

House Training

8 key steps to potty training

Potty Training Your Puppy

Potty training a puppy can be a challenging but essential task. Patience, consistency, and positive reinforcement are key to successfully housebreaking your puppy. Here's a step-by-step guide on how to potty train your puppy:

1

Establish A Routine

- Dogs thrive on routines, so establish a regular feeding schedule.
- Take your puppy outside at the same times every day, especially after waking up, after eating or drinking, and before bedtime.

2

Choose a Designated Potty Area

- Pick a specific spot in your yard for your puppy to go potty. This consistency will help your puppy understand where it's appropriate to eliminate.

3

Use a Crate

- Crate training is a valuable tool in potty training. Dogs generally do not like to eliminate where they sleep.
- Make sure the crate is appropriately sized, so your puppy can stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably.

4

Watch for Signs

- Pay attention to your puppy's behavior. If they start sniffing, getting distracted, or whining, they might need to go out. Take your puppy outside immediately when you notice these signs.



5

Take Frequent Trips Outside

- Young puppies have small bladders and need to go out frequently. Be prepared for frequent trips outside, especially during the initial stages of training.
- A General rule is your dogs age in months plus 1 = the hours your dog can hold their bladder for.

6

Use Positive Reinforcement

- When your puppy eliminates in the designated area, praise them afterwards enthusiastically and offer treats as a reward. *Never* scold your puppy for accidents!
- Use a specific phrase like "go potty" or "do your business" while they are eliminating, so they associate the command with the action.

7

Clean Accidents Promptly

- If your puppy has an accident indoors, clean it up immediately with an enzymatic cleaner to remove the scent completely. This will discourage them from using the same spot again.
- Never punish your puppy for accidents, as it can confuse and frighten them. Rather act disappointed and take them to their spot right after. Any accident is on the owner for not being proactive.

8

Manage Food & Water Intake

- Controlling your puppy's food and water intake can help you predict when they are likely to need to go out.
- Practice controlled, scheduled feeding by only allowing your dog to eat for 15 mins at specific times. Remove their water about 2 hours before bed.

Remember that every puppy is different, and some may catch on faster than others. Be patient, stay consistent, and provide plenty of positive reinforcement to help your puppy become fully potty trained.