

TIPS FOR HOUSETRAINING PUPPIES

- Restrict the puppy to a certain area of the house, either using a crate or block off a room using a gate.
- Take the puppy out often, at least every 1-2 hours; right after each feeding, playtime, nap and any other time you suspect they need to go out.
- Puppies may need to out about 10 times a day to eliminate. A puppy is not physically able to control the muscle that allows him to “hold it” until he is about 12 weeks of age.
- Watch for signs that your puppy may have to relieve himself; such as sniffing, pacing or walking around in circles.
- Take the puppy to the same spot outside every time.
- Praise your puppy and give him a treat each time he goes in the outdoor spot.
- Do not punish your puppy for going in the house unless you catch him in the act. Even then, correct him with a gentle, firm “No”, take him outside to finish and then praise him when he’s done eliminating. Otherwise, simply clean up the mess thoroughly using a stain and odor remover. If you do not catch him in the act, he will not understand what you are scolding him for.

- Feed your puppy on a regular schedule.
- Take the water dish away at night.
- Try crating your puppy when you are not home but only for short periods of time. Never more than 2 hours for a puppy and no more than 4 hours for an adult dog.
- Have a dog sitter come to your house if you are not home for most of the day.
- Be patient and understanding. Your puppy is not trying to make you mad.