



House Training Tips

Congratulations on your new fur baby! Here are a few tips to make sure that your potty training process goes as smoothly as possible. And remember, sometimes even adult dogs that are already potty-trained may need a refresher course when they are introduced into a new home! With a little patience and supervision, your new companion will have the rules down in no time.

Create a Routine:

Just like a baby, your dog will learn the quickest through a set routine. Pick a designated potty spot outside. Take them out for a potty break as soon as you let them out of their doggie den every time! Schedule feeding times to make it easier to predict when your dog will need to relieve himself. Be sure to take puppies outside for a potty break every 2-3 hours and have a potty break first thing in the morning and right before bedtime. Praise and reward them as soon as they relieve themselves outside!

Supervise:

Watching your dog at all times will help prevent him from having accidents. If you see your dog sniffing and circling, take him outside for a potty break! Don't give him too much freedom to fast either. If you are having difficulty supervising your pup, use a leash to keep him close.

Doggie Den:

Establish a den for your dog. Keeping them in their doggie den while they are unsupervised will help prevent against accidents that can prolong house training. Placing toys in the den can help you teach your dog that the den is a positive place. If you are using a crate, be sure it is just big enough for your dog to stand up, turn around, and lie down. Be sure to use a crate divider if you are placing a puppy in a larger crate (if you give them too much excess space then they will potty in their crate!). Using play pens and baby gates can be useful tools in creating a small doggie den too.

- Try to avoid tools like newspaper and potty pads. This teaches your dog that it is ok to go inside the house! If an indoor relief area is completely necessary, then try using an artificial grass patch (like the potty patch) that is on top of a potty pad. This will make the transition to going outside easier for your dog to understand.
- If you catch your dog in mid-elimination, try to get him outside to finish at his potty spot.
- Clean it up with a cleaner that contains enzymes- this will help prevent your pup from repeating this mistake in the same spot.
- Pick up your pup's water bowl 2 hours before bedtime so that he will be less likely to wake you up for a potty break in the middle of the night.

