

TOILET TRAINING

There are **TWO** important steps for your puppy to learn while toilet training:

1. **Physical control of the bladder and bowel** (all puppies reach this milestone at a different age—but on average somewhere between 12 and 20 weeks is the norm).
2. **WHERE** to go to the toilet

THE most effective way to increase ANY behaviour
(in this case—going to the toilet outside!)
is to **HIGHLY REINFORCE** the behaviour

EVERYTIME puppy does a wee or poo **outside** while being toilet trained
give pup a **super tasty, high value treat!**

THE MORE WE REWARD A BEHAVIOUR THE MORE THE DOG WILL OFFER IT!



SET UP THE ENVIRONMENT:

Create a **DEN** for puppy (a puppy play pen and or a crate work well). The benefits of a den include:

1. Puppy has a quiet 'bedroom' where he feels safe and secure
2. Dog's do not like to toilet in their den so pup will learn to **HOLD ON!**
3. Owner knows puppy is safe and secure
4. Show puppy what we **DO WANT**—prevents many undesirable puppy behaviours

To encourage puppy to spend time in his den—make it a great place to be. All stuffed Kongs, chewy treats and a comfy bed will teach puppy that his den (aka bedroom) is a lovely place to rest and relax.

For young pups, especially during the night, you may choose to create an 'indoor toilet'. Be aware that dogs can be very surface specific about where they toilet. For example, many rescue dogs eliminate on paving/cement etc as this will have been the surface they were exposed to whilst in a shelter. An indoor toilet should closely replicate the outdoor toileting surface. Many a pup has struggled to learn to wee and poo on grass when they have learnt to toilet on newspaper or a puppy training pad. By all means still use newspaper or a puppy pad to absorb urine inside **BUT** use fake grass over the top to replicate the real thing!



TRAINING TIPS

Supervision is a **MUST** during toilet training. Do not let pup have run of the house—keep a close eye on pup and observe for subtle warning signs (sniffing, circling, pacing, squatting) and take pup outside immediately.

For times when you can't actively supervise puppy—give him a fun chew toy or Kong in his den OR place him outside for some fun in the sun!

Get pup used to having **FUN** outside—creates independence and puppy has many opportunities to toilet in the correct area

For any accidents in the house—clean the area thoroughly with a product that neutralizes odours (Biozet laundry powder, Urine Off spray etc). Dogs have an amazing sense of smell and may go back to an area that smells like their toilet (even though we can't smell it!)

Take puppy outside **ON LEAD** to teach pup to eliminate in a particular area. Using the lead prevents puppy from becoming distracted, as often they can forget about going to the toilet as so many other things happening outside! (very common for pup to return inside and **THEN** toilet as there are no distractions inside!) Keep pup on lead until pup has eliminated—then pup can be allowed off lead for a run and a play outside.



If you have taken puppy outside and after a few minutes he has not eliminated—take him back inside and give him a chewy treat in his **DEN**. Wait 15 minutes and then take him back outside to try again!

DO NOT punish puppy for accidents inside. We may think we are telling puppy off for toileting inside, but puppy may inadvertently learn not to toilet in from of you (regardless of being inside or outside)!



For further advice please contact us at
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