

**PAWTENTIAL DOG TRAINING  
AND BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION**

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## **HOUSETRAINING YOUR PUPPY**

**Please read the Delta Society's handout on Housetraining**

**Below are some additional tips from Pawtential Family Dog Training:**

**Number One rule:** PUPPIES MUST NOT ROAM FREELY THROUGH THE HOUSE UNTIL HOUSETRAINED!!!!

**Number Two rule:** If a puppy toilets in the house it is mum and/or dads fault for letting the pup roam freely. IT IS NEVER THE PUPS FAULT. Scold yourself, not the puppy.

Wherever your pup toilets most, will become the area it associates with toileting. Housetraining is quickest the more toileting that happens outside i.e. if you can manage to get all toileting happening outside your pup will catch on quicker and actually prefer to go outside as this is the only area it connects with toileting. Every time your pup has an accident in the house, toilet training takes a slide backwards.

### **Short Term Confinement**

This is for when you are at home during the day. The puppy is placed in a small area only big enough for bed and water. (See Crate Training below). A puppy trained well by its mum will never toilet near its bed, food or water. Also, natural instinct tells them to toilet away from the den rather than attract predators to any vulnerable mum and litter. (Exceptions can be pet shop puppies that are forced to sleep, eat, poo, pee in the one small area. These pups can be difficult to houstrain depending on how long they were at the pet shop). Regularly, throughout your time at home, take the pup outside to where you would like it to toilet.

### **Long Term Confinement**

This is an area to safely confine your pup while you are away from home or overnight. Bed and water should be in one corner of the room as the pup will want to toilet away from this area. Puppy pads are available or simply newspaper can be placed in the opposite corner. Toilet your puppy just before you go to bed even if it means waking the pup. Toilet again very first thing in the morning.

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### **Crate Training**

A crate, or playpen, can be used for short term confinement or overnight but must not be used to keep the puppy for more than a couple of hours. If using a crate overnight, the crate must be placed where you can hear when the puppy is restless. The puppy can be taken outside to the toilet once or twice during the night. The pup won't need to eliminate as often at night due to lack of activity slowing down metabolism.

Your pup must not be left in a crate long enough for toileting to occur. A crate can be a great way to keep the pup confined in the house in between outdoor excursions to the toilet. The crate can be moved to whatever room the family is in. Toys and chews can be given to the pup to keep it occupied.

Only remove the pup from the crate when the pup is quiet so your pup does not learn to whinge and whine to get what it wants. However, you do need to distinguish between restless whining that will indicate your puppy needs the toilet. Rather than wait for the puppy to start whining, remove the pup while it is quiet and take outside for a play and toilet session.

Introduce time in the crate gradually, making it a rewarding experience by supplying treats, toys and feeding the pup in the crate. Introduce door closure by placing a treat inside the crate with the door closed. When the pup is telling you "let me in, I want the treat", open the door. Your pup soon loves going into its crate.

Crates can be taken on holidays or out and about as a home away from home for your puppy.

Please read the Delta Society's handout on housetraining for more detailed information and contact me for further help in housetraining your puppy.

Lyn