

Tips for feeding 4-6 month old puppies/ housebreaking solutions

Feng Shui with Fido™ Philosophy: Time feeding your 4 to 6 month old puppy is really important to housebreaking. Most pups gobble their food but the key here is to feed them in a gated area! Doing so will help your puppy not get distracted by family members and other household pets, while eating. Feeding your puppy twice a day, measuring the food, and feeding them at the same time everyday will help the housebreaking process succeed.

get: A bowl, a baby gate or a corral (aka exercise pen) to create a feeding space during this training process. This allows you to section off part of your kitchen or hallway, and feed your puppy in this area. Also, download a Feng Shui with Fido™ Potty schedule and the Feng Shui with Fido™ training tip "How to reprimand your dog: housebreaking".

use: Feeding your puppy in this gated space allows your puppy to focus on the task at hand: eating. It also allows your puppy the security to eat and not feel the need to protect his food from children or other pets.



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when: Choose an (AM) and (PM) feeding time. Check with your local vet to find out the proper food and amount to feed your growing puppy. Don't worry if your 5 or 6 month-old puppy doesn't finish all the food in the second feeding. Sometimes teething creates a lack of appetite. If you are worried, always check with your vet.

where: The gated or corralled space should be located in a central area of your house.

How much food? This depends on the size of your pup. Check with your vet about the quantity and what food is best for your dog. Use a measuring cup to measure the proper amount of food for each meal. This way you know your puppy's nutritional needs are being met and you won't be overfeeding him.

How:

1. Use a leash to get your puppy into the gated area. This allows you to guide your puppy rather than coax him.
2. Use a happy voice and walk him into the gated area. Gently lift up on the leash while saying "sit." Repeat this until he does so. The leash and your friendly voice help create eye contact from you to your dog and shows him how to please you. Take your time in



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the beginning and this will become a pattern that happens on it's own. For now, be consistent with the leash.

3. Then say "sit" and "wait." Back up, close the gate and take off the leash.
4. Prepare the puppy food and then serve it in the gated area.
5. Put the food down for 20 minutes only. Time feeding your pup trains him to eat in one sitting and not graze. This training is really important to the housebreaking schedule and contributes to when and how he learns to go potty.
6. After he is finished eating, lean over the gate and put the leash back on. Say "sit" and "wait." Slowly open the gate. Repeat the word "wait."
7. If your puppy does not wait and wants to rush out of the gated area, give a quick tug on the leash and simultaneously say the word "NO". Repeat "sit" and "wait" and slowly open the gate. When you have eye contact say the release command "OK!" Then take your pup outside to go potty! Oh... by the way, say the word "outside" so that your dog associates it with the action of going out and going potty all at the same time!



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why: Feeding your new puppy in this manner creates a positive pattern in your daily life. It teaches your puppy manners, to eat his meal in peace and in one sitting. Time feeding your puppy in this manner is also essential to teaching him to go potty outside.



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