



House Training Your Puppy

1. Why does my puppy keep messing on the carpet?

Your puppy may not know the difference between the carpet and the grass outside.

2. When is my puppy most likely to need to go?

At the age of two months the puppy can wait approximately two hours before needing to urinate. At three months 3 hours etc. Begin by taking the puppy out every two hours, setting a timer will help to remind you!

Approximately 10-30 minutes after feeding your puppy is likely to need to go to the toilet and also after waking up after a sleep.

Watch your puppy to see if he/she starts sniffing the ground and turning around, these are signs that often indicate that they need to go to the toilet.

3. How can I encourage my puppy to toilet where I want him to go?

Take your puppy into the garden and wait, sometimes quite a time, until the puppy urinates or defaecates and then praise and give a treat or play a game. Your puppy will soon realize that going into the garden gets "rewards". If you want him to go in a special place take him into the garden on the lead to the special area and encourage him to go. If he doesn't go take him back in and try again later on.

4. What do I do if the puppy has an accident in the house?

Ignore the puppy, clean up the mess using a biological washing detergent, and when dry, spray with a 1/5 solution of surgical spirit/water. Try to stick to the frequency of taking the puppy out and watching for the behavioural signs.

5. Is using newspaper or puppy pads on the floor a good idea?

It is better not to use newspaper or pads (although it may be necessary to put some down at night). Some puppies trained to go on newspaper/pads fail to understand that they need to go somewhere else. If you are having this problem take a piece of soiled newspaper into the garden toileting area and hold it in place with stones, encourage the puppy to go in this place. It is more effective to follow the guidelines above and clean up any accidents without making a fuss.

6. Does rubbing the puppy's nose in an accident work?

No!!! Your puppy does not know why you are punishing him in this way and can not differentiate between your carpet and the grass. Your puppy's sense of smell is much more powerful than ours and this is a cruel punishment.



7. When I come home and the dog has made a mess he know he has done wrong and looks guilty and goes and hides.

Imagine that you are a puppy and have made a mess an hour ago and completely forgotten about it. When your owner comes home he or she behaves in this strange and frightening way shouting and punishing you and you have no idea what has triggered this behavior. Wouldn't you go and hide every time your owner came home?

8. Can indoor cages or puppy pens help with training?

If used correctly the puppy will regard its indoor cage as its den. He will try to wait until he is outside the cage to go to the toilet as he will be unwilling to soil this area. If using a cage you have to remember that it is your responsibility to take the puppy to his toileting area as often as his age requires. At night you will have to get up at least twice to let the puppy out of the pen area (at 8 weeks of age). If you don't want to have to get up during the night you will need to get a very big cage and place a piece of turf in a plastic tray at one end of the cage and change this daily.

9. Can I use a word command to tell my puppy when to go to the toilet?

Yes! When your dog is just finishing urinating or defecating get really enthusiastic and say your chosen command word and give the puppy a reward. Your puppy will soon recognize the word and try to oblige you when you say it.