

Exclusive scoop for Console Gameworld

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### A Sneak Peak at the Official Media Release Kit for Nintendogs™

“Congratulations! You might not realize it, but this package contains a brand-new puppy. Yep, you’re one of the first people in the United States to receive a copy of Nintendo’s cool new pet simulation, *Nintendogs™*, made exclusively for Nintendo DS™...”

#### Hey: Do You Got Papers for that Doggy?

And so the welcome letter continues with the words we can’t wait to hear: “We wanted to make sure you had the chance to spend some time with your puppy before Nintendogs launches on August 22.” The Nintendo Official Media Release Kit is creative, innovative, and very professional. Nothing short of what we would expect from Nintendo. The attention to detail emanates throughout the kit. The exterior of the box gave me a clue to what was inside. The circular official looking logo “Nintendo Kennel Club” made my heart jump a little faster. OK, I admit it—I love dogs and competed in AKC Dog Obedience Trials with my German Shepherds many years ago. I put a “CD” on my dog in three out of three shows (if you don’t know what that means don’t worry about it...trust me, I know a thing or two about dog training). What really got my goat was the imaginative “Nintendogs Papers” inside the Release Kit (see photo). These are your official Adoption papers for your purebred purchased puppy. Darn right it’s official—after all it’s signed by Mr. Miyamoto himself!

#### I Adopted From the Nintendo Kennel

Let me just say this. Nintendogs makes the best use of the Nintendo DS’s touch screen system and multimedia functions of any released DS game thus far. The crisp colorful visuals and amazing canine A.I. will blow you away. After poking around the kennel, I decided on a male German Shepherd pup with an outgoing bright personality. Each game comes with 6 different breeds and you choose the pup you want after visiting the Kennel. The six breeds on my cartridge were Chihuahua, Yorkshire Terrier, Cavalier K.C. Spaniel, Shetland Sheepdog, Boxer, and German Shepherd Dog. In real life I have a black mutt I love, but it was a no brainer for me to select a German Shepherd (as I have an affinity with the breed). When you select the breed you want, you’ll be presented with three different color variations of the dog. It will also tell you their sex and a brief

description of their personality tendencies and temperament. The representations were fairly accurate. For example, for the German Shepherds, there was the standard black and tan, a mostly black with a little bit of tan, and one that almost had a sable type coloring.

### **The Name Game**

After making your discriminating choice, the next step is to name your brand new pup. I chose “Taco” because I was hungry for one at the time I played Nintendogs. Now the fun begins...the DS will notify you that your dog is feeling apprehensive or unsure of his/her new surroundings. Real world explanation—it’s time to start bonding with your new pup! You now will be prompted to speak your dog’s name many times into the microphone until your pups gets to recognize your voice and respond accordingly.

This is really addicting stuff and the animations of how the canines move is nothing short of spectacularly realistic. That’s all I have time for now...my Taco is clearly sleepy from his big first day at home. I can’t wait to take him to the Gym with me. By the time he’s all grown up, it will be Mr. Taco to you!