



# **Dog Potty Training Report**

## **Tips For Quick & Easier House Training**

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## Introduction

So you have just taken your new puppy or older dog home, congratulations! Owning a dog is one of the most wonderful things in the world, as most dog owners will happily tell you. However, your hard work has just begun and boot camp is about to start!

Well, maybe not boot camp exactly but you do have some [serious training](#) to get started and the best place to begin is with potty training.



Picture the scene – your cute little puppy is running around your living room with the whole family standing to one side, oohing and aahing as if your puppy was the greatest little thing ever. Time seems to freeze, your mind goes blank and it suddenly begins to dawn on you that the cutest little bundle of fluff that you have ever seen is... urinating all over your brand new \$5000 wool carpet.

OK so maybe that scenario is not quite accurate for you but this is one reason as to why you should begin to potty train your dog as soon as you get him home.

Aside from the fact that it will ruin your furniture and home in general, it is not hygienic to allow your dog to do his business in your home and will make it smell in no time at all. Cleanliness is of paramount importance in protecting you, your family and your dog from illness and diseases and your dog has just as big a part to play in that as you do.

It is important to start potty training right away so as to establish cleaner habits for your dog. As with humans, teaching dogs behaviors at a young age will help to ingrain them in their minds and stand them in good stead throughout their lives. However, if you have just brought home an older dog then you should never take it for granted that they are potty trained because this may not be the case at all.

Older dogs that have been mistreated or in rescue shelters for a period of time may never have been potty trained at all or may have simply forgotten. This is becoming more common these days so you should begin training with older dogs immediately as well.

Regardless of whether you get a puppy or an older dog though, potty training serves one more function – it establishes you as the pack leader and the dominating force in the household, which is never a bad thing. You automatically get a measure of authority and a cleaner house!

This special report will cover numerous aspects of potty training your dog, including but not limited to:

- Crate Training
- Paper Training
- Litter Training
- Qualities That A Trainer Needs
- The Importance Of A Routine

As such, please read on to get the best possible start to your relationship with your new dog and find out how to get potty training immediately!

## Chapter 1- Training & You

Before introducing the different methods by which you can potty train your new puppy or older dog, it is important to address some of the elements of training that may not help you and actually provide huge setbacks as far as your progress is concerned.

For example, there are numerous misconceptions out there about how to potty train a dog that could hinder your ability to ensure that he or she picks up the rules on where to do the business as quickly as possible. The first is that there is a set time frame in which every dog should pick up potty training. This is blatantly not true.

If ever there was an example that illustrates this best, this story is it! I know a friend with three dogs – a retired Greyhound, a Lakeland Terrier and a Greyhound/Labrador cross. The Greyhound was already toilet trained when she came into the home and has never been a problem. The Greyhound/Labrador cross was adopted from a local rescue and he had obviously not been fully trained. He was 8 months old when she adopted him and was managed to be potty trained completely within a month. Then there is the Terrier. It took my friend many months to completely potty train him, and she has extensive experience with dogs! Some Terriers can be notoriously hard to housebreak but with a little patience and importantly KNOWLEDGE it can be a lot easier!

Moral of the story – do not believe everything you read and take all dogs on an individual basis. After all, you expect children to learn at different rates so why not dogs?

Although different breeds of dog are considered comparatively easy or difficult to housebreak, it is not all about the dog. 50% of the process, if not more, is all about YOU!



So what role do you have to play?

Well, think of yourself as a teacher. Your puppy is the student. You have to make it quite clear what your rules are. You have to tell your puppy or dog where to go to the toilet. You have to set the boundaries and reward good behavior. It is your responsibility to provide the guiding force throughout potty training, no matter how long it takes.

To do all of the above, you have to have certain personal qualities that will help to keep you sane during training and will provide a steady influence for your dog. Those qualities include but are not limited to the following:

- **Patience** – This is the main personal quality that you need above everything else. Patience is the absolute key to potty training your dog because he or she will not pick up everything overnight. You have to keep revisiting the same ground over and over again without getting stressed, raising your voice or cracking. Patience will ensure that you keep a steady tone of voice and thus retain overall authority over your dog. The second you raise your voice, you lose the battle so make sure that you remain calm and then you will be able to train your dog a lot better than you would otherwise be able to.
- **Sense Of Humor** – You have to have a sense of humor to train your dog in any way, not just in relation to potty training. Personal experience will teach you that! My Terrier did numerous funny things during potty training but the one thing that springs to mind is trying to pee up my leg more than once during that year. If you do not laugh at events like this then you will get stressed, lose patience and find it much harder going. Having the ability to laugh is an absolute must so be prepared to split your sides!

