



## Potty Training

Potty training requires time, patience and consistency. Your puppy will have accidents in the house, this should be expected. It is your job to teach your dog where it is OK to potty with positive reinforcement. This may take several weeks. A puppy is considered reliably potty trained when it has not had any accidents for 2-3 months.

**Routine:** Take your dog outside, on leash to the same spot every time. This spot should be fairly close to the door and easily accessible. Use the words, "go potty". Do not play with your puppy during this time. This is time to get down to business. Remove any distractions such as other dogs. Now wait. It may take your puppy a few minutes to go potty. Immediately after the puppy eliminates, praise lavishly and treat.

**Frequency:** Take your puppy out frequently. Plan to take your puppy outside to potty immediately after waking up from a nap, after playing, 10-30 min after eating/drinking, and prior to crating.

**Supervise:** If puppy is not crated or in an exercise pen, you must supervise your puppy at all times. You can tether your puppy to you with a leash or use baby gates to keep your pup in your view. If puppy starts sniffing around or circling, immediately head outside to potty.

**Confinement-** When you can't actively supervise your puppy, put it in a crate, an exercise pen that has a washable pee pad, or tether your pet.

### Tips:

- Do NOT just open the back door for your puppy or expect for them to understand a doggy door.
- Never punish a dog for accidents. Train with the brain, not with pain :)
- If you do not see improvement with the above measures or accidents increase, a vet visit to rule out an underlying medical issue is advised.

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