

# QUICK AND EASY PUPPY POTTY TRAINING



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THE PET CARE GUY

[HTTP://WWW.PUPPYHOUSETRAININGSECRETS.COM](http://www.puppyhousetrainingsecrets.com)

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## Introduction

When you bring a new dog home, whether the dog is a puppy or an adult dog, one of the first things that you will need to take care of is to make sure that the dog becomes potty trained. It is a given that a young puppy will need to be trained, but it may also be a possibility that an older dog may need to be trained as well. Never assume that just because a dog is mature that he is fully trained.

In this guide we are going to review several critical components associated with potty training both the puppy as well as the mature dog, including different methods that can be used for training the dog as well as tips for overcoming problems associated with training.

Are you ready?

Let's get started!

# Chapter 1

## Choosing the Right Potty Training Method

Choosing the right training method for your dog is an extremely important matter. There are many different methods that can be used for training your dog. The method that you choose to use will be based on a number of factors, including the age of your dog, the time that you have available to interact with your dog and of course, the method that you personally feel most comfortable with.

Some of the various training methods that can be used will encourage your dog to learn to eliminate outside, while others methods focus on containing a specific area of the home where the dog can go potty, such as a [potty training pad](#), newspaper or even a [litter box](#).

In the following sections, we will learn more about the various types of methods that can be used for potty training either a puppy or a dog

### Crate Training

One of the most effective ways to potty train your dog is the crate method. This method is most effective with a puppy or a dog that is small to medium sized. The crate method relies on the natural den instinct of the animal to ensure that the area where the dog sleeps is kept clean from waste. When dogs live in the wild, the mother dog keeps the den clean.

When the puppies are old enough that they are able to venture out on their own, they go outside of the den to eliminate. When a dog lives in a home where there is no den, the space tends to be so large that they are not able to feel as though it is their own place. When you offer your dog a den, in this case in the form of a

crate, he will be able to use that natural den instinct to learn how to hold it until he is taken outside.

If you consider using the crate method, you should know that it will take some active participation your part as well as some monitoring. You will also need to make sure that you have an appropriately sized [crate](#) for your dog. He should be able to stand and stretch out with comfort. You will also need to provide plenty of [soft bedding](#) in the crate for it to be comfortable for your dog.

To start, place your dog just at the door of the crate. Place a small [treat](#) inside the crate and when your dog enters the crate on his own to get the treat, give him plenty of praise. Allow your dog to come out of the crate whenever he wishes. You should not close the door of the crate at this point.

Be sure that you do not praise your dog when he comes out of the crate, only when he enters the crate. Also, as soon as he enters the crate, say whatever word you want him to associate with the crate.

After your dog has been able to work up to the point where he is able to stay in the crate on his own, close the door, but only do so for a few seconds. Remember, praise when he is going in but not when he is going out. This will help your dog to make the connection that there is something positive to be associated with going into the crate.

When your dog reaches the point where he is okay with being in the crate for a few minutes at a time, try placing a toy inside the crate so that he will have something to keep him occupied. You can then try to gradually increase your distance away from the crate as well as the amount of time that your dog spends in the crate with the door closed.

Be aware that your dog will not want to eliminate while he is in his crate, so it is important that you take him outside as soon as you take him out of the [crate](#). When your dog has finished eating, go ahead and put him in the crate with a toy for about ten to fifteen minutes. After that amount of time, take him out and

immediately take him to wherever you wish him to go potty. Remember that this is not the time for playing.

If your dog goes potty, give him plenty of praise and spend a few minutes playing with him. If your dog has not gone potty within about five minutes, return him to the crate for another five minutes. Repeat the process again until your dog goes potty.

At night, you can keep the [dog crate](#) in your bedroom or at least nearby where you will be able to easily hear him. As soon as you hear him whine, remove him from the crate and take him to the area you have designated. Remember that you should not play with him during this time or it will not take long for your dog to learn that whenever he wants out of the crate to play all he has to do is whine.

There are numerous advantages associated with crate training. Not only does it utilize the dog's natural instincts, but it can also help to reduce the amount of messes that you must deal with around the house when this type of training is performed correctly.

Also, this method of training is beneficial in helping your child to feel secure. One of the most important things to keep in mind when training your dog is to be sure that he understands what is required of him.

There are also a few disadvantages to this type of training that should be kept in mind. They are relatively few, but one of them is that this type of method will only be effective if you are available to closely monitor the dog while he is in the crate. In some instances, owners are concerned that crate training is cruel, but this is actually not the case.

The [crate](#) should never be used as a form of punishment, but is instead used as a place that is safe and secure for your dog. If you choose to use this method, you will find that your dog comes to enjoy his time in the crate, particularly as it will offer him a secure and peaceful refuge away from others in the family when the household becomes chaotic.

## Litter Box Training

[Litter box](#) training is commonly associated with training cats, but most people do not associate it with training dogs. This process will work best with small dogs because of the size of the box involved.

It is commonly used by dog owners who either live in an apartment or who are unable to take their dogs outside at regular times. You can also use litter box training as a type of back-up plan if you need to leave your dog alone in the house for a longer period of time than normal.

One thing that needs to be kept in mind with this method is that you will need to choose where you want to position the litter box and keep it there. As with any form of training, it is essential that you remain consistent.

So, once you have chosen a location for the litter box, make sure you do not change it. You can add either some shredded newspaper or commercial [kitty litter](#) to the bottom of the litter pan.

To get started with this method follow these steps:

- Pay attention to your dog and when you first notice that he is becoming anxious and exhibiting signs that he may need to go potty, you should take him to the box and place him inside. Such signs may include circling around, whining, sniffing, etc.
- If your dog does not relieve himself when he is first placed in the [litter box](#), remove him and take him away from the area until you notice him start the behavior again.

- Continue this practice until your dog relieves himself in the box. When that happens, make sure you give him plenty of praise.
- You should be aware that there are some dogs that may not take to this method without the scent of urine being left in the box so that they will understand this is where they should go potty.

The main key to successful [litter box](#) training is that you must be able to actively watch your dog during the times when you know that he is most likely to need to relieve himself. For the most part, this will be around 10 to 20 minutes after he has eaten.

He will also usually need to go potty when he wakes up and after he drinks water. Make sure that you watch for signs that may indicate your dog needs to go and be prepared to take him to the litter box.

One disadvantage to litter box training is that it is not like a confined method of training, as is the case with crate training. This means that you are not able to provide constant supervision.

You could keep your dog on a short [leash](#) when you are first training so that you are able to keep your dog with you while you are first training him. This may prove to be somewhat inconvenient in the beginning, but it does provide a way for you to be able to monitor your dog at all times so that you will know when he needs to be taken to the litter box.