- Perseverance – Never give up after the first attempt to potty train does not work. You should always be prepared to try and try again because repeatedly doing the same thing over and over will alert your dog as to what is expected of him or her. Always persevere because you will get the desired result in the end. You just have to take your time and keep going, as with anything else in life really.
- Observational Skills – Observational skills are a must because you have to learn to spot exactly when your puppy or dog wants to do business. There are so many signs of wanting to go to the toilet and each dog has his or her own so it is up to you to spot them. It might be that your puppy starts walking like John Wayne when he wants his bowels open. She might start sniffing the floor as if looking for the prime spot. Alternatively, your puppy may just become restless and refuse point blank to settle. Just observe and wait and you will figure it all out quickly.
- Sense Of Timing – A sense of timing is also essential because you have to be able to pick up when to let your dog outside, when to reward for good behavior and when to respond if he or she has been to the toilet inside your home. It might take some time to develop a sense of timing if you are new to potty training a dog too so do not be too hard on yourself, but this is one skill you need to work hard at developing.



So now you know roughly what is expected of you during potty training and know the skills that you need to develop. All that you need now is an idea of the methods that you could use to go about potty training your dog!

## Chapter 2 – Crate Training

Crate training is the first method of potty training a puppy or an older dog and that is why it is the first method of doing so that is mentioned here. The majority of experts advocate crate training because it covers all aspects of behavior and the crate itself can be a fantastic tool in teaching your dog, which will be explained in a moment.

Trying crate training can be of benefit to you but be warned. Dog owners fall into two distinct categories in relation to it – they either love it or they hate it. Some believe the crate to be a cruel method of training a dog and that is up to you to decide. However, the benefits that both you and your dog can get from it go above and beyond the disadvantages it has.

Let's introduce you to the crate before we talk about it further.



The crate is a structure that comes in many shapes, sizes and forms, although the wire crates like the one picture above is perhaps the most common. If you do not like the idea of having a crate like that in your home then there are others available that blend in a little better, such as wooden ones. However, when you first begin to crate train a puppy or older dog in your home then those that will not succumb to chewing are best!

You can find crates in any number of sizes so there will be one suitable for your puppy. Be aware though that the one you choose needs to have enough room for your dog to stand up and move around in. If you have a really small



puppy then he or she should be able to grow into it too. However, it should not be too big that your dog can sleep in one area and go to the toilet in another! That kind of defeats the object!

Above all else, to be able to use it as a training tool, the crate you choose needs to feel like home. It needs to have some sort of bedding in there so that your dog can lie in there comfortably. Only then can you make it into the safe haven that your puppy or dog will need in the coming weeks. After all, every dog needs somewhere that feels safe, no matter how overwhelming a day they have had.

Introducing your dog to the crate is a different thing entirely and that can take a few days in itself. Do not be surprised if he or she sings all night the first few nights, but that applies to dogs in new environments anyway. However, by putting your new dog in a crate you can guarantee that he or she will not rip your kitchen or lounge to shreds overnight! Just be sure to move the crate away from anything that might otherwise be within reach. We found that out the hard way when we came home one day to find out that we had no curtains in our front room!

Feeding your dog treats in his or her crate will soon make it a good place for him or her to be because they associate it with food. However, he or she should never be allowed to mess in there. You have a part to play in this because a puppy should not be left for more than a few hours at a time and should always be taken straight outside when he or she is let out. This will encourage them to go to the toilet after being let out of the bed.

Crate training is perhaps the best method of introducing the outdoors into your dog's potty training regime because he or she would not be allowed to go to the toilet anywhere inside the house, unless you combine it with litter or paper training of course. This is usually not necessary though because you can take him or her straight outside because there is no need for the dog to be unattended anywhere in the house with a crate.

The whole idea being potty training using a crate is that a dog will not go to the toilet where he or she sleeps and, for the most part, that is the case. You have to help your dog to avoid having accidents in there with regular toilet breaks but he or she will probably never choose to soil his or her own bed.

The most important lesson for your dog lies not in where they can and cannot go to the toilet but more the fact that they can hold it when they need to. The sooner you teach your dog this lesson, the sooner he or she will be completely potty trained!

## Chapter 3 – Litter Training

Litter training is another method of potty training your puppy that you may want to use. Although it is commonly associated with kittens and cats, litter training can also be used for puppies and can be just as successful.

