

## Potty Training

1. During the training period, while your puppy is indoors, (s)he should be confined in a kennel or be under close supervision. The puppy could be kept on a leash next to you. The kennel should be just large enough for the puppy to stand up and turn around in. If it is too large they can eliminate on one side and lie down on the other. While supervising, watch for signs your puppy has to eliminate (sniffing the ground, circling, etc.).
2. Take out regularly to give them the chance to eliminate outside, especially after confinement, sleep, and eating or excitement.
3. Start by using your command (for example- go potty) when your puppy starts to eliminate, to build an association between the words and the act.
4. Quietly praise during the act
5. Reward them immediately after proper elimination with praise and treats to reinforce the behavior. As things progress, use more praise and less treats.
6. Move towards teaching your puppy to eliminate on command.
7. Puppies may go outside and have other things on their minds, such as sniffing around and playing. If you think they were ready and they did not eliminate
  - a. Bring them back to the crate for 15-20 minutes, then try again or
  - b. Stay outside for a longer period. Walking, running and playing can increase the urge to eliminate
8. When you can trust your puppy not to eliminate in the house depends on the individual dog. In general, smaller dogs take longer to train.
9. Preventing accidents in the house is the key to success. The fewer accidents, the quicker they will become potty trained.
10. If you fail to prevent an accident, scolding is not helpful. At that point it is best to just clean up and deodorize.