

Published based on [Housetraining - Having the Patience to Housetrain a Puppy](#)

# **Housetraining - Having the Patience to Housetrain a Puppy**



## **Housetraining-The Good, the Bag and the Ugly**

Welcome! In this issue we are going to discuss one of the most difficult aspects of welcoming a new dog into your family-**housetraining!** While **housetraining is often an issue with puppies**, it can also be a **problem with older dogs** at times as well.

One of the very first training exercises you will want to work on with a **new puppy or an adult dog moving into your home is-housetraining!** **Housetraining is indeed a real test of your patience**, but it is one of the first opportunities that you and your puppy will have to bond.

**Housetraining is a lot of hard work**, but it is necessary. You will need to have a lot of **patience-and maybe even a sense of humor-as you train your dog**. But don't worry, after all of your hard work, you will **have a dog that is housetrained!**

When it comes to **housetraining, every dog succeeds at a different rate**. It takes some dogs only a few weeks to learn, where it may take other dogs several months.

Here is perhaps the **most important thing to know about housetraining:** The rate at which the **puppy succeeds** is determined by the **amount of consistent training** that you as the owner give him. Good **quality dog training resources** can help you to make this process much easier.

You should begin **housetraining your puppy** as soon as he arrives home, which is generally around 7 or 8 weeks. It is important to understand that he does not have full sphincter muscle control, so **puppies are not able to hold their bladder and bowel movements for very long periods of time**.

### **Training the Older Dog**

If you are **bringing an older dog into your home** that has not yet been **housetrained**, it may be more of a challenge. Older dogs already have developed their habits, so it will take time to retrain him. However, it can be done!

All of the lessons below can be applied to both the younger and older dog. It may just take longer with the older dog, **so be patient**.

Additionally, **older dogs eliminate fewer times than puppies** throughout the day, so you have **fewer opportunities in the day to train him**.

### **[Things to Know about Housetraining](#)**

Before you begin **housetraining with your dog**, there are some basics that you should know. Including:

## Where Dogs Won't Eliminate

**Dogs develop natural preferences for where they want to eliminate.** For example, **dogs usually don't want to eliminate where they eat, sleep, and spend their time.**

You may be wondering "**So why does my dog eliminate on the rug?**" The reason is probably because he was expected to "hold it" too long and wasn't let outside. Or, he may have gotten overly excited about something.

## Physical Capacity to "Hold It"

**Young puppies will need to eliminate every one to two hours during the day** when they are active. If your pup has been **eating, drinking, playing, or exercising a lot, he may need to go even more.** They may or may not be able to hold it throughout the night. Generally, **the younger the puppy is, the less he can hold it.**

**Older dogs that are healthy** have the ability to hold it for **six to eight hours during the day and eight to ten hours over night.**

Then, **once you see a pattern, let him out 10-15 minutes before that scheduled time.** Of course, he may need to **go out more if he has been eating, drinking, playing, or exercising more frequently.**

If the situation arises when you **need to leave your dog for a longer period than which he can hold it,** don't keep him in his crate. Rather, put him **in a small room such as a laundry room or bathroom** where he can eliminate in an area on newspaper if he needs to, and **still keep his sleeping and food area separate.**

This is the conclusion to this issue of our newsletter, but make sure you watch for our next issue because we will be discussing more [critical elements involved in dog training](#). You can also find more information in the resource box below.

All the best until next time!

Sharda Baker

Sharda Baker has published several dog ebook and audios. [Click here](#) for more dog training help and advice.

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