All you need is a litter tray and the dog litter that you can buy at all good pet stores, both online and offline. Just line the bottom of the tray with a good brand of liner and add the litter on top. Be sure to change it regularly to make sure that it does not begin to smell. Although the litter absorbs odors, it can only do that for so long and when it does begin to smell you can be sure that your dog will refuse to use it.

Now, litter potty training is perfect for puppies but not so good for older dogs because the likelihood of finding a tray big enough is remote to say the least. Plus it will cost a fortune in litter and seriously cause a stink in your home! For older dogs, crate or paper training is a much better option.

The first step in litter training is to put the box somewhere accessible to your dog but somewhere that the tray is not likely to get disturbed or stink out your home. A laundry room or annex is always best, although you might want to consider a place next to your back door to make the transition as seamless as possible when your dog is ready to move outside. You should never place a litter box in a family room or anywhere your children are likely to spend a lot of time.

No matter where you do decide to place the litter box, it has to be somewhere that your dog will feel comfortable with because he or she will not use it if it is not in just the right spot. Pick a spot that is undisturbed by noisy household appliances and is generally low traffic. If you find that your puppy is still not going in the litter after a few days then move the box to another spot and repeat until your puppy is happy with where it is placed.

However, you should introduce your puppy to the litter box slowly because he or she will not take to it if you suddenly just put him or her in the box and will not let him or her out until business is done. Try placing his or her front paws in it first and allowing them to have a sniff. Repeat this several times in the space of the first hour and then return to the box later when your puppy starts to show the behaviors that signify that he or she wants to do business. Only then should you place the puppy in there because this will indicate what the litter tray is for. Never play with your puppy in it because

you do not want to find that it has become a play pen, complete with flying litter and other stuff that should really stay in there!

You will need to take your puppy to the tray fairly regularly to start with because it will take time to get the message through that the tray is the only place to do business. Many puppies initially do not like the feel of the litter so it might take some time to get used to it.

After a couple of weeks, you might want to start encouraging your puppy to go outside as well because you cannot just remove the tray and expect your dog to go outside when he or she does not know how.

Only remove the tray when your puppy barely uses it anymore or when he or she is too big, whichever happens first. If your puppy is too big but still needs a little potty training then try using paper instead for a time. This has its advantages as you can move paper toward the door. If you do notice that your puppy is getting a little too big for the tray then start to line the tray with newspaper and make sure that quite a bit of the paper is in plain sight so that your puppy associates it with the tray just in case you have to use it to make the transition from indoors to outdoors.

The litter training method is actually ideal for those looking for a solution to potty training but live in an apartment because it provides a ready toilet that you can work with whilst establishing a routine. If you have a small dog and live in an apartment then you can continue with it indefinitely if you so wish, although that is not exactly recommended.



## Chapter 4 – Paper Training

Paper training is another of the most popular methods of potty training your new dog or puppy. In fact, this used to be the most popular until crate training was covered widely on the Internet.

There are many reasons why paper training is so popular, including the fact that it is the cheapest method of potty training. You do not even need to buy anything special to train your dog how and where to go to the toilet because you can simply use old newspapers. If you are looking to save cash then this is the best way to go.

However, you can spend a little and get pads that are made specifically for potty training your puppy and might prove that little bit more successful, especially if your dog is proving to be a little resistant to the paper method. Try that one first but if it does not work then invest in pads instead.

The pads that you can buy in all major pet stores and on the Internet happen to be treated with a special chemical that will attract your puppy to them. It also encourages them to use the area in question. The chemical is not harmful at all so you do not need to worry about that. It just helps to let your dog know where he or she can go to the toilet, just like marking an area does outside.

Another major advantage of paper training is the fact that you can slowly but surely lead your dog toward the door and then outside when the time is right. You do not have to rush your dog at all so both of you can feel comfortable with the progress that you are making. Just choose an area inside, preferably a short distance away from the back door and then move the pads or paper forward bit by bit.



When your dog or puppy is going on the paper without fail (or with very few fails anyway), you can move the paper right next to the back door and encourage him or her to go outside instead. When you feel that your dog is ready, the next step is moving the paper outside or getting rid of it completely. This might take a few weeks or a few months but the one good thing about it is that you can literally see the progress.

To put the paper potty training method in place, you do need to be vigilant and make sure that you get your puppy to the paper before he or she has a chance to do business. As soon as he or she starts to sniff around and become restless then you should get your puppy to the paper. Even if he or she has already started to do business then you should still get your puppy to the paper so he or she knows where to go in future. It may take a few attempts but the puppy will get there in the end.

The only disadvantage of this is the fact that it does encourage your dog to do business in your home and it does take time to get him or her to go elsewhere. However, if you can put up with that then this is one of the best methods out there.

