

Dog Training Articles
By Beth Bradley

HOUSE TRAINING TIPS

- **YOU MUST HAVE A CRATE**
- Divide your crate so it is only big enough for the dog to lie down and turn around
- Use Crate at night and when you cannot supervise
- All other times, keep the dog on a leash at your side
- Feed at specific times each day (i.e. 9 AM, 12 PM, 5PM) if you miss a feeding time, skip it until next meal. By the time your dog is 4 ½ or 5 months old he should be eating only 2 times per day. If you give treats and cookies throughout the day – that could interfere with the times he has bowel movements.
- Keep food and water down for 5 minutes and then remove **EVEN IF YOUR DOG DID NOT EAT OR DRINK**
- Give the puppy water only when eating or after extensive exercise if panting. **DO NOT LEAVE WATER DOWN ALL DAY LONG FOR THE DOG TO DRINK AND DO NOT LEAVE FOOD OR WATER IN THE CRATE WHEN YOU ARE NOT AT HOME.**
- Feed the puppy in his crate. Clean dogs will not mess where they eat and/or sleep
- Keep a written daily time log of bowel movements and urination times; even if it is an accident. After 4 or 5 days, of specific feeding/watering times, you should be able to figure out your dog's schedule. Take your dog outside prior to the scheduled times
- If your dog is newspaper trained, keep soiled newspaper outside for him to smell to encourage him go to the bathroom. If your dog is not paper trained, do not clean up his bowel movement each and every time. Leave something outside for him to smell
- Use a command in a quiet tone while he is going to the bathroom (i.e. "Hurry up") and do not play with him before hand. Play after he has gone to the bathroom
- Encourage him w/ quiet praise and a treat after he goes to the bathroom (every other time use a treat)
- If your dog will not go to the bathroom outside or wants to play, bring him inside for 5 minutes and put him in the crate, then take him outside again
- If you have a fenced in yard, leave him outside by himself but watch through the window that he does go to the bathroom
- Do not scold your dog if he has an accident in front of you. This will make him afraid to go to the bathroom outside in front of you
- If your dog has an accident in your home, clean w/ a disinfectant dog cleaner
- You will have to take your puppy outside in the middle of the night for a little while so keep his crate in your bedroom so you can hear him whimper in the middle of the night
- He may cry at first in the crate...let him work through it...but allow him to sleep in your room, he will feel more comfortable with you close by

- You may need to give your dog a lot of exercise prior to bedtime in order for him to sleep through the night. **REMEMBER... A TIRED PUPPY IS A GOOD PUPPY**
- Play with your feeding schedule also...some dogs have a bowel movement immediately after eating some do not. Try and feed the last meal to get your through the night. Whether that means feeding early so he has a bowel movement before bedtime or later because he sleeps better on a full stomach
- Most dogs have to go to the bathroom after playtime, eating, sleeping, excitement, etc. It is up to you to write down his schedule and understand your own dog.
- Each dog is different, each dog has a different metabolism and the size of his or her bladder is different. **KNOW YOUR DOG!**
- If you play with your dog or walk him outside, allow him time to go to the bathroom again before you bring him inside
- Some dogs do not relieve themselves completely when taken out. **YOU MUST KNOW YOUR DOG.** Some dogs urinate, play and then have a bowel movement. Or need to have 2 bowel movements. If they urinate outside and then come inside and go again...then you need to wait for your dog to have 2 times to urinate before bringing him inside. Or if you bring him in, place him in the crate, wait 3-5 minutes and bring him out again. A puppy's attention span is small so you must learn his habits
- If you are on a tight feeding/watering schedule and your dog still is not on a bathroom schedule, be sure no one is giving him extra food or water. Check with your Vet to be sure he is worm free and that he is healthy
- Initially, you are the one being trained. So keep a tight schedule