The other disadvantage to litter box training is that dogs are not like cats. They do not cover their waste with the [litter](#) when they are finished. So, if you do not immediately scoop out the box when your dog has finished his business, it will become smelly rather quickly.

Also, if you have an older dog that has been trained previously to go outside then you may find it difficult to train him to go in a litter box. Male dogs usually begin to lift their leg when they urinate as they get older. They may miss the litter box and get urine all over the place.

This method does offer advantages and one of them is that it makes it possible for your dog to easily learn where you expect him to eliminate. Furthermore, you can also use a [litter box](#) outside so that you do not have to worry about any cleaning up in the backyard.

## Paper Training

Paper training is an excellent method if you must leave your dog alone occasionally, but want to be sure that he has a place where he knows he can go. The strategies that are used with paper training are quite similar to those that are used with other training methods. The dog learns where he is supposed to go potty.

One thing to keep in mind with this method of training is that dogs most quickly learn where they are supposed to go potty according to the way it feels to the pads of their feet. After your dog has been trained to go potty on a specific type of surface, you may find it difficult to get him to transition to another type of surface.

Paper training can help with this in some cases because it is easy enough to simply place some paper outside and have the dog go outside on the paper as well as inside on the paper.

To begin paper training, you will need to follow these steps:

- Make sure that you choose a place where you want your dog to be able to consistently go potty. It is usually best to choose an area that has a

hard surface, such as tiled floor. If you choose an area with carpeting, it is likely that your dog's nails will dig into the paper, puncture it and the urine will then seep into the carpet.

- Cover the area you have selected with whatever type of paper you wish to use. You can use butcher type paper or newspaper. Be sure that you make an appropriately sized area so that he has enough room. This should roughly be about three times the size of your dog. If you make the area too small, it simply won't work and if you make the area too big you will likely find it too hard to manage.
- If you choose to do so, you can also use a [potty training pad](#) instead of paper. These types of training pads have the advantage of containing a special ingredient that will attract your dog to the pad.
- Make sure that you monitor your dog very carefully and the first time you notice that your dog is making signs he needs to go potty, such as circling or sniffing around, take him to the papered area.
- Give him an opportunity to sniff around the area and when he goes potty, offer him plenty of praise.
- If your dog does not go potty within three to four minutes, go ahead and remove him from the paper. Watch him carefully and if you see signs that he needs to go potty again, repeat the same process.

Keep in mind that paper training tends to work best with dogs and puppies that are relatively small. The main advantage to this method is that it does not cost a lot of money and you can use it wherever you may be, so it is ideal for traveling.

There is a disadvantage and it is that there is an odor that can be associated with the paper. Even if you are extremely careful, your dog's waste materials will come into contact with the surface of the floor, so it is a good idea to use some heavy plastic material between the floor and the actual paper.

### **Potty Pad Training**

[Potty training pads](#) work much in the same way as paper training. The main advantage to this method is that they can be more effective in terms of controlling odor as well as absorbing urine than regular newspaper. You can purchase potty training pads in a variety of different sizes, so they can be used for different sized dogs.

As with paper, you can simply place them wherever you wish the dog to be able to go potty in the home.

### **Going on Command**

While teaching your dog to go potty on command may sound as though it would be difficult, that is actually not the case. This is an excellent method to use for house training your dog as well as training your dog for times when you may be traveling.

The main key to making this method work is to be sure that you have plenty of time to monitor your dog. You must also provide plenty of praise to your dog when he goes potty at the right time.

To get started you will need to catch your dog just as he is about to go potty. The moment you see him lift a leg or see her squat, you will need to give whatever

command you wish to use, such as 'go potty.' It really does not matter which command you use, but whatever command you use, make sure that you keep it consistent. Always give the verbal command whenever you see that your dog is about to go potty.

As soon as he has finished, make sure that you give him plenty of praise. You may also wish to give him a [treat](#). Be sure that you never give a treat and praise unless your dog goes in the correct place at your command. If he does not go in the right place or on command, do not punish him, just simply do not offer a treat or reward.

This method is most successful because it works by combining a natural behavior along with a command. The more often you do this, the faster your dog will make the connection.

Praise and treats are extremely important with this method, so make sure you keep plenty of treats on hand. Also, take the time to observe your dog so that you will be able to know how your dog behaves when he needs to go potty.

Consistency is crucial when you are training your dog to go on command. You must make sure that you do not change anything in regards to how your dog goes potty or you will likely experience problems and setbacks.

Always be consistent with the area where you choose to take your dog outside. Do not change places once you have decided upon a location.

If possible, it can be helpful to try and limit the number of people who work with the dog during the training process to avoid any confusion and problems that might occur.

## Chapter 2

### Potty Training the New Puppy

One of the best experiences in the world is bringing home a new puppy. From the moment you bring him home, your puppy will be learning about you as well as what you expect from him so it is crucial to make sure that you start out correctly, especially when it comes to house training.

In the beginning it can be very easy to allow a puppy to get away with bad habits because he is so young, but over the long term this will only cause you more problems and challenges as it can be that much more difficult to have to train him to unlearn poor behaviors while instilling the desired behaviors.

If you begin with housetraining correctly from the very beginning, your puppy will be much better able to understand what it is that you want. This will also help to establish you as the leader in your relationship with your puppy, which will make learning other behaviors far easier later on.

#### When to Begin Training

In most instances, a puppy will not be removed from the mother's care until he is at least six or eight weeks old. Even puppies this young are capable of starting training from the moment they arrive at their new home.

That does not mean that you should expect instant success, of course. Puppies that are less than ten weeks of age will typically need to go potty once about every two or three hours.

If you begin taking your puppy outside or the area where you wish him to go potty within these time limits, it will help him to begin the process of learning to relieve himself in the desired area. It will also help him in learning the feel of the desired

location to relieve himself on the bottoms of his paws. This is one of the most important factors in training, as your puppy must learn to associate the feel of the surface where he is supposed to relieve himself.

It is also extremely important that you try to prevent your puppy from having accidents within the home. This will go a long way toward ensuring that he does not develop that habit.

Of course, it is almost impossible to prevent all accidents, but do try to prevent as many as you possibly can. This will make it much easier to train your puppy later on than if you allow him to relieve himself wherever he feels like it now and then try to train him later.

It should also be kept in mind that puppies are very much like babies. They have small bladders and they also have poor muscle control. This means that you really cannot realistically expect them to hold it for long periods of time nor can you expect them to have to walk very far in order to relieve themselves, so preparation and scheduling are crucial.

