

House Soiling – Adult

Please assume that your new dog is NOT house trained yet. This will make you much more patient and tolerant of accidents. Should the dog be house trained, you will have a very pleasant surprise.

The basics of house training any dog is PREVENTION, PREVENTION, PREVENTION!
So.....

1) Do NOT bring your new dog home and give it the run of the house. Keep it in a crate, tethered to your chair, or umbilical corded to your waist. I do not know how long you will have to keep this up; it depends on how soon your dog figures out the system.

2) Have your dog sleep in a crate in your bedroom at night. Take water away 2 hours before bed time. Take (not send) it out to go potty just before bed. If it fusses in the crate, tell it to be quiet (say this quietly). If it keeps fussing, put a towel over the crate, like covering a bird. If that doesn't work, move the crate, dog and all, to another room and go back to bed. Fussing is not rewarded. The choices are to be quiet & get to sleep in your room in the crate, or to fuss & sleep in the crate away from you. The dog gets to choose.

3) Your new dog is old enough to stay in his crate all night without a potty call. Unless it has eaten something that gave it screaming diarrhea, you get to sleep all night!

4) Your dog will most likely poop within 20 minutes after a meal (this varies from dog to dog), so figure out your dog's time frame). It will most likely pee within 20 minutes of a large drink of water, also first thing in the morning. I try not to expect any dog to hold its bladder more than 4 waking hours. If you think it's time to pee or poop, take (not send) the dog out, tell it to "go potty" and count to 60. If the dog does what you went out to do, praise it lavishly but calmly, then reward it with some free time in the house. If it hasn't gone by the time you hit number 60, it goes back on the tether, umbilical cord or in the crate. Dogs quickly catch on to this process.

5) As your dog becomes more civilized, it can have more freedom. If at any time the accidents happen again, start over.

6) Never let the dog see you clean up its accidents in the house. It's very hard to look like a pack leader while you're down on your knees cleaning up pee or poop!