

House Training Your Puppy



House training is an essential step in raising a puppy. This process requires patience, consistency, and kindness, as each puppy progresses at their own pace.

What You Need to Know

Puppies can't hold it for long: a young puppy can hold it for approximately:

Their age in months + 1 hour

(Example: a 3-month-old puppy can hold it for 4 hours, a 5-month-old puppy can hold it for 6 hours)

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR TRAINING



Establishing a Routine

A structured schedule helps the puppy understand when they can relieve themselves.

Take them outside:

- As soon as they wake up
- After eating or drinking
- After a period of play or excitement
- Before and after crate time
- Right before bedtime
- Every 1 to 2 hours in the beginning (during the day)



Managing Indoors

- Supervise your puppy closely when they're free in the house.
- If you can't supervise them, use the crate or an exercise pen, or keep them attached to you with a leash.
- Establish a routine of frequent outings.
- Clean up accidents immediately with an enzymatic cleaner (this prevents odor residue that may encourage them to repeat the behavior).



How to Handle Potty Breaks

- Use the same area at first: the scents will encourage them to go in the right spot.
- Walk calmly or wait without distracting them until they go.
- As soon as they eliminate, reward them immediately (treat + cheerful voice).



In Case of an Accident

- Do not scold your puppy if they have an accident: they don't have the ability to do better at that moment.
- If you catch them in the act indoors, gently interrupt ("hop hop hop!") and quickly take them outside.
- Never put their nose in urine or feces: it's unnecessary and harmful to the relationship.

What to Expect

Progress happens in stages. It's normal for your puppy to have accidents even after a few good days.

In general, a puppy starts to be house trained around 4-6 months, but this can vary depending on the breed, environment, and consistency of outings.

The goal is for your puppy to learn where and when they can relieve themselves, and to feel safe doing so.

With a clear routine, constant supervision, and rewards, they will gradually become house trained.