## **Tips for Preparing the House**

There are a few things you can do to prepare your home that will make potty training much easier and to simplify the entire process for you as well as for your puppy.

These preparation tips can make housetraining, whether you choose to use a [litter box](#), [dog crate](#), [potty pad](#) or paper, much easier:

- First, try to control the space within the home that the puppy is able to access. This will mean that you may need to use a crate, install some [puppy gates](#) at doors to rooms you do not want him to access or use an indoor puppy pen. All of these are excellent methods for preventing your

puppy from gaining access to other areas of the home and eliminating in an area where he should not.

- Try to eliminate as much clutter as possible. While it can be a lot of fun to provide your puppy with several new [toys](#), if you allow the toys to be scattered all over the floor it also makes it much easier for your puppy to find an inconspicuous place to do his business without you even being aware of it until it is too late.
- Try to keep your puppy in an area of the home where there is no carpet. It is much easier to [clean up](#) an accident, if there is one, from a floor with a hard surface than from carpet. Once urine seeps into the carpet, it is almost impossible to completely get rid of the smell as it will often soak down into the pad below the carpet.
- Make sure that your puppy remains somewhat near a door or an exit where you can take him outside if you plan to train him to go outside. If so, be sure that you are consistent with this. If you keep him too far away from the door there is a greater chance that he will lose control of his bladder and have an accident while you are trying to get him out the door. If you keep him near the door you will have a much better chance of observing him for signs that he may need to go potty and then actually getting him out the door on time and before an accident occurs.
- Safety is important as well. Do not leave your puppy in an area where he will need to run up and down the stairs. This can easily cause a small puppy to become injured. If you choose to keep your puppy on a [leash](#) in

the home to restrict the areas he is able to access, make sure that you only allow three to four feet at the most to avoid having him become entangled in the leash.

## Training Principles for Puppies

There are some basic principles that should be kept in mind when housetraining puppies or when working a dog that is fairly young. One of the most important things to keep in mind is that it will take time for your puppy to become potty trained. This is not something that you should expect to occur overnight or even over the weekend.

In essence, when you are training your dog, you are trying to shape his behavior and this just naturally requires time. Just as you would not expect a baby to become potty trained the first time you introduced him or her to the toilet, you cannot expect a puppy to become completely housetrained the first time you attempt it.

In order to successfully potty train your puppy you will need to be patient and provide constant monitoring to ensure the entire process goes as smoothly and as hassle free as possible.

The following tips can also help you in the process:

- Remember that different breeds of dogs will mature at different rates. This is true in terms of behavior as well as physical traits. Do not assume that your puppy will meet every milestone at the same time as other dogs. Puppies are much like people in that they have different levels of intelligence and abilities. They will also mature at different levels. Some puppies will simply need more time, praise and attention in order to understand what is expected of them and to attain the maturity necessary to achieve it.

- Keep in mind that it will take time for your puppy to fully develop bladder control. Once again, this can be different in different breeds. For some breeds of dogs this can take several months. If it appears that your dog seems to be urinating on a basis that is too frequent, it is a good idea to take him in to see the vet for a checkup as he could have a genetic condition or bladder infection that is causing him to eliminate too frequently.
- Consistency is crucial when potty training a dog. On an ideal basis, you should work with your puppy until he completely understands the idea without having others work with him to avoid any confusion. The more people are involved in the training process, the more variances there are likely to be and as a result, the longer it is likely to take to complete the training process.
- When your puppy has an accident, and it is likely that he will at some point, remember that you should not punish him. Punishing him will only result in your puppy becoming distrustful of and trying to stay away from you. This will often cause him to make even more accidents. In order for housetraining to be a success, your puppy must trust and love you unconditionally.
- Do not restrict your puppy's access to water that is fresh and clean. While it may seem like this would be a good idea to prevent or reduce accidents, it will actually only cause him to become dehydrated. It does not take long at all for a young puppy to become dehydrated. This can

occur particularly fast in climates that are hot and dry. Dehydration can be very serious and even deadly in puppies.

- Always make sure that you provide plenty of praise to your puppy. Once your puppy has relieved himself in the designated area, offer him plenty of praise. This will help to reinforce the behavior that you desire and will also provide him with powerful motivation for going to the correct place the next time he needs to go potty.
- Try keeping a journal or a log of each time that your puppy goes potty as well as when he eats or drinks. This can be helpful in determining when he may need to go potty and can make the training process much easier.

Finally, keep in mind that that if your puppy does have an accident, this is not a reflection on him. You absolutely must monitor your puppy and watch him for signs that he made need to go potty before he has an accident. If you do this, it is possible to almost completely avoid accidents within the home.

### **Introducing your Puppy to your Home**

Once you have arrived home with your puppy, you will need to introduce him to his new surroundings and home. While this is certainly an exciting time and it is only natural to want to show everyone your new puppy, keep in mind that it is a good idea to limit the amount of visitors you have in your puppy's new environment during this time. Wait until he is settled in. The goal is to make your puppy's arrival as stress free and relaxed as possible.

There is no better time to begin training your puppy than when you arrive home. If you take advantage of the opportunity to begin establishing habits right away

your puppy will know what is expected of him and this will make the entire training process much easier.

During the first few days you should find plenty of opportunities for praising your puppy for his good behavior. This will help to establish the bond between the two of you and will also establish your position as the pack leader within his life.

During this time you should remember to never punish your puppy. This is not the time to focus on discipline. Remember that your puppy has just been taken away from his mother and littermates and introduced to entirely new surroundings.

At this point, it is too soon to discipline your dog in any way. Your puppy does not really know what he should expect of you at this point and if you punish him this will only lead to stress and confusion.

When you bring your puppy home, immediately take him to the area that you have designated to be the place for him to potty. After the ride home he will most likely need to go potty so this can help to avoid the possibility of an accident occurring right away. If he relieves himself, be sure to give him plenty of praise. This will help to start the process of housetraining off on the right note.

Go ahead and bring him indoors, if you took him outside to potty, and give him an opportunity to explore the area of the home he will have access to. Make sure you are on hand to monitor and supervise him to ensure that he does not get into something that he should not. If he does happen to get into something that he shouldn't, simply take the object away from him and give him a toy that is acceptable.

Anytime that you notice your puppy has focused his attention upon you, be sure to say his name in a cheerful tone of voice. This will help him to begin establishing the connection of his name with himself.

## Feeding your Puppy after Arriving Home

Within a few hours after bringing your puppy home, you will probably find that he is hungry. Go ahead and offer him some food. In the beginning, it is really best if you try to give him the same type of [dog food](#) that he was accustomed to eating at his former home.

