

Some dogs and puppies urinate or defecate inside the house and it may be in a certain location. This may occur on a specific kind of surface, or only on furniture and areas that smell strongly of a person or other animal, such as beds and sofas. Soiling might also occur only under certain conditions. Some dogs might urinate only during greetings, petting, play or reprimands, and some dogs house soil only when they are alone.

Here are some useful tips to guide you in training your dog to go outside.

- Keep your dog on a consistent daily feeding schedule and remove food between meals
- Take your dog outside on a consistent and frequent schedule. All dogs should have the opportunity to go out first thing in the morning, last thing at night, and before being confined or left alone
- Watch for early signs that she needs to eliminate so that you can prevent accidents from happening. These signs might include pacing, whining, circling, sniffing.
- If you can't watch your dog, you must confine her to a crate. If you confine your dog in a crate the area needs to be just large enough for her to lie down comfortably. Dogs don't like to soil where they sleep.
- Accompany your dog outside and reward her whenever she eliminates. Use loud noises to startle your dog if you do catch them urinating in an inappropriate area. Avoid punishing.
- If you're unable to get your dog outside quickly enough, possibly because of mobility problems (yours or your dog's), or if you live in a high-rise apartment, consider training your dog to eliminate on paper or in a dog litter box.

Submissive Urination

Submissive urination is also common for puppies and certain breeds of dogs. This is when a dog urinates out of excitement or when they feel intimidated. They usually grow out of this behaviour, but here are some suggestions that may help stop or minimize this behaviour.

- Ignore your dog when you first come home and walk through the door. Wait until he has completely calmed down before interacting with him.
- When you pet your dog, touch him under the chin or chest, rather than on top of his head or ears.
- Keep play sessions with your dog low-key and play games with him that focus on toys rather than bodily contact.



House Training Your Dog & Puppy

Teaching your Dog a Specific Place to Urinate

You may want to teach your dog to eliminate in a specific spot in your backyard, protecting your garden or lawn from urine marks. You'll need to teach your dog where you want her to eliminate using consistent, gentle training.

- Instead of letting her outside to find a spot on their own, take them out yourself on a leash. Lead her to the place where you'd like her to eliminate
- Try walking around a little in the designated potty area and be as quiet and unobtrusive as you can. If your dog doesn't eliminate within three to five minutes, take her back inside. Try again in 10 to 15 minutes.
- Continue to give your dog brief but frequent opportunities to go out to the potty area on a leash until she eliminates there.
- Praise him calmly and reward them with treats on the spot.

Bringing a new dog or puppy home can be exciting, but it can be challenging when you are house training. Be patient, use these tips and with time you will have your dog asking to go outside.