



TEACHER'S PET DOG TRAINING

MARY HIRT

(310) 391-6699

www.teacherspet.biz

mary@teacherspet.biz

Housetraining

Make a commitment to adhere to a strict potty regimen for at least two weeks and supervised freedom within the home for up to 12 weeks. Puppies are incapable of holding their urine until six months of age so you need to provide frequent opportunities for him to relieve himself until he is capable of “holding” it. Adult dogs who are having accidents in the home either have not completed a house training regimen or have a gastrointestinal or urinary issue. Rule this out before placing an adult dog on a housetraining regimen,

Let's begin

Get a Dog Crate that is large enough for the dog to comfortably lie down but not so large where he can relieve himself in a corner. This will become his sleeping area and resting area during the day.

Morning Regimen

When he wakes up, (NOT when you wake and have your cup of coffee), immediately whisk him outside to go potty. Make sure the exit from the home is quick, so he does not have an opportunity for a quick stop.

Once outside, be silent and wait for him to relieve himself. As he begins to urinate, softly say “potty,” so he begins to associate the word with an action, be careful not to startle him. Reward him when he completes his business with praise and play. If he has not peed AND pooped, he returns to the crate for 15 minutes and you try again.

Once completed, he can come in the home for a meal and play session, or he can go for a walk. Reserve sufficient time for your puppy to receive adequate exercise. Inside play should be about 15 minutes, then return outside for a potty break and wait about 15 minutes then return to his crate or outside.

Daily Regimen: Repeat 6 to 10 times per day.

Supervised Free-time: He must be closely supervised during indoor free time. Anytime you hear him begin to whine, or see him circle, sniff the floor, pant, or make attempts to wander away from you, whisk him back to the designated potty area and wait at least 15 minutes for him to relieve himself. Be watchful, take him out after he wakes from a nap, drinks water, chews a toy or completes playtime. Wait outside for at least 15 minutes for him to relieve himself, say “potty” and praise..

Unsupervised time must be spent outside or in the crate. In general, a puppy can be crated the same number of hours as their age in months.

At night: 30 minutes before his last outdoor potty break, remove water until the next morning. If he cannot sleep through the night without relieving himself, remove the water earlier the previous evening. If he continues to have difficulty, rule out any medical issue by seeing a vet. With time, your dog should be able to sleep uninterrupted throughout the night.

After two weeks, he should have the regimen mastered and knows to go potty outside but not know that going in the home is a “No-No.” So maintain close supervision while roaming free indoors. If he does have an accident, don't scold when you find the mess since he will not make the association between you seeing his mess and his action related to it, and don't scare him with a severe reaction while he is going potty since this may teach him that he must relieve himself away from you. Instead use a sharp toned voice to say “Aaah!” strong enough to grab his attention and pause his business, then whisk him outside.

Be consistent, be vigilant A dog is considered housebroken if he has not relieved himself in the home over a period of 12 weeks, which generally doesn't occur until they are about six months of age.

Reference: Dr. Sophia Yin, DMVM, MS. “How to Behave so Your Dog Behaves”