

Housebreaking 101

Take all the responsibility for going outside to the bathroom off the dog or puppy. All of the humans in the household should be accountable for that.

Management:

1. Keep an eye on your dog.
2. Use training tools like the leash or a crate in the house.
3. Baby gates can keep the dog in a smaller area and easier to watch.

The magic age when a puppy will physically be able to control the bodily functions is about 5 months old. Until then it is up to the people involved to manage and be watchful.

Feeding schedule:

1. Set down food and give 5 minutes for the dog to eat and pick it back up if not finished.
2. Restrict water intake in the evening.

Bathroom words – Use a phrase like "**hurry up**" or "**get it done**".

-> First week – When the pup is outside and actually performing the duty say the phrase you have selected. Link the chosen words to the behavior of going to the bathroom outside.

Be careful not to say "Good dog" as soon as your pet starts or they may think "Good dog" are the bathroom words.

-> Second week – Start to use your phrase and your dog should understand the mission at hand ?

Going outside

- Take your dog out regularly....after naps, eating, playing, training... you get the idea.

- Five minutes is long enough for some action.
- You must go outside with your student and watch what happens.

- o If the puppy goes she can come back in and have some supervised free time.
- o If there is no action after five minutes come back inside and keep the puppy on the leash or in the crate and try again in 15 minutes or so.