

sit. stay. good dog! presents

the toilet paper



Setting your puppy up for success

Puppies urinate and defecate - they must and they will. The key is to train them to "go" in places we find acceptable. Note the word "train." Puppies do not pee in the house because they are stupid, disobedient, angry, vindictive, or their

feelings are hurt. In short, they "go" in the house for the same reason you or I do - it's air conditioned, comfortable, and bug-free. As a toddler, you were trained to use the toilet in the bathroom. Your puppy needs the same kind of gentle guidance and support in order to learn to go outside to take care of business. Yelling, hitting, rubbing his nose in the feces, or other forms of punishment teach your puppy one thing - you have a problem with pee and poop (call Dr. Phil!) and it is wise to hide the offending substance from your view. This is often labeled as "sneaking to hide the evidence." In reality, your pup is just trying to keep you from going insane. What a great dog! He crawls all the way into the back of the closet to pee just to keep you happy!

The key to effective potty training is to make it worth the puppy's while to outside in the heat with the itchy grass and all the bugs. Think of it this way - if you had an outhouse in your backyard would you choose it over the bathroom in your house? What if I wired up some speakers in the bathroom and played a style of music you hate really loud - would you use the outhouse? How about if I played the music AND I paid you \$50.00 every time you used the outhouse?

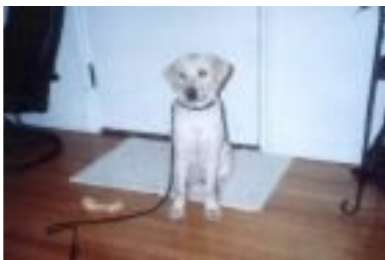
The last choice seems the most attractive, huh? Let's turn that into Dog Language: (continued on Page 2)

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The Toilet Paper Part II - How To!

1. Puppy begins to sniff the ground in circles or while weaving back and forth (potty signal!). You clap your hands once and in a loud voice say, "Uh-uh!!"
2. Using a small piece of treat, lead Puppy to the door he will be using to go Out. Talk to him in a happy tone - it doesn't matter what you say because he is only concerned with your happy voice and following the treat to the door.
3. At the door, snap on the lead and give him the treat. You **MUST** use the lead for the first week to ten days!!
4. Lead Puppy to his potty place. Stop and stand quietly, intermittenly offering soft words of encouragement.
5. Whe he pees, bend down and pop a tasty treat into his mouth and tell him (softly) what a great dog he is. You have one to three seconds to get that treat in his mouth so he associates the treat with going outside. Aren't you glad he's on a lead?
6. Move a little and wait. When he poops, offer the treat and words of praise.
7. Unsnap the lead (if the yard is safely fenced) and have a little party. Jump around, throw a ball, whatever.
8. After 30 seconds or so you can go inside.



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Now we know HOW, here's WHY:

1. Use the clap and uh-uh to correct - never use the puppy's name to correct! Every time your pup hears his name, something good should happen. Being corrected is not "good."
2. Leading him to, and rewarding him at, the door teaches him what to do when he gets that "full" feeling. Rather than search for a place to go in the house, go to the door.
3. Putting him on the lead keeps him close. You are teaching him that it is OK to go potty in front of you. Also you **MUST** get that treat into his mouth right after he pees. If you call him to you to give the treat, you are rewarding him for coming rather than for peeing outside.
4. You are teaching him to eliminate first thing when going outside. On those days when you don't have tons of time and need your dog to eliminate quickly, you'll be glad you taught this skill!
- 5./6. Pay him his \$50.00 for eliminating outside. Let's see - he tries to go potty inside and gets a correction (unpleasant), he goes potty outside and he gets paid (very pleasant).
7. NOW it's time to play and commune with nature - **AFTER** taking care of business!
8. Mission complete.

Times your puppy needs Out:

Immediately upon waking (even from a nap)
10-15 minutes after eating and/or drinking
2-3 minutes into a play session

Watch for the Potty Signals:

Circling, nose to the ground
Weaving, nose to the ground
Moving away from the play area quickly, head held high
Squatting, head up
Sitting by the Out door

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