emailing to <a href="mailto:reservations@dogboys.com">reservations@dogboys.com</a>, or by calling us at 251-7600.</p>