When he has finished eating, take him immediately to the designated potty area and give him a few minutes to relieve himself. If nothing has occurred within about ten minutes, go ahead and remove him. If he does eliminate, be sure to give him plenty of praise.

Remember that most puppies that are between the ages of 8 and 16 weeks will need to eat three to four times per day. They will also need access to plenty of clean and fresh water. Depending on the type of dog breed that you have, he may need more meals or he may need less. Larger breeds of dogs tend to grow very quickly and will therefore need more to eat than a smaller breed of dog.

The best way to handle training your dog is to take him to the designated area after each time that he eats as well as whenever he awakens from a nap and after long play sessions.

You can also determine how long your puppy should be able to hold it by taking his age in months and then adding one to it. For example, if your puppy is two months old then he should be able to hold it for about three hours. If he is three months old he should be able to hold it for about four hours.

Always make sure that you are consistent in terms of where you take your puppy to go to potty. Do not take him to one location one time and somewhere different another time. If he goes potty, always offer plenty of praise. If he does not, remove him and then take him back a few minutes later.

Remember that much like a baby your puppy will need a lot of sleep. This means he will require several naps per day. It is always better if you establish routines and designate various areas within the home for your puppy's activities. This

includes nap times. Try to have a designated area where he can take his naps but also where you will easily be able to keep an eye on him.

If you decide to crate train your puppy, place the crate in an area where you can still easily see him. You may want to arrange the [dog crate](#) so your puppy can see you also. This will help alleviate some anxiety.

Be sure that it has some soft and comfortable [bedding](#). Never force your puppy inside the crate. Leave the door open and he will usually go in on his own. While he is napping, be sure to check on him frequently and be prepared to take him to the designated potty area as soon as he awakens.

Taking the time to carefully introduce your puppy to his new home is an effective and simple way to begin your relationship with the newest member of your family as well as to establish training habits that will serve your dog well in the future.

## **Your First Night with your Puppy**

The first night at home with your new puppy has the potential to be a trying experience for both you as well as your puppy. This will be the first night that your puppy has spent away from his littermates and his mother.

Due to the fact that dogs are pack animals, your puppy will know by instinct that being away from his pack could be dangerous for him. This is likely to result in crying and whining as your puppy misses his pack and may even begin to search for them. Some preparation can help to make this transition easier for both of you.

Prior to bedtime, try to spend some time playing with your puppy. The goal is for your puppy to be sufficiently tired that he will be able to sleep soundly. If he is not sufficiently tired then he likely going to be so excited that he will keep you up all night. Do not let him nap within an hour or so of bedtime or he will simply be ready to play when you are ready to retire for the evening.

Just prior to going to bed, take your puppy to the designated potty area and give him some time to relieve himself. Be sure to praise him if he does and then bring him back. This will help to reinforce the good behaviors that you want to establish.

When possible, try to allow your puppy to sleep in the same room with you. This will help to greatly reduce amount of crying and whining that you have to deal with. Just having contact with you during the night will make it much easier for your puppy to adjust.

Keep in mind that while it is a good idea for your puppy to sleep in the same room, this does not mean you should allow your puppy to sleep in the same bed with you. This will only lead to behavioral problems later on.

If crate training has already been started with your puppy, you should simply place him in the [dog crate](#) in your room. If your puppy is not accustomed to being in a crate you can place a [dog bed](#) or some other type of soft bedding on the floor in your room. You may wish to place him on a short tether to prevent him from wandering around and possibly having an accident somewhere during the night.

If you have multiple pets in the home, keep in mind that you may not wish to allow the other pets to sleep near the puppy unless they have been properly introduced and you are sure they can get along.

If your puppy should begin to cry at night, you will need to determine whether he is just trying to get attention or whether he needs to go potty. If he has been relatively quiet for awhile and then he suddenly begins to whine or cry, it is possible that he simply needs to go potty.

Remember that young puppies do have small bladders and it is likely that you will need to take him potty at least once during the night, if not twice.

If your puppy begins to cry and you are not certain whether he needs to go potty or just simply need some attention, try patting him and soothing him, but do not

try to coddle him too much. Also, do not play with him. This will only reinforce his behavior and encourage him to cry even more. It will not take long for even the youngest of puppies to come to the realization that if he wants attention or wants to play at night that all he has to do is to start crying.

The next morning, take your puppy immediately to the designated potty area to avoid any chance of an accident. It is a good idea to pick him up and physically carry him there so that you can get him there as quickly as possible.

Introducing a new puppy to your home is a simple but effective way to start your relationship with him and establish good training habits for the future.

## Chapter 3

### Schedules for your Dog

Scheduling is extremely important for your dog, both in terms of feeding and taking your dog out to go potty.

#### Feeding and Watering Schedule

Following a regular feeding schedule will help to establish consistency in the life of your puppy and will make housetraining much easier. A feeding chart or schedule will also help your puppy to establish important and healthy eating habits. In order to have proper nutrition, your puppy will need the correct balance of semi-moist, moist and dry kibble. He should also have access to plenty of fresh water.

The amount of [food](#) that you will need to feed your puppy will depend upon your puppy's age and size as well as breed. Remember that not all dogs that are the same age are the same size. All commercial packaged foods have a chart that will indicate the amount of food that you should provide a dog for a particular age and weight.

The chart will also offer suggestions regarding the number of times per day that the dog should be fed. In most instances, it will suggest that you should feed your puppy twice per day with carefully measured amounts.

The best way to handle feeding your dog is to feed him at the same times each day or at least as closely as possible to the same times. Remember that feeding is an excellent training opportunity.

The best times to feed your puppy are in the morning after he has gone potty and then again about two hours prior to bedtime. When your puppy comes to predict

the schedule, it will be much easier for him to cooperate and demonstrate desired behavior.

When it comes to treats, try not to overdo it. There are many healthy treats on the market today, but keep in mind that you should only provide them when your dog has actually earned one.

If you freely give your dog too many treats throughout the day those calories can quickly add up and lead to the risk of developing obesity and diabetes. It can also make potty training more difficult.

### **Potty Training Schedule**

Following a potty training schedule can make things much easier for you as well as your dog. It is a good idea to establish a schedule as soon as possible so that your dog knows what to expect. This will also make it easier to regulate your puppy's bodily functions so that you can more easily anticipate his needs.

Feeding at the same time each day is one way to do this.

You do not necessarily need to carry a stop watch to make sure it is at the same exact time each day but try not to vary feeding times by more than half an hour. In addition, it is a good idea to try to have your puppy go to bed at the same time each night as well as get up at the same time each morning.

Remember that one of the most crucial keys to successfully training your dog is consistency. Toward that end, make sure that you take your dog to go potty first thing in the morning as well as right before he goes to bed at night.

