

CALF

PET DIARY 2026



INFORMATION

Name _____

Age _____

Address _____

School _____

My calves name is _____

Breed _____

Birth Date _____

My calf is a bull / heifer

We found my calf / I got my calf from another farm

My calf was a single, twin or triplet

TRAINING TIPS

You will need to train your calf to walk forward beside you, to turn, and to stop to get ready for pet day.

Coming to your Call

When teaching your pet calf to come to you, teach it with treats, each time you call it to come, either give it its normal milk or give it another treat and give it lots of pats.

Leading

Put a small dog collar on your calf's neck and attach a dog lead. When you want your calf to move forwards with you start walking and pull softly on the lead, when your calf takes a step forward give it a treat. Repeat doing this until your calf understands what you are trying to do.

Stopping

When you want to stop your calf gently pull on the lead rope and remember to practice standing still as well. Make sure you don't yank on the lead too hard as this will scare your calf and will hurt its neck.

Tying Up

You can also teach your calf how to tie up. Just tie the lead around a post, when your calf stands there quietly reward it with a treat or take it away for a walk or back to its pen.

Keep it Fun

Remember to keep training fun, praise and pat your calf lots and give it treats when it does things right, keep training short so you both don't get tired and bored.

WEEK 1 - What my calf has been doing.

Make sure it has had colostrum from its mother, if not you will either need to buy some or get some from a dairy farmer.

Before your calf gets home, make sure you have a safe pen with shelter, clean water, fresh grass, milk and a bottle & teat.

WEEK 2 - What my calf has been doing.

Is your calf feeding well?

Put a collar on your calf and start teaching it to lead for a short time after school each day.

Make sure you pat it lots and brush it so it becomes your friend.

WEEK 3 - What my calf has been doing.

Can your calf lead and tie up yet?

Check its collar isn't too tight now that it has grown.

WEEK 4 - What my calf has been doing.

Are you leading your calf everyday and walking in different patterns?

Can you stand still with your calf? Get Mum & Dad to come and pat your calf and pretend to be the judge at pet day for you to practice.

WEEK 5 - What my calf has been doing.

Are you getting pretty good at leading now?

Make sure you only brush your calf or wash with water, don't ever use shampoo on your calf as this will make its coat no longer waterproof.

WEEK 6 - What my calf has been doing.

What is your favourite activity to do together?