

HOUSEBREAKING

 As the new owner of a young puppy, this is going to be your first concern. Housebreaking is not difficult if done properly, however many problems can occur and often do for various reasons. **Proper success depends entirely on you.**

 Toss your ideas of paper training out the window! This is an old and more difficult method, which involves numerous steps. Why bother? If you confine the dog to the kitchen by baby gates or whatever, and lay newspaper around their bed, you are teaching them it is "O.K. to go in the house" as long as the puppy tries to aim for the newspaper (and believe me they don't always). Then you would have to slowly start removing the amount of newspapers one by one until you are down to one. Then you have to take them away and hope they don't find an alternative! (If I were a dog I would just go on the floor at this point and think "stupid people they forgot to leave out fresh newspaper for me") Next, the papers get moved outside. And finally, train them to go in an area outside. Give me a break! Why make this so difficult? Or you can...

 Use a crate; they will not mess in their own bed. Dogs do not like to eliminate by nature in their "den" (the crate) so why not extend the den to your whole house, eventually. You can take control of housebreaking by using the crate when you cannot watch the puppy. The puppy will learn that the crate is his/her special place to sleep and will often wander in when he/she does not want to be disturbed. All the puppies have already been wandering into the crate, on their own to sleep since the first day of venturing out of the whelping box, it is a natural instinct. You will need to keep a constant 100% watch on your puppy whenever he/she is out of its crate and inside the house (they will usually stick around you anyway) but do make this easier by barricading off your kitchen area. Get the puppy into a schedule; take the puppy outside and to the same spot immediately, every time you open the crate. As well as, before and after every meal and play or sleep time. It will take no time at all to have a fully housebroken puppy, one that learns to hold it until it can come to you and ask to be let out!

HOUSE BREAKING, CRATE TRAINING & BARKING all in one!

HOW TO ACHIEVE THIS:

DO	DO NOT
Accustom the puppy to the crate (your puppy has already been started). For the first few days, put the puppy into the crate whenever tired and starts to fall asleep on the floor	Put in crate when playful
Start with short intervals in crate during the day for first couple of days	Put in crate and leave for long periods immediately
Put puppy in crate to eat. Take food away when interest is lost – 5 minutes maximum	Let puppy wander around the house munching
Put in toys and a "cookie" each time to reward and give lots of verbal praise	Use crate as a punishment
Put in crate during quiet moments in a quiet location	When action is around you don't want the puppy to feel left out
Be calm when removing from crate and take immediately outside to relieve	Excite, as puppy will bark for your attention
You will need to carry your puppy at first but soon he/she must learn to run outside from the crate – start on leash	Let your puppy run free to get distracted on the way out the door or he/she may not make it
Always take to the same spot	Confuse your puppy by moving the bathroom location around.

DO	DO NOT
Keep repeating " OUTSIDE " command to teach	Keep quiet as your puppy will not learn a command
Put the crate in a good location during the day so the puppy can learn to walk outside from the crate quickly	Carry the pup outside always, he/she needs to figure out how to walk outside on his/her own
Let outside constantly. Success depends on it! After eating, sleeping, and playing for sure and whenever puppy is sniffing around with head low. Not unusual to go out every 5 minutes!	Leave for long periods or you will guarantee failure
If you catch the puppy squatting in the middle of the act yell puppies name loudly to try and make him/her stop in the act! Pick the puppy up and run outside to the spot you have picked. Praise if puppy finishes outside or goes again. Always praise each time puppy goes outside like this is the most wonderful thing in the world!	Do not PUNISH!!! Ignore mistakes if you do not catch the puppy in the act. Clean up with the puppy out of site. Make sure odour is eliminated with a non-ammonia cleaner (a carpet cleaner diluted with water in a spray bottle is ideal to have on hand – also Vinegar)
If puppy whines or barks at any time while in the crate and you are sure it does not need to go out (the first night it will have to go out more often but by the second or third night it should be OK through the night, don't let the puppy fool you!). Tap on the top of the crate and give a firm "Quiet!". You can slowly get firmer and may have to take the puppy out of the crate if persistently whining and shake by the scruff and immediately put back in and ignore!	Do not let out to play when puppy barks or whines! It only takes a couple of times for your puppy to learn this bad habit to get your attention and the reward of coming out to play.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM

 Are you honestly watching the puppy **100%** of the time while it is loose in the house? Prevention of mistakes produces a housetrained dog in no time. Mistakes made while leaving the room or becoming distracted, just for a second, make housebreaking a difficult task.

 Have you put the puppy into a regular routine? If the puppy can constantly count on being taken outside, it will learn to control itself a lot quicker.

 Make sure you gently correct verbally **only and only when caught in the act**. Otherwise **ignore**, and clean up with puppy out of sight.

 Is the puppy soiling its crate? Do you need to make the crate smaller by adding a box to section off the back? Are there too many blankets in the crate to bury the mess?

 If puppy is restless you can try leaving a radio on while you are away. Also, put in a few safe toys for the puppy to play with.

TRAINING TIP

A rolled up newspaper can be an effective training tool when used properly. For instance, use the rolled-up newspaper if your dog chews something or has a housebreaking accident. Take the rolled-up newspaper and hit yourself over the head as you repeat the phrase, "I FORGOT TO WATCH MY DOG, I FORGOT TO WATCH MY DOG". If your dog laughs at you when you do this, praise him.

PREVENTING SUBMISSIVE ELIMINATION

 Do not be hard on your puppy! Distract or ignore unwanted behaviour rather than getting on the puppies case constantly!!!

 It is very common for new owners to get frustrated with housebreaking and start to progressively get angry and lose patience. Puppies can start to display submission by squatting and urinating to give in to you. This can soon become a big problem where a puppy can become so submissive it is squatting and urinating every time someone greets the puppy, goes to pet it or even talk to it. Be gentle and most puppies won't develop this problem.

 Different temperaments can tolerate different levels of discipline. We're **NOT** saying don't discipline, you simply must apply no more than is appropriate. For example if your puppy is trying to get a taste of a plant he/she needs to learn that it is out of bounds, it can make the puppy really sick. Firmly say Uh, uh or NO! This should distract your puppy enough to go on to something else that you are providing for him/her. Next time however, your puppy may ignore the NO and you may need to go over and give your puppy a quick shake on the back of the neck to back up your verbal correction.

 If you encounter the problem of submissive elimination, you must assume that your puppy thinks of you as too dominant (even though you may think you haven't been) and you must do everything you can to reverse the behavior. For example when someone greets your puppy have them sit quietly on the floor (rather than towering over them). With your puppy at a distance let them get used to the stranger so they calm down before slowly approaching. Either carry the puppy, have him stand or lie down may also help. With patience and positive reinforcement they will grow out of this.

 Your puppy needs a little time to develop and build up a larger bladder. Different puppies take different durations to mature and become house trained. Be patient and before you know it your puppy will probably find a way to start asking to go outside when he/she needs to.



"Harold! The dog's trying to blow up the house again! Catch him in the act or he'll never learn."