The following schedule is appropriate for a puppy that is 8-10 weeks of age.

### Sample Potty Training Schedule

7:00 am	Wake up/potty break
7:30 am	Breakfast/ potty break or walk
8:00 am	Playtime/potty break
8:30 am	Nap
10:30 am	Potty break/playtime or training/nap
12:30 pm	Lunch/potty break
1:30 pm	Play time/potty break/nap
3:00 pm	Potty break/play time/potty break/nap
5:30 pm	Potty break/Dinner/Playtime/Potty break
7:30 pm	Potty break/playtime/potty break/nap
9:00 pm	Potty break/playtime/potty break/nap
10:30 pm	Potty break/bedtime
2:00 am	Potty break if necessary

Following a training schedule will prove to be helpful in getting your puppy's digestive system regulated so that you will then have a better idea of when you should take him outside. This will also help to reduce the number of accidents that your puppy has.

Remember that it is better if you do not feed your puppy any later than 6pm. This will help to ensure that your puppy does not need to go outside in the middle of the night any more than necessary.

### Advanced Training Schedule

While the above schedule is appropriate for a puppy that is 8-10 weeks of age, any schedule that you use should take into account your dog's age and the average number of potty breaks that your dog will need. Here is a guide to assist you in determining the number of breaks that your dog will need based on his age:

8-14 Weeks	8-10 Potty Breaks each Day
14-20 Weeks	6-8 Potty Breaks each Day
20-30 Weeks	4-6 Potty Breaks each Day

While this is a good basic guideline to follow, remember that every puppy is different and this can vary from one puppy to another.

### Sample Schedule for Working Owners

If you work away from home, then it will most likely be necessary for you to adapt your puppy's schedule.

6: 00 am	Wakeup/Potty Break
6:30 am	Breakfast/potty
7:00 am	Crate or confine to designated area
Noon	Feed/water/potty/confine
Mid-afternoon	Water/potty
5:00 pm	Water/potty/playtime/potty
6:00 pm	Feed/water/potty/play/potty
9:00 pm	Potty
10:00 pm	Potty/confine

## Chapter 4

### Training the Older Dog

If you are bringing home an older dog; either an adult or an older puppy it is important to recognize that he may or may not already be potty trained. There could be many reasons for this, including the fact that the dog may have always lived outside or it could be that the previous owners simply were not able to successfully train the dog for some reason.

For example, it could have been that the owners simply did not have the energy or the time to train the dog. This does not necessarily mean that the dog is incapable of being trained, but it does mean that you will need to dedicate some time and effort to training your dog.

One thing to keep in mind when training an older dog is that you may need to use different techniques that you would normally use with a puppy. The reason for this is that older dogs need to have prior bad behavior replaced with the new desired behavior. Basically, this means that your dog will need to unlearn prior behavior.

#### **Special Considerations to Keep in Mind with Older Dogs**

As you are planning to potty train an older dog, there are a few things that should be kept in mind. If you know the dog's prior owners you may be able to obtain some information from them that could be helpful but if you adopted the dog from a shelter then you must accept the fact that you may not ever be able to obtain historical information on the dog's background.

It should also be kept in mind that it is possible that an older dog may have conditions which would result in them urinating in the house and these conditions may not be at all related to any issues associated with house training. If you have

an older dog that is urinating in the home on a frequent basis, you should take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible.

Some conditions that could result in a lack of bladder control in an older dog include:

- Hormonal imbalances
- Bladder infections, such as bladder stones
- Kidney infections, kidney stones
- Genetic conditions and disease
- Improper pH levels within the urine
- Reproductive issues in female dogs
- Prostate problems in male dogs
- Age related incontinence

While these may sound serious and can be, it is important to recognize that these conditions can usually be cured through the use of antibiotics or some other type of treatment or medications which can be provided by your vet.

It is not fair and counterproductive to punish your dog for something that is simply not within their control. By taking your dog to the vet for a thorough examination and checkup you will be taking the first step in determining whether the bladder control issues that your dog is experiencing are related to a behavior issue or a medical problem.

If your dog is urinating in the house only when you are not at home, but the problems do not seem to occur when you are at home, it should be considered that the behavior could be related to a fear of abandonment or anxiety.

Many times, dogs that have been adopted from shelters or that have come from abusive situations will experience such problems and may continue to exhibit such patterns when they are in a new home. When the dog is in a new home and he is provided with attention and love, these issues may cease to be a problem.

As dogs begin to mature it is important to understand that they are also more likely to experience some problems with incontinence. As a result, they may experience a loss of bladder control and in some cases may even experience a problem with controlling their bowels.

In some instances, a mature dog simply may never have been housetrained. If that is the case, then you have several different options. The first would be to ensure that the dog is taken outside every two to three hours, just as you would take a puppy to potty.

This is especially important when you first bring the dog home. This will help to prevent the majority of accidents and will also help your dog to develop an understanding of what is expected of him and when he should relieve himself.

Keep in mind that a mature dog may have also been punished in the past for defecating or urinating, whether it was in the appropriate location or not. This can make it difficult for your dog to eliminate when he needs to do so. Some dogs experience problems relieving themselves in front of people.

If this is the case, you may need to provide a way for the dog to have a bit more privacy until he feels comfortable with you. Always make sure that you provide plenty of praise for your dog after he has gone potty.

Do not encourage him to play before he goes potty because this will set a pattern of behavior in which he will simply want to go outside to play and will not actually accomplish what he needs to do. If you do not have a fenced-in backyard, you may consider using a [retractable leash](#) so that you will still be able to maintain control of your dog if you take him outside to potty.

If you have a small breed of dog you may find that paper training or litter training will be successful with your dog, but if the dog is large or if he has been punished for going potty in the house previously then he may not feel comfortable until he has established a relationship with you.

The best way to handle this is to simply take things slowly and to make sure that you provide plenty of praise when he does go potty as he should.

Also, anytime that you see signs that your dog needs to relieve himself be sure to respond as quickly as possible. Remember that you should not play with your dog when you take him potty, simply take him to the designated area and give him a few minutes to go about his business.

If he does not do that you should return him but do not play with him or give him treats. Repeat the same process until your dog does actually go potty and then give him plenty of attention and praise. It should not take long before your dog will begin to understand what is expected.

### **Using Crate Training with Older Dogs**

Crate training is another method that can be used with mature dogs. It can be used much in the same way that you would use with puppies or younger dogs. Many mature dogs, particularly those who have been adopted from a shelter, may have a fear of being confined inside a [dog crate](#) that is perfectly natural.

In order to help this type of dog you will need to have him understand that the crate is to be a place of comfort, not a place of punishment.

