

Toilet Training



Where to begin?

House training puppies is a matter of helping them develop a strong preference for toileting in the appropriate place or places. For adults dogs the process is the same!

Dogs naturally avoid toileting in their living space. However, they need to be taught what their living space is and where the appropriate place to eliminate is. Dogs can be trained to toilet outside on grass or rocks, on a puppy pad, or in a litter box. To start ensure puppy does not have access to everywhere. Set up a room or area for your puppy.

Key Aspect for you and your dog's success -

1. Patience - Understanding accidents will happen and willingness to clean up and remove odours
2. Consistency - Provide supervision, close off access to unused areas, take your puppy out often
3. Persistence - Don't give up! Your puppy/dog may regress but stay consistent and you will see success.

Are you taking your dog to their toileting area...?

- After eating/drinking
- After playing
- After naps
- First thing in the morning/last thing before bed
- For young puppies <12 weeks every 20-30mins toilet break
- Any age, start with 30mins schedule and build up!
- Consider size of dog (size of bladder etc)



Notes:

- Are you rewarding your dog for toileting in the right place?
- Are you supervising your puppy/dog?
- Are you taking your puppy out often enough?
- Notice your dog's cues - what do they do right before toileting?

Recommendations:

- Set up an area using a puppy pen or similar for your puppy when unsupervised
- This prevents your puppy having accidents in carpeted areas where odours are hard to remove
- Use an enzyme cleaner to remove odours after accidents
- DO NOT punish toilets inside - will only teach your puppy to hide better!