# Crate Training



## What is Crate Training?

- A safe place for your dog to sleep and rest throughout the day
- Useful tool for multi-dog household - especially during feeding time
- It is NOT a way to punish your dog
- it is NOT to lock your dog in a crate all day or isolate your dog
- Crate is big enough for your dog to stand, lie down and turn around
- Crate should be placed inside, central location, such as, a living room

## Useful for -

- Toilet training
  - Learn to associate toileting with the outdoors
  - Prevent accidents when unsupervised
- Chew training (house training)
  - Allows access to toys the dog CAN chew, away from things they shouldn't
  - (space away from cords and shoes!)
- Travel
  - Dogs are safest travelling in a crate in cars, car crates are crash tested for your dog's safety
  - Dogs will be put in crates if travelling overseas
- Recovery
  - Going to the vet clinic, your dog will often be placed into a crate
  - Crate training will ensure your dog feels comfortable and safe at the vet
- Unsupervised time
  - Crate time for your dog whilst you are away, prevents toileting accidents around the house
  - Prevents access and chewing dangerous items for dog
  - Encourages your dog to settle without you there
- Anxiety
  - Providing a safe space for your dog can reduce generally levels of anxiety as well as help dogs with separation anxiety

## Adjustments to Daily Routine

- Feed your dog's breakfast in the crate - door open
- Giving your dog treats and yummy snacks when in the crate
- Feed your dog's dinner in the crate - door open
- After 2-4 weeks (depending on your dog's progression) give long lasting chews with door shut
- If dog shows signs of regression or anxiety, go back to first steps
- Ensure to make the crate comfortable and inviting (lots of blankets and toys)

## Budget Considerations

- Visit marketplace for 2nd hand crates
- Visit your local rescue - often sell 2nd hand crates and proceeds go to the rescue dogs
- Ask around! Some friends or family may have a crate laying around, not in use!