



# K9EDGE DOG TRAINING

CREATING THE BOND NEVER BROKEN



Every time our dogs go in their crate, good things must happen.

Condition their emotional response by pairing their crate with treats, toys, or chew options.

Adaptil is a safe and widely available pheromone product that can be used in a collar or a plug in diffuser to help calm your dog during your absences

## CRATE TRAINING (adult dogs)

### Why crate train your dog?

Because a crate is a terrific training and management tool. It is useful for house-training, brief alone-time, settling, and any form of travel. Most importantly, a crate teaches your dog to hold it when he has to go to the bathroom. A crate helps your dogs in many ways—and saves your carpets.

### Is using a crate cruel?

Absolutely not. A crate can be your dog’s favourite place in the world. Use treats, praise, and toys to make your dog love his crate.

Just remember never to use the crate for more than 3-4 hours at a time, except for bedtime.

### Getting your dog used to the crate.

Step 1. Begin crate training right away—preferably the first day your dog is in your home.

Step 2. Throw small tasty treats into the crate one at a time. Praise your dog when he goes in to get the treat.

Step 3. When your dog is comfortable going into the crate, practice closing the door for 1-2 seconds, then treat him through the door. Let him back out. Repeat this step many times, gradually building to 10 seconds.

*Generally, dogs can only be reasonably expected to hold their bladder for the age in months translated to hours, plus one (i.e 3 months-3hours)...this is a general guideline and depends on feed/water routine, health, and climate. Set your dog up for success!*

Step 4. Stuff a Kong with something very yummy or use a special bone that will take a lot of time to chew. Put the treats in the crate. Shut the door. Move about the house normally. Let your dog back out after 5 minutes or when he finishes his treat. Don't make a fuss over him. Repeat this step several times, varying the length of your absences from 1 to 20 minutes.

Step 5. Next, leave your dog in the crate with something delicious while you leave the house for short errands, like getting the mail or watering the garden. Gradually build your absences. In the confinement area the only place your dog gets to have this particular toy.

**Training Tip:** When you plan to crate your dog for longer than an hour, make sure he is well exercised and ready for a nap.

**Troubleshooting:** If your dog is going to the bathroom in his crate, remove any bedding and make sure he has been pottied before you put him in the crate, and that he is not being left for too long.

K9EDGE - proud member of :

Canadian Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers

Pet Professional Guild

Association of Pet Dog Trainers (US)

*K9EDGE offers private training for family dogs. Puppy prep, obedience, and problem solving, I can work with all breeds and all ages of dogs. Serving Edmonton and surrounding communities with a love for the species and a commitment to being one of Alberta's finest Pet Professionals.*