

Puppy Potty Training Quick Tips

- Scolding, yelling, and rubbing their nose in it does not work! It creates fear and frustration for your puppy. If you find an accident, keep calm, and clean it up with enzymatic neutralizers, not household detergents. The accident spot will continue to smell of "bathroom" unless properly cleaned.
 - Watch for behavior changes. Sniffing and circling are typically seen when it is elimination time, however, just like children, it may happen without any notice. If they go missing for a minute, there may be an accident.
- Set a timer. Until your puppy has developed the ability to "hold it" you need to be diligent on going out every hour while your puppy is active, and sometimes more often during the morning and evening hours, especially after mealtimes.
- Feed on a regular schedule. Potty training is all about consistency and feeding regularly will help you both get a feel of "when to go."
- Create a "puppy play space" that limits where your puppy can roam until everyone is communicating clearly. This is NOT a time out space!
- Mark the elimination when they are finishing the "go." Watch for your puppy to begin standing NOT when they begin going! Always use your positive marker ("good" or "yes") and follow with a high value treat.
 - If going outside is "play time only" go with your puppy, on a training harness and lead. Once we have "gone" it is play time! Spend the extra 2-3 minutes playing and celebrating the "go."
- Crate training is a great way to keep your puppy safe, but also work towards elimination controls for duration.
 - If your schedule does not allow you to provide potty breaks during the day, hire a dog walker to come in and provide the needed potty breaks. This investment will not only save you time in cleaning, but allow your puppy to have the opportunity to learn correctly.

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