

HOUSE TRAINING YOUR PUPPY

A simple, positive guide to helping your puppy learn where to toilet

THE GOLDEN RULE

Take your puppy outside **frequently and proactively**. Praise immediately when they toilet in the right place. Accidents are normal — never punish your puppy.

1. Take your puppy out at the right times

When they wake up	Straight outside — even after a short nap.
After eating or drinking	Take them out shortly after meals and whenever they have had a good drink.
After play or excitement	Activity often stimulates the need to toilet.
Before bedtime	Give them a calm final toilet trip.
Regularly during the day	Young puppies may need to go very often, sometimes every 30–60 minutes when awake.

2. Use a consistent toilet routine

Take your puppy to the same toilet area whenever possible. Keep the trip boring until they have toileted. As soon as they finish, calmly praise them and give a small reward. This helps them understand exactly what behaviour you want.

3. Watch for the warning signs

Sniffing the floor • circling • suddenly wandering away • pacing • whining • heading towards a door • stopping play and looking unsettled. If you see these signs, take your puppy outside immediately.

4. A simple daytime routine

7:00 am	Outside immediately after waking
7:15 am	Breakfast → outside shortly afterwards
8:00 am	Outside after play
9:00 am	Outside
10:00 am	Outside after nap
11:00 am	Outside
12:00 pm	Lunch (if feeding 3 meals) → outside
1:00 pm	Outside after play/nap
2:00 pm	Outside
3:00 pm	Outside
4:00 pm	Outside after play
5:00 pm	Dinner → outside shortly afterwards
6:00–8:00 pm	Outside regularly, especially after naps/play
Before bed	Final toilet trip

5. What if your puppy has an accident?

Stay calm. Do not shout, punish, rub their nose in it or make a fuss. If you catch them in the act, gently interrupt and take them outside. If you find an accident afterwards, simply clean it thoroughly with an appropriate enzymatic pet cleaner. Then carry on with the routine.

6. Night-time toilet training

Very young puppies may not be able to last through the whole night. Take them out immediately before bed and, if necessary, provide a quiet toilet trip during the night. Keep lights and interaction to a minimum so they learn that

nighttime is for sleeping.

7. Remember...

- **Every puppy is different.** Bladder control develops with age.
- **Reward the behaviour you want.** Praise and treats should come immediately after toileting outside.
- **Supervise closely.** When your puppy is loose in the house, keep them where you can see them.
- **Use a safe puppy area/crate** for short periods when you cannot supervise, but never use it as punishment.
- **Expect setbacks.** Changes in routine, excitement, visitors and new environments can cause accidents.

PATIENT • CONSISTENT • POSITIVE

With repetition, your puppy will gradually learn that outside is the place to toilet.