

## Need More Help?

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# Potty Training

*The one thing EVERY puppy needs to learn!*





## Potty Training...What?

Potty training is an important and sometimes, frustrating part of training your dog. This can seem like a daunting task with a new puppy, but with patience and perseverance, "no more accidents" is possible.

### **Patience & Perseverance:**

Your puppy is just that, a puppy. He is in a new place with new people and possibly new fur-kids as well. He doesn't understand "our way" yet. We must teach him, just like we do with children. Be kind and teach through positive methods to help him make the right choices. Dogs don't do anything for "spite", they do not have that emotion wired in their brain.

*"Behavior that is positively reinforced will be performed more frequently."*

-Ian Dunbar

There are many thoughts on how to potty train your dog. Every dog is different and learns at a different speed and with different motivators. The trick is to be patient and listen to your dog.

## Potty Training...HOW?

The thing to remember first and foremost, is that we must make going out to potty a fun and happy experience for our dog.

How do we do that? By keeping these general schedules in mind:

- ✿ Take puppy out:
  - First thing in the morning
  - 20-30 minutes after eating
  - After rambunctious play
  - After waking from a nap
  - After being let out of crate
  - Every 30-45 minutes during the day/evening when you are home
  - Overnight - new puppies will need to go out 3-5 hrs. after bedtime

### **Make it FUN:**

Be sure that you have your most positive, happy face on when teaching your dog to potty outside. Use a leash and RUN to the same place each time. This will help to keep your dog focused on the task at hand, don't give him the option of wandering off. Puppies will get easily distracted because the world is a big, interesting and sometimes, scary place. When your dog pees, praise and give him a cookie. If your dog poos, praise more and give him 3 cookies. If your dog does both, SUPER PRAISE and give him 4 or 5 cookies to let him know he's just done an outstanding thing that you really like! Each time you reinforce this way, your dog will be more apt to do it again. By going to the same place each time, your dog will adapt this area as his only potty area.

### **The next steps:**

Enjoy your puppy and keep with training. Dogs, just like kids, need and want to know the rules. They will push boundaries and try your patience, but if you persevere, both you and your pup will be happier.