The dog crate will provide your dog with a haven much in the same way it would a puppy. Remember that dogs in the wild instinctively seek out dens or some type of enclosed area, so you will simply need to help your mature dog to learn that the crate is to be that safe haven for them.

Using the following guidelines can help to make crate training more positive and successful for the mature dog:

- First, make sure that you have the correct size [dog crate](#). The correctly sized crate should be large enough for the dog to stand up and be comfortable without hitting his head. He should also be able to lie down so that he can extend his front legs in at least one direction.
- Be sure that your dog has a blanket or some type of [bedding](#) in the crate so that it will be comfortable for him while he is resting. Try to use a washable fabric so that you can place it in the washer when it becomes dirty.
- Provide your dog with some [chew toys](#) so that he will have something to play with while he is inside his dog crate.
- Try clipping on a [water bottle](#) to the crate so that your dog will be able to have access to water but will not be able to spill water inside the crate.
- Try positioning the [crate](#) so that your dog will be able to still see people inside the room. This will help him to feel less isolated.
- When you first introduce your dog to the crate, begin by having him walk around it. Try placing a [treat](#) just inside the door. Go ahead and allow him to grab it. Then, try placing another treat a bit further inside the crate. You

will need to continue doing this until your dog is at the point where he will just walk inside the crate and eat his treat. Make sure that you do not close the door of the crate or try to detain him inside the crate.

- As you continue to work with your dog, encourage him to remain in the [crate](#) for increasingly longer periods of time. You can do this by feeding him treats through the crate and sitting on the other side. Remember to always offer praise to him when he enters the crate, but do not praise him when he comes out of the crate.
- When your dog first goes into the crate, try shutting the door and leaving it closed for about 30 seconds. Gradually increase this amount of time, but if your dog should become panicked at any time, let him out. Make sure that you remain right beside the crate. Do not ever just walk away and leave as this can cause your dog to panic and make it that much more difficult to train him.
- Once your dog has reached the point where he is able to remain calmly in the dog crate for at least five minutes, try closing the door and then increasing the distance between you and the crate, but do stay in the same room. Continue working on this by gradually increasing both your time and distance away from the crate.

Remember that you cannot try to hurry this process along. You may need to work at the pace of your dog, rather than trying to speed it along in order to accomplish your goals. After your dog realizes that the crate is only a temporary place where he can rest, he should become comfortable with remaining in the

crate whenever you need to be away. To prevent any accidents, do not leave your dog alone in the crate for more than four hours.

The [dog crate](#) can be used for housetraining. To do this, place the dog in the crate after he has eaten and then take him out of the crate after about fifteen or twenty minutes. If he goes potty, be sure to offer him plenty of praise. If he does not, return him to the crate without saying anything and then take him out again after about five minutes or so.

After a period of time, your dog should reach the point where he will go potty in the designated area. Many dogs actually like the idea of remaining inside their crate at night. If you would like to do this, try bringing the crate inside your bedroom so that you will be better able to monitor whether he needs to go outside during the night and to avoid any nighttime accidents.

### **Tips for Potty Training Mature Dogs**

Once you have begun the process of potty training your older dog, there are some other tips that you can use to make the process more effective. One thing to keep in mind is that every dog is different and will learn at a different rate.

As a result, some dogs will naturally learn faster than others. It is important that you exercise patience with your dog. An older dog that is being potty trained should receive as much patience as a puppy, sometimes even more.

- Remember that you should never punish an older dog if you do catch him in the act of going potty in an area where he shouldn't. Instead, take him to the designated area as quickly as possible, where he will hopefully finish his business. If so, praise him for going in the correct location. If you punish him, it will only encourage him to sneak off and hide when he needs to go potty instead of letting you know and going in the correct place.

- If you discover an accident from awhile back, do not punish your dog. It is not true that dogs can make an association between an old accident and their behavior. The only thing that your dog will know is that you are mad at him and this can cause a set back in the training process.
- It is also important to understand submission urination. This type of urination takes place when a dog urinates to indicate to another dog that he is submissive. This takes place in a pack situation and is a natural behavior to some dogs.

If you punish your dog for this type of behavior the likely result is that it will only become worse. The better response is to provide your dog with love and affection and take him outside or to the designated area as quickly as possible.

- You should also be aware that male dogs have a tendency to mark their territory by urinating. This can even take place indoors. If you have more than one dog in the family, then it is likely that even a dog that is already trained will begin to urinate indoors when another dog comes into the house.

You can help to prevent this problem by thoroughly disinfecting and cleaning the area. Otherwise, the smell of the ammonia in the urine will only encourage him to continue marking that spot.

- If your dog makes a mess or urinates in the house when you are not home, there could be two reasons for this. It could be a problem of boredom or it could be related to anxiety. One way to combat this type of

problem is to take the dog for a walk before you leave for the day and have him go potty before you leave.

- Also, make sure that you praise your dog when you return and that you do not surprise him. Begin slowly by leaving for just a few minutes and then leaving for longer periods of time. In addition, make sure that you provide plenty of [toys](#) for your dog to play with while you are away.
- In the event that you need to be away from home for a long period of time, you might consider asking a friend or neighbor to come over and let the dog out or to the designated potty area.

Make sure that you introduce your dog to the person in advance so they will have an opportunity to become comfortable with one another before the time arrives for them to come over and care for your dog.

- Always make sure that you exercise consistency. Do not change anything about your dog's routine, if at all possible, as this will only confuse your dog.

Keep in mind that the process of training an adult dog can be more challenging in many ways than training a puppy but it is important to provide your older dog with plenty of love and attention. Once your dog is able to clearly understand what it is that you want from him, it will become much easier for him to be able to control his bladder because he is more physically mature than a puppy.

Unless your dog suffers from some type of physical problem, this can make the process of training your dog much easier over the long term. Patience with an

older dog is essential. Follow these guidelines and you should find that your dog is trained in no time at all.

## Chapter 5

### Planning for Potty Training

Regardless of whether you are training a puppy or an adult dog, you will find that the process goes much easier if you plan in advance. By having the right supplies, equipment and cleaning materials on hand before you begin to train your dog, you will be able to make the process go much easier.

#### Equipment and Supplies

Each method of training is different, as previously discussed and you will need different supplies for each type of training.

#### *Crate Training*

You will need the following basic equipment for crate training. There are two types of dog crates listed, but you will only need to choose the one that you feel most comfortable using.

#### **Wire Crate**

A [wire dog crate](#) is usually going to be lighter than a plastic crate and will also provide the advantage of allowing you to see inside the crate. If your dog is anxious and needs to be able to see what is going on around him, this may be the best option.

