



GUIDE TO PUPPY HOUSETRAINING

Brought to you by:



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Between “potty” breaks
puppies should be

**supervised
or confined**

with an appropriately-sized
crate, a tether or just within sight



Puppies start to form
surface preferences around

8 weeks old

so it’s important to expose the
puppy to appropriate surfaces
& reward for eliminating there



As a *general rule*,
puppies can hold it for

age + 1 = hours

in
months

between
breaks



Ex: 2 months
old + 1 =
3 hours

up to ~6 months

STICK TO A SCHEDULE

Puppies should be taken out...



- as soon as you get home
- upon waking up (including naps)
- 15-30 minutes after eating or drinking
- a few times throughout the night (depending on age)
- immediately after seeing a warning sign
- shortly after playing or if the puppy disengages with you

- whining
- pacing
- barking
- circling

Warning signs include...

- sniffing the floor
- zooming around
- stopping in the middle of an activity



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Pro tip:

Carry very young pups to the appropriate elimination area.
For older puppies, quickly lead them to it.

WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO

- 1 Take the dog out on leash at first, even in the yard, to prevent wandering and help focus on the task at hand.
- 2 Lead the dog to the desired area for elimination. Wait for the dog to eliminate. *Optional: give a cue such as “go potty” before they go.
- 3 As soon as the dog is *finished*, mark it with “good!” or “yes!” Try not to mark and reward during, to avoid distracting the puppy before they're done. *Optional: give a treat when finished.
- 4 Now go for a walk, allow the pup to play or let them off leash (if safe) before heading back in. This way, the dog learns that the fun doesn't end after eliminating - they'll learn to get it out of the way more quickly!
- 5 If the puppy doesn't go, put them back in the crate or other confinement and try again in about 15 to 20 minutes.

If the puppy eliminates inside...

DO NOT PUNISH

This will only make the pup afraid to eliminate in front of people and can increase accidents inside



If you don't catch them in the act, it's too late anyway!



Instead...

interrupt & whisk the pup outside

They may or may not finish

Clean up any messes with a natural, odor-eliminating, enzymatic cleaner

