



## Puppy Potty Training

Potty training your puppy can be one of the most difficult things you need to do with your little one. We follow a very structured program when teaching a new dog or puppy to potty outside. Sticking to this structure will help ensure that your new dog learns to potty outside in no time at all. The key to this program is crate training, frequent potty trips outside, lots of praise and treats. Most dogs will learn to potty outside within a week if you stick to this program. Give us a call if you need assistance with this and good luck!

### Potty Training Tips

1. Have a crate that is big enough for your dog to stand up and turn around in. If your dog can run around or play in the crate, it's too big. Your dog will potty in one end of the crate and sleep at the other.
2. Your puppy can hold its potty based on their age. Just add 2 hours to your puppy's age in months. If your puppy is 8 weeks old (2 months) add 2 hours. Your puppy can hold off for 4 hours before he needs to potty. Yes, this includes during the night, which means that you will have to get up in the middle of the night to let your dog out to potty. You will also have to come home during the day to let your dog out to potty. You can pay someone to do this and is the main reason why trainers offer potty training and boarding. It's also why it is so expensive!
3. During nighttime potties, do not play with your dog. Have them potty and then put them right back into the crate. If you play with your puppy, they will want to keep playing and will keep you up. Keep your dog on a leash so that you are not playing "catch me if you can" in the middle of the night.
4. Your puppy will need to potty about 15-30 minutes after eating. Be sure you potty your dog before you leave the house. Your new routine should be (this is the structured part):
  - Bring your dog out of the crate and go right outside for potty time. You may need to bring the crate to the outside door and let your dog go right from the crate to outside
  - Potty your dog (definitely pee and hopefully poop)
  - Feed your dog
  - Train or walk your dog
  - Water your dog
  - Play for 15-20 minutes
  - Potty your dog (you should see pee and poop)
  - Crate time until next potty



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Dog Training

5. If you have time, try to potty your dog twice before you leave for work, especially if he drank a lot of water
6. When playing with your puppy, they will want to pee more often. Take them outside every 15-20 minutes to potty.
7. Stop all food and water by 8pm. Feed your puppy three times a day. Do not free feed your puppy. If you do, they will be peeing and pooping all day long and you will never get potty training down
8. If you can't watch your puppy, put him in the crate. When you are not watching your puppy, they will pee in the house!
9. Stick to a schedule
10. Don't use a doggie door with your puppy. They will need to learn how to build stamina holding their bladder. You also need to be there to see when they potty and reward them when they potty outside
11. If you take your puppy outside and they don't potty, bring them inside and put them back into the crate. 10-15 minutes later, take them outside again. Do this until your dog potties outside.
12. Make sure your puppy poops before bedtime
13. **DO NOT PUNISH YOUR PUPPY FOR ACCIDENTS IN THE HOUSE!** If your puppy potties in the house, it's your fault, not theirs. They and you need to stick to a routine. Be patient and calm, they will get the routine down.

Good Luck! Call Us If You Need Any Assistance!

[www.Prairieoaksdogtraining.com](http://www.Prairieoaksdogtraining.com)

Phone- 580-678-5256

Email: prairieoakstraining@gmail.com