Another advantage of the [wire dog crate](#) is that it will fold down when you are not using it, so it can be easily stored as well as transported. Keep in mind; however,

that most airlines will not allow you to use a wire crate if your dog needs to travel with you.

### **Plastic Crates**

Most [plastic dog crates](#) are quite sturdy, but you should keep in mind that it is possible for a dog to chew them. A plastic crate can be practical if you have a small or medium sized dog, but may not be the most ideal crate if you have a large breed dog.

### ***Washable Bedding or Padding***

You will need to provide some [bedding](#) for the inside of the crate that can be easily washed. Do not use any type of blanket that is filled as the dog can easily chew through it and remove the stuffing, which can then become a choking hazard or at least create a big mess.

### ***Toys***

If your dog is going to be left inside the crate, you should make sure that you provide plenty of [toys](#) for him to play with while he is inside the crate. Do not use any stuffed toys that could become a choking hazard.

### ***Clip-on Water Bottle***

Your dog should have access to water so that he does not become dehydrated. A [water bottle](#) that can be clipped on to the side of the [dog crate](#) is best so as to avoid having the dog spill the water and make a mess.

## Litter Box Training

You will need the following basic supplies to litter box train your dog:

### *Litter Box*

A [litter box](#) that is the appropriate size is essential. There are actually some special litter boxes that are constructed for use with dogs, but you can just as easily use a cat litter box in most cases. In most cases, only a small dog will be able to use a litter box simply because of size restrictions.

### *Litter*

You can use a variety of materials for litter, including actual [cat litter](#) as well as paper sheets, shredded paper or a [potty training pad](#). Keep in mind that some dogs will eat litter so you do need to exercise some care when choosing the type of substrate that you will use for the [litter box](#).

### *Heavy Plastic Sheeting*

You will also need to place the litter box on some heavy plastic sheeting to make it easier to [clean up](#) in your dog spills over causes the [litter](#) to flow over the side of the litter pan.

## Paper Training

This type of training will require the least amount of supplies. All you will need are some potty training pads or some paper as well as an area that is designated for that purpose.

There are some [potty pads](#) on the market which are specially treated with a chemical that will encourage your dog to go potty on the pad. These pads also contain a special odor absorbent material that will help to control the smell.

## **Tips for Cleaning Soiled Areas**

Regardless of how well you plan, it is almost inevitable that there will be an accident from time to time. When this happens, you should try to avoid becoming upset and simply make sure that you have all of the necessary supplies to [clean up](#) the mess.

If you clean the soiled area as quickly as possible that can help a great deal in preventing any smells lingering or discolorations occurring. It can also help to prevent your dog returning to the same location in the future to go potty.

You will find that there are several products on the market that are quite good for cleaning pet accidents. You can find these products at most pet supply stores. Many such products contain orange peel because dogs typically do not care for the scent and it provides a fresh, clean smell.

There are also products that contain flake like materials that can be sprinkled over both types of accidents in order to absorb the moisture from urination and help to dry out defecation accidents. Once the product has finished working, you can either vacuum the mess or sweep it away.

## **Homemade Cleaning Products**

You can also use some homemade cleaning products that will work quite well. The main thing to keep in mind when cleaning up an accident is that you should try to [clean up](#) as much of the moisture as quickly as possible. The faster that you can get to the accident and apply the cleaning product, the better you will be able to remove it without leaving any evidence.

Using homemade cleaning products can be a good solution if you are concerned about the harmful chemicals and toxins that may be present in some commercial cleaning products. If you have young children that play on the floor, this may be a good idea.

An excellent way to remove odor and stains is to use a mixture that is comprised of one part white vinegar and three parts water. You can also add just a bit of liquid soap to the mixture to clean as well. Place the mixture in a spray bottle, spray it on the surface and then blot it up. Do not rub, especially if the problem is on fabric or carpet.

You can also use baking soda to sprinkle on urine stains. Allow it to dry and the baking soda will absorb the liquid and help to eliminate any lingering odors. Once the powder is dry, you can just vacuum it.

If your dog has urinated more than once in the same spot and it has become soaked with urine down to the pad, unfortunately, the only solution is often to remove that portion of the padding and carpet and replace it. You might try using a commercial cleaner first, but if the stain is deep set all the way down to the pad it may continue to be a problem until it is actually replaced.

Remember that even if you cannot actually smell the ammonia in the urine, your dog's sensitive nose probably can, which could be why he continues to return to the same spot over and over. For this same reason, try not to use bleach to clean anything as this will only encourage your dog to urinate there as bleach contains ammonia. It is much better to use a cleaning product that will remove the smell of the ammonia so that your dog will not continue to return to the same spot again and again.

## Chapter 6

### Dealing with Common Potty Training Problems

When training a puppy or an adult dog, there may occasionally be problems that can make the process more challenging and time consuming. Understanding some of these more common problems and how to appropriately respond can help to get the process back on track.

#### Going Potty in the Crate

In most cases this will not be a problem because dogs have a natural instinct to not eliminate in their den, but if the dog is left too long in the crate then this could become a problem. If this has been an issue, place a fresh liner in the crate and work on your dog's schedule to make sure he is not left there too long. You may also need to obtain a larger [dog crate](#) if the one you are currently using is too small.

#### Going Potty when you are Gone

This type of problem is typically caused by anxiety or boredom. To eliminate this problem, try walking your dog before he must be left alone. If you crate your dog, make sure that you leave him with plenty of [toys](#) to keep him entertained during your absence.

#### Going Potty in the Wrong Spot Over and Over

This type of problem will usually be caused by the smell of urine. Even if you cannot smell, your dog may still be able to do so. Try to restrict your dog's access

to the area as well as cleaning that spot with a cleaning product that contains active enzymes and will remove the odor instead of just masking it.

## **Territorial Marking**

This can be a particular problem with male dogs and may commonly appear at around age 9 months. While it is more common with males, it can also sometimes be a problem with female dogs as well, particularly if there are multiple dogs within the house.

This is the dog's way of indicating that this is his territory. If the problem is with a male dog, having him neutered may very well solve the problem. Cleaning the area that he has marked with a cleaning product that contains active enzymes can also help to eliminate the smell.

If your dog has already been neutered but he is continuing to mark territory, try the following techniques:

- Make sure that he has received plenty of exercise before leaving him alone
- Remove any items that he has previously marked, if possible
- Enroll him in obedience class to help him develop positive behaviors and understand his role within his environment. Once he reaches an understanding regarding his role, he may not be as likely to want to mark territory.

Keep in mind that when your dog begins to have problems with housetraining it can be easy to think that he is acting out of anger or perhaps defiance. This is usually not the case; however.

