



# SIT HAPPENS DOG TRAINING

LIVE BEYOND THE LEASH

## Potty Training: 101

### *Step #2—Routine*

Every time your dog comes out of his “Den Space,” you should take him to the designated “Potty” area on a leash. Try to use the same door each time. Look at your watch. Give your dog 3 to 5 minutes to go. While waiting label the command and say “GO POTTY” or whatever term you would like to use repeatedly. Immediately praise him when he starts to go potty. If she doesn’t go in the specified time return her to her crate without showing any discouragement. Remember she is not in trouble. Repeat every 15 to 30 minutes until results are achieved. When potty happens reward by allowing your new puppy some supervised freedom. Remember, out of site out of mind. If you aren’t going to keep an eye on your dog then the den is a great option. You can also tether your puppy to your belt so they can’t get out of sight.

#### *A Word About Feeding:*

Getting your puppy on a feeding schedule is extremely important. In a perfect world you should feed your dog two times a day (For puppies: two to three times a day). We leave the food down for 5 to 10 minutes. Pick up the bowl whether they are finished or not. It is not uncommon for a dog to miss a meal or two. After a couple of days the pattern will be established. It is very important to know when food goes in so you can determine when it will come out.

### *Step #3—Supervision*

The biggest mistake new dog owners make is allowing their puppies to have too much freedom. Remember, if you don’t catch your puppy having an accident, you will miss the chance to teach him where to go. We are trying to teach her that the whole house is her crate. Until we do, she should never be unsupervised in the house. When your dog is out of her crate or pen, use a tether line to keep her close to you or at least in sight. Look for the signs that indicate when your dog might have to go potty. Sniffing around the house, sniffing in circles, after rigorous play or any other time she has been excited.

#### *Managing Supervision*

If you can’t give your dog 100 percent attention, tether him to a table or a chair with a leash. This is great idea if you are eating a meal or just relaxing and watching television. If you cannot watch your puppy, keep him in his crate.

#### *When Accidents Happen...*

If you catch your puppy making a mistake, immediately take him to the “potty” area. If he doesn’t go happily take him to his den space until he does go potty. It isn’t necessary to correct or scold your dog when you catch him going in the wrong place. If you find an accident after the fact, just clean it up and refer to your rules of supervision. Within these three steps, you will soon discover that the key to successfully housebreaking your puppy comes down to one principal... Be Consistent!

**P**otty Training may be one of the hardest most frustrating challenges you will face when you bring your puppy home. We will tell you what to do and just as important, what you should not do, from the moment you bring the new family dog home. First and foremost avoid potty pads, newspapers, or any items that will encourage you dog to go potty in the house. When your pup does have an accident DO NOT rub his nose in it or swat him. No punishment is necessary. Remember your puppy is like a new baby and does not know the difference between inside and outside until you teach her. Get her on a feeding schedule right away. Morning and night. Leave the food down for 10 to 15 minutes. Pick up any left overs.

### *Step #1—Management System*

The first thing we do at Jacksonville’s best dog training company, is establish a safe place for our puppy to sleep. Usually that means properly crate training our new puppy. The crate should be big enough for Fido to easily stand or lie down in with enough space for him to turn around. Too much space and she will find a corner to relieve herself. If you are buying a large crate then make sure you add a divider. This gives you the opportunity to enlarge your crate as your puppy grows. For those that are against crate training, a pen or bathroom can be used. Just make sure there is nothing that can hurt your puppy in these areas.



FOR A **FREE** IN-HOME CONSULTATION PLEASE CONTACT US:

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