

A strong recommendation is to put his/her cage in your bedroom at night so that should he/she need to go to the toilet they will cry or paw at the cage this allows you to take puppy out when he/she actually needs to go. A tip is to always carry pup with his/her backlegs held together as this means they cannot relieve themselves so must hold on.

When you need to leave the pup home alone, put him/her in an area that is easy to clean, for example the kitchen or utility room. The purpose of this long term confinements e.g. over an hour, to a restricted area is to confine the problem at times when you the owner cannot supervise the puppy. Acknowledging that the puppy will have to eliminate during the course of the day, you should ensure that you leave the pup in an area where it is acceptable to you for him/her to eliminate. Confining the puppy to one room is sometimes a temporary necessity until he/she is housetrained, at which time you may then decide to give more access to other areas of the home.

Cleaning Tips:

After disinfecting the area use a mild solution of biological washing powder and warm water to clean up any accidents. This should remove any traces of ammonia which is present in both urine and many cleaning product and will help in the prevention of specific area becoming a favourite toilet area.



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HOUS TRAINING



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Housetraining is all about the 3R's, ROUTINE, RELIEF and REWARD. This can be a tricky time for both new owners and pup, but with a little understanding it needn't cause too many problems. The first point is that peeing and pooing is normal, natural and necessary. Never punish your dog for answering the call of nature—he can't help himself/herself. The pup's body tells him/her to pee or poo, so he/she does. Rubbing his/her nose in his/her own excrement is only going to teach him/her that you are nasty and that he/she should hide himself away behind the sofa next time he/she pees or poos. Rubbing the pup's nose into the excrement or wee is ABSOLUTE CRUELTY. It is simply up to you to teach the pup the appropriate place to do it.

There are certain times when your dog is likely to relieve himself:

After sleeping

After eating

After playing

Routinely take your puppy out into the garden after each of these activities and wait with him/her until he/she goes to the toilet. As he/she does, introduce a word or two which means 'go to the toilet' e.g. 'hurry up', 'be quick', 'wee wees'. The instant he/she finishes give him/her a titbit e.g. a small sliver of sausage. If he/she is too distracted sniffing the plants and chasing birds, put him/her on a lead when you take pup out. Then you can let him/her off the lead to play as his/her reward for relieving himself/herself.

Stay with your pup when he/she goes out to the toilet, this is the only way to ensure your puppy has actually gone and to reward him/her at the right time.

At other times watch for signs that he/she may need the toilet, such as sniffing at the door, circling, staring at you or crying. If he/she does get caught short in the house, on no account should you scold him/her or rub his/her nose in it. Simply clean up and be more vigilant next time. If you find you are having difficulty spotting the signs just give your puppy the opportunity to go out at regular periods e.g. every hour. Toilet training is a little like potty training the one time you say just one moment it is that one moment too long!!!!

A dog cage is extremely effective as a housetraining tool (see Cage Training Information). The purpose of short-term (under an hour during the day) close confinement is to inhibit the puppy from toileting at all indoors. Dogs are clean animals and are unlikely to mess in their own beds unless they have to e.g. they are confined to a cage for too long or if they are ill. When used as a tool to help owners predict when their puppy will need to go out the cage is ideal as the puppy may cry or paw at the cage. If this happens the puppy should be taken outside immediately when taken out of the cage as it is almost guaranteed that he/she will need to go to the toilet. As you learn the signs and the puppy learns this short period can be extended by 15 minute increments.

Night-time is when many people put newspaper down for their new puppy, but before doing this think about the confusion this can cause. You are trying to teach your puppy that he must NOT relieve himself indoors BUT then you confuse him by allowing him to do just that throughout the night. Instead of laying newspaper on the floor, get up and let the puppy out through the night. You may only need to do this a couple of times for the first week or so. For example, for the first few nights you could bed puppy down at 11 pm, then get up and let him/her out at 2 am, 4 am and then get up at 7 am.

After a few more days you may well have gained a feel for the best time to take pup out and then can probably reduce the trips to one.

This may seem inconvenient, but it does help the pup to learn much faster and saves facing urine and faeces covered newspapers every morning. A cage can also be used during the night; however you must be vigilant and not forget to get up and take the puppy out. If you force the puppy to mess in his/her own bed you can discount the usage of the cage in the future. In fact what you may inadvertently teach is that putting the puppy in a cage is like saying 'Go to the toilet now' - not a very desirable prospect.