One thing you should remember if you do want to undertake paper training is to make sure that you are on top of the hygiene situation because your home may start to smell and bacteria might start to multiply unless you clean the floor with strong detergent regularly. Always remember to keep any children away from these areas as well, although this can be a problem. Your dog needs to be able to get to the paper freely so it does require a lot of effort to stay vigilant with all little bundles of joy!

## Chapter 5 – The Routine

The importance of establishing a routine cannot be underestimated when it comes to potty training your dog. It is the one essential component that must be used no matter which methods of training you choose to undertake. Despite that though, it is the one element that dog owners tend to forget.

If you do forget to establish a routine then you will find that potty training takes far longer than it may otherwise have done and it will also increase the frustration on your part. That would be your own fault though because your dog will not know whether he or she is coming or going.

Think about your own routine. Assume that you have a 9–5 job. You get up at the same time every day, have breakfast at the same time, perform your same grooming routine, go to work, do your job, come home, have dinner, relax for an hour and then get into bed at the same time every night so that you can get up and function properly the next day.

As boring as that sounds, it is the only way to keep yourself from getting tired and to regulate your body. Well, the same applies to dogs. Just as your body knows what time it is thanks to your routine, your dog should know when it is time to pee, poop, eat and sleep all thanks to a good routine.



In an older dog that you have had as a member of the family for years, keeping to a strict routine is nowhere near as important as it is when you first introduce a new puppy or dog into your home. Not only will it help them

to settle in, but it will also prove incredibly important when it comes to potty training.

Why is routine important when potty training? Well, your dog will know exactly when it is time to go outside to do his or her business and will get used to holding it until that time. This helps to make your dog as regular as clockwork when he or she is healthy and ensures that you do not come home to any accidents after a hard day at work!

Just as food is important in getting our dog used to his or her crate, it is also vital in establishing a routine because your dog's routine should revolve around food and exercise. You should feed your dog twice a day at the same time every day and let him or her out to go in the back yard directly before eating in the morning and before eating at night. Similarly, you should walk your dog at least once a day and allow him or her to go to the toilet freely during that period of time (taking your baggies to pick up after your pooch of course!).

By making sure that your dog has a routine, you will also ensure that he or she knows when to go to the toilet. Contrary to what some owners say, this is not cruel in any way. Just like us humans, if dogs know that they cannot go to the toilet during a set period of time then they can hold it.

Most owners that state that all owners should be available to let their dogs out as and when they want to go to the toilet are home all day and this is just not possible in most cases. However, if you can get home for lunch or during a break to let your dog out then this will help him or her during potty training and will give you peace of mind.

Now, a routine is important if you live in a house with a back yard that your dog can run freely in but it is of double importance if you have an apartment instead. Obviously, you have to take your dog out and supervise him or her during toilet time so you must make sure that you go out at exactly the same times of day and night. This applies no matter what the weather is like or how cold it is. You cannot get your dog into a routine and change it to suit your own wants.

So when is the best time to establish a routine? Right from day one. The second you bring your dog home you should start to think about establishing a routine. The sooner you get a new dog of any age into a routine, the easier it will be to potty train him or her and ensure that the family gets along without any mess being made in the process!

If you speak to any dog trainer or expert, they will tell you just how important a routine is but there is one thing they may miss out because those professionals tend to focus on the dog. You have to establish a routine that works for you from the start. Having your life revolve around a new dog for a few months is one thing but if that is inconvenient to you then that is another entirely so make sure that you are happy with it above all else!



## Chapter 6 – Further Hints And Tips

Now that you have the basic information you need about the main three methods of potty training, you can read through them all before you select the best possible one for you and your dog. However, there are other elements of potty training, tidbits of information and tips that might prove to be helpful to you, especially if you are looking for a way to reinforce your training or alter it slightly to enhance your dog's responses.

The bullet points below should help you to figure out the best possible method of potty training for you so read on:

- Rewards – Praise and treats are two essential features of potty training. You need to employ the two to let your dog know when he or she has been good and is doing something that pleases you. Treats and praise should always be used as tools, no matter what methods of potty training you use because you cannot put a value on them. They will definitely help to speed up the toilet training process by letting your dog know exactly what the correct behaviors are.
- Spaying and Neutering – Spaying and neutering can help you when it comes to potty training your dog because it will prevent him or her from feeling the need to scent everything. I previously mentioned that my Terrier tried to pee up my leg during training. He also peed over everything else in sight so everyone knew that it was his territory. This is obviously a natural reaction because they want to keep other dogs out. As soon as he was neutered he stopped doing that. It could work for you too.
- Marking – Although dogs do tend to pee to mark their territory, they also mark out where to pee and will often do it time and again in the same places. This is not habit but rather because they have marked out an area to do their business in. Allow them to mark an area in your garden because that will automatically become the designated toilet spot and keep all business to a confined area!
- The Clicker – The clicker is another good tool to use when it comes to potty training because it can be used as a method of correction and as a command. You have to get your dog used to a clicker with treats but

when your dog is used to it, it can be used to help let him or her know when and where he or she is allowed to go to the toilet.

