# CREATE A FOOLPROOF HOUSE BREAKING PLAN FOR YOUR PUPPY...

EVEN IF YOU NEVER
TRAINED A DOG

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# YOUR FOOLPROOF PUPPY HOUSEBREAKING PLAN

Hi there! I'm Marilyn Mele, a professional dog trainer with more than 30 years experience helping dog and puppy owners like you. I teach owners how to enjoy training their pets using smart, positive, and proven training systems.

# YOUR FOOLPROOF PUPPY HOUSEBREAKING PLAN

is responsible for reliably housebreaking countless puppies. You can successfully housebreak your puppy with this system in a very short time.



With this plan built into your daily routine, you can relax and feel confident that your puppy is set up for success.

Without it, you're likely to suffer the frustration of cleaning up after a puppy who hasn't been taught what YOU want him to do. You CAN have the dog of your dreams - without the overwhelm.

Let's get started!

## YOUR PLAN HAS 3 STEPS

### Step 1 - Confinement

Every puppy should learn that confinement is a part of his daily routine. Respecting boundaries, taking responsibility, and waiting for permission are important outcomes of Crate Training which supports successful housebreaking.



Step 3 - Supervised Play

When you're certain that your puppy has finished his "business" he will have earned a period of supervised play time. It can be inside or outside, He can interact with you or entertain himself with a toy. Just like Steps 1 & 2, Step 3 has a defined beginning and end.



Step 2 - Exercise

Immediately following each period of confinement, your puppy must be taken outside on a leash to his potty spot. In this context, "Exercise" means walking your puppy so that he can relieve himself in a specific location under your supervision.



## CONFINEMENT

No responsible parent would let a toddler roam the house unsupervised. As a puppy parent, you are responsible for confining your puppy within safe boundaries when you are unable to directly supervise him. This includes the times when you are away from home as well as those times when you are busy with tasks at home that take your full attention. In addition, before a puppy is completely housebroken, the best place for him to sleep at night is in his crate. With proper Crate Training, your puppy will soon come to choose his crate as his happy place.

### Using a crate allows you to be proactive and not reactive.

Nothing weakens your training plan more than wondering how to react after the fact. It's too late to change what's already happened.

The solution is to follow a plan that anticipates and prevents problems.

Except for overnight, confinement of your puppy in his crate should not exceed 3 - 4 hours at one time. Confinement times will vary throughout the day depending on your schedule.

Crate time is nap time. Puppies need a lot of sleep.

Immediately after waking up, your puppy must go outside to potty.



### **EXERCISE**

First thing in the morning and Exercising your puppy on a other times when your puppy comes out of his crate, he must be immediately taken outside on a leash to his potty spot. Keep him in that area so that your puppy will associate relieving himself with going to his potty spot. Establishing a consistent routine is essential. A neutral attitude lets your puppy know this isn't play time yet. When your puppy is actually relieving himself, you can use a phrase such as "go potty". When he's finished, praise your puppy. Food treats aren't necessary.

leash will keep his mind on the task and prevent him from turning potty time into play time. Using your leash lets you keep your puppy in his potty spot and better manage this step in the plan so that your puppy won't become distracted.

Puppies need good leash manners. Going for walks can be fun for both dog and human. Your puppy will respect the leash if you use it correctly, not just for restraining him. When he finishes, your puppy has earned his play time!



### SUPERVISED PLAY

# After your puppy has finished outside, he has earned his indoor supervised play time.

This is a good time to feed him, but let him finish eating before he plays. Your puppy will probably need to be taken outside again after eating and after lots of active playing.

Learn to recognize your puppy's body language signals that predict his need to go out.

Observe when he takes a drink and take him out 15 - 30 minutes later. Supervise your puppy closely and adjust his schedule according to his needs.

Your puppy can also play more active games outside, or go for a longer walk with

you. Keep in mind that your puppy is growing and be VERY careful to limit physical exercise that could injure his fragile bones and joints. Avoid impact on his joints, muscles and tendons.

Create a good balance between play that's interactive with you and play that's self entertainment, like chewing.

After play time give him one more opportunity to potty.

Then it's back to crate time.



## **TIPS**

Create a written log where you can keep track of your puppy's progress. Every person in the household who is responsible for taking part in the training should make notes in the log. Set up columns for: Day, Time (From-To), Activity (Confinement, Exercise, Play), Results when taken out to potty, Person's Name.

Create a daily schedule that follows the 3 Steps in the plan IN ORDER. Don't progress to the next step until your puppy has been successful with the current step. In other words, no supervised play time until the puppy finishes with potty time. If he doesn't potty within a reasonable time outside, he must GO BACK to Step 1, Confinement in his crate, for 5 - 10 minutes. Then try again outside. No potty, no play.

The lengths of time for confinement and play will vary throughout the day and you should adapt those times to your daily routine.

Make an effort to be consistent with your schedule 7 days a week, even though weekends may be on a different schedule for you.

To achieve faster results, you must be consistent and follow your schedule daily. Keep good records and tweak the parts of your schedule that didn't work well enough. It may take a few days of trial and error, to create your ideal personal plan.

### **TIPS**

### "Accidents"

If your puppy has an "accident" during the training, remember that it's YOUR failure, not his.

Maybe you missed the puppy's predictive behavior.

Maybe you failed to respond soon enough.

Maybe you didn't follow the schedule.

Maybe the schedule needed to be adjusted.

What should you do about the "accident"?

Clean it up. Period. Punishment is reactive, and too late to teach your puppy anything except to fear you.

Adjust your schedule.

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