In some instance you may think that your dog is housetrained when that is actually not true. Remember that housetraining does not always follow a dog to a new location. Dogs must have human interaction that is consistent in order for many habits to remain. If you have just brought your dog into the home, it could be that you will need to go over the basics with him again.

Dietary issues can also lead to problems with housetraining. If you feed your dog too much he may not be able to control his bladder or bowels until the next time when he scheduled to go potty. If you feed your dog too much fiber this can be a particular problem.

Changes within his [food](#), including [treats](#), can also result in problems as well. Make sure that you feed your dog consistently and carefully to achieve the best results.

Other problems can arise from illness or intestinal parasites. If you suspect this to be a problem, take your dog to the vet and have him examined to rule out any medical issues. Such medical problems can include kidney failure and a urinary tract infection, so make sure you do not overlook this.

Problems can also arise from orthopedic issues. This can happen if your dog finds it painful to squat in order to relieve himself. If this is the case your dog may try to wait and then lose control.

If you think that your dog is experiencing problems with orthopedic problems or arthritis it is important to take him to the vet as quickly as possible for treatment. Once your dog is made more comfortable, this may well help to resolve the problem.

Another fairly common problem is of the dog to be afraid of going in the area that has been designated for going potty. This may happen if the weather conditions

outside frighten the dog or if the dog has been left alone for too long. Some dogs just have a nervous temperament that can add to this type of issue as well.

If this is the case, you may need to spend some time trying to determine what the cause of the problem is in order to resolve it. Changing the way in which you handle taking your dog to go potty may be enough to resolve this problem. In most cases, once your dog gains some confidence you may find that the problem is eliminated on its own.

Separation anxiety can also sometimes cause an issue that will result in accidents and problems with potty training. If your dog has a particularly nervous nature, it may be necessary to take him to the vet for treatment to assist with this problem.

The management of separation anxiety may require a behavior modification program that the entire family will need to participate in. Medication may also be needed on a temporary basis to assist your pet in overcoming this type of issue.

Remember that whatever conditions your dog may have been kept in prior to coming to your home could contribute to his problems with becoming trained. For example, if your dog was forced to live in an area where he also eliminated, then he may instinctively recreate this type of behavior.

To eliminate this type of problem, make sure that your dog is kept completely away from his waste area. Be sure to keep his living conditions very clean as well to help retrain him.

As you can see, there can be many reasons why a dog might experience problems with potty training. You may need to do some detective work in order to help determine what is at the root of the issue. Remember that enlisting your veterinarian's help as well as keeping a journal of your dog's habits, including your dog's problems with accidents, can help you to determine what is causing the problem so that you can correct it.

# Potty Training Schedule

The following schedule can be used to create your own personalized potty training and feeding schedule for your dog.

6:00 am
7:00 am
8:00 am
9:00 am
10:00 am
11:00 am
12:00 pm
1:00 pm

2:00 pm
3:00 pm
4:00 pm
5:00 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm
8:00 pm
9:00 pm
10:00 pm
11:00 pm

12:00 am

## Do's for Potty Training your Dog

- Always plan a schedule for training your dog and be sure it is realistic and can be followed.
- Work with your dog so that he will see his [dog crate](#) as his own private haven.
- Make sure you are taking your dog out often enough to avoid potty accidents.
- Always take your dog out to go potty after nap time.
- Take your dog out to eliminate within 30 minutes of each meal.
- Praise your dog whenever he goes potty in the correct place and at the correct time.
- Remain consistent with all commands that you use and the place where you take your dog to go potty.
- Stick to the same feeding schedule.

- Make sure you have the correct cleaning supplies on hand in the event your dog has an accident inside the house.
- If your dog appears to have any problems with housetraining that could be medically related, make sure you take him to vet for a thorough checkup as quickly as possible to eliminate any possible medical issues.

## **Don'ts for Potty Training your Dog**

- Do not allow your dog to have free reign in the house unless he is completely housetrained. Make sure your dog is under supervision.
- Do not use the crate as a place of punishment.
- Do not punish your dog for accidents.
- Do not feed your dog after 6pm.
- Do not forget to walk your puppy frequently or forget that your puppy may need to go potty very frequently, at least every two to three hours.

- Do not forget to praise your dog when he does well and goes in the correct place.
- Do not use different words for the same commands.

## Conclusion

While the process of potty training your dog can be somewhat challenging, it can also be a very rewarding experience. By taking the process slowly and making sure that you have planned and prepared in advance, you will find that the process of training your dog should go much easier.

Try to have patience and avoid becoming frustrated with any accidents that your dog may have during the process. Instead of punishing your dog, use any accidents that may occur as a proactive learning opportunity. If accidents should become more frequent, do not hesitate to take your dog to the vet to determine if there are any medical problems that could be causing the issues. Keeping a journal of your dog's potty and meal times can also help to shed some light on the situation and give you some insight as to what may be behind the problems.

Remaining consistent in all of your actions while training your dog can also help the process to go more smoothly and as stress free as possible. Most importantly, make sure that you provide your dog with plenty of praise, love and attention as the two of you bond.

## About the Author

Rick Delgado is called "The Pet Care Guy." His vision is that every pet gets the love and care they deserve. He helps pet owners with everything from puppy house training, to pet loss and grieving.

Growing up in St. Louis, Missouri, Rick Delgado had dogs and birds, and often rescued stray cats. Moving to California at the age of 17, he worked several jobs before returning to school to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology.

Rick is a pet lover, currently caring for his dog Storm, and two cats, Austin and Abilene. He is also now caring for a Tennessee Walking Horse named Ginger.

After pet sitting and walking dogs for extra money while working toward his Biology degree, Rick started The Woof Pack, a professional dog walking and pet sitting company at the end of 2005.

Rick loves caring for animals, with over 25 year's experience. Rick is a Pet First Aid/CPR and Safety Instructor with Pet Tech, the leader in the Pet First Aid and Safety industry.

Many of his clients have a lot of questions about caring for their pets, and Rick has helped many pet owners with various pet issues. He continues to learn and teach, and also helps pet owners online with pet care tips from several websites.

You can download a free report on disaster preparedness for pets at <http://puppyhousetrainingsecrets.com>.

## Resources

### **Helpful Websites**

<http://www.puppyhousetrainingsecrets.com>

<http://www.aspca.org/>

<http://www.thepetcenter.com/>

<http://www.hsus.org/>

<http://www.vetinfo.com/>

<http://www.peteducation.com>

<http://thewoofblog.thewoofpack.com>

[Natural Vet Blends](#)

[FetchDog Pet Supplies](#)