- Verbal Commands – This is a common technique because it can not only help you to tell your dog when to go to the toilet but can also help you to confirm that it is what he or she wants if you are not quite sure what a bout of restlessness means. I use “wee wee” with my dogs and they immediately head to the back door. However, “potty” is a common command, as is “doo doo” and “toilet”. Choose the one that best works for you and stick with it. Do not change the word after you have acquainted your dog with it or else you will not only confuse your dog but also end up ruining the potty training that you have completed so far.
- Punishment – This is a huge no-no when housebreaking your dog because it is counterproductive. Punishment will not only scare your dog but it will not correct the behavior at all. Instead, it will tell your dog that he or she is being naughty but will not let him or her know what action is wrong. As such, if you do catch your dog messing in your home then you should say “NO” in a calm but stern manner and put your dog outside immediately for a few minutes. If that does not work then try ignoring your dog because the lack of attention will make an impact. Also, if your dog feels that he or she is not getting enough attention and knows that going to the toilet inside will get attention then you may cause yourself more problems by punishing. Instead, combine these with praise when he or she has been good and done business in the correct place.
- Spontaneous Urination – This is when your puppy or dog gets excited or scared and leaks a little. You should never punish or draw attention to this because the simple fact is that they cannot help it. My Terrier does it now when we have been out for the day and return home or when fireworks are let off outside and he gets scared. It is completely natural and is literally just one of those things, like when we pee a little after laughing hard!



Using a combination of the methods outlined in earlier chapters and in the bulleted list above is always a good idea because, as stressed previously, every dog is different. You have to find a system that works well for you if you want to make potty training as stress-free an experience as possible.

Many of the above can be combined but do remember that if you are introducing new elements into your potty training routine then you should do so gradually. If you introduce a new element suddenly one day then it has the ability to completely upset all the hard work you have done so far and dogs of a nervous disposition may even have to be completely retrained. Patience is most definitely the key!

## Conclusion

So there you have it – a brief summary of the basic experience that you will have when housebreaking your new puppy or older dog. It can be an incredibly enjoyable bonding experience for both of you that can help to form a link between you that will last a lifetime. Never underestimate the shared experience because it will encourage your dog to see you as the pack leader and give him or her a sense of loyalty that can only be developed in a handful of ways.

This report has given you the basic tools you need to be able to potty train your dog effectively but there are still a few pointers that cannot be stressed enough when it comes to that (hopefully) one off experience:

- Get started as soon as possible. Potty training is not something that you can just go into a few days after letting your dog do its business wherever he or she pleases. It has to begin as soon as you walk into your home with your dog for the very first time.
- You should never have expectations as to how long it will take to fully potty train your dog because, as with all of us, every dog is different. Similarly, some breeds will take much longer to pick it up than others thanks to their innate nature so always have a little patience.
- If you do potty train more than one dog, remember that no two experiences are ever the same and you have to be able to adapt to suit each one individually. It really does not matter what your preferences are as you are the teacher and not the student, so to speak!
- Be prepared to get your hands dirty! No matter how ill cleaning up dog doo doo makes you feel, you will have to do it so get used to it!
- If one method does not work then just move onto another. Something will eventually work because every dog just wants to please his or her master so try, try and try again.

Finally, this report only outlines the basics. Whilst it gives you everything you need to know to get started, there are other comprehensive resources out there such as the [7 Day Potty Training Guide](#) that will help you in a more rounded way by giving you hints, tips and methods that are not covered here.

If you do not feel comfortable potty training your dog with only the basic information to hand then you can invest in the [special full length eBook](#) that covers all of the above and much more.

Similarly, the full length eBook is written by an expert in the field so it will offer a comprehensive insight into how you can potty train your dog, meet the problems head on and find solutions that work for you and your new dog quickly and easily.

Good luck and enjoy this experience because there is no better way to initially bond with your new dog!



Best regards,

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*For more information, please visit my website below;*

[www.dog-potty-training.info](http://www.dog-potty-training.info)

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