

## Tips for solving destructive chewing

**Feng Shui with Fido™ Philosophy:** All dogs need to chew! Chewing is a function, not a behavior. What a dog chews on will become a behavior overtime. This means that you, the dog owner, has the power to teach your dog to chew on the right things!

**get:** A baby gate, or corral (aka exercise pen) and the right chew bones for your dog's age! Download the Feng Shui with Fido™ training tip "How to reprimand your dog: chewing".

**use:** The baby gate or corral in a central area in your home. This process of creating a space teaches your dog to learn to focus on chewing a chew bone in one area without distractions. Using the baby gate is helpful for gating off traditional doorways and the corral can be free standing and be used in open spaces.

**when:** Gate your dog for bone chewing time while you are home, at first. After your dog is safely trained to relax in the gated area, you can practice leaving. Decide when to gate your dog and create a bone chewing time during a time when it's suits your daily activities. For example, I'm



# fengshuiwithfido™

---

going to have a friend over and I want my dog to learn to relax. Gate your dog prior to your guest coming over and give your pup a delicious new chew bone to chew in his gated area! This way your dog gets to hear your guest come to the door and enter, but not be able to escape through the front door (as you open it) or jump on your guest as a greeting. Bone chewing time while being gated allows your dog to see out and still feel like he/she is apart of the family, while learning to chew on the right things. This will become a positive pattern and eventually a gate is not needed.

**where:** Choose a central part of your home. It could be a hallway, within a kitchen area, or even a spare bathroom. Just make sure you choose a space that's safe and not too remote.

**put:** Chew bone, bowl of water and a comfy bed in this area.

**why:** Gating and crating creates a small den area for your dog. This is a safety zone for your dog within your house and teaches him to relax. It also helps integrate your dog into your household and with your kids in a safe manner.



# fengshuiwithfido™

---

## How to get "in" to the gated area:

1. Put on leash.
2. Say, "Let's Go!" in a happy voice.
3. Guide your dog into the gated area.
4. Gently lift up on leash and say, "Sit."
5. Then say, "Wait."
6. Back out of the gated area and say, "Wait."
7. If your dog does not wait, give a quick tug on the leash and say "NO! No!" in a firm voice. Then repeat, "Sit" and "Wait" (in a nice slow voice).
8. Slowly close the gate, then repeat, "Wait" and take off the leash and training collar.
9. Make sure he has a chew bone and water.

**Why this process of how to gate your dog helps create an understanding:** This process of "how to gate your dog" is the training tip that teaches your dog to wait and relax. Eventually, this becomes a pattern and the gate is not needed. Until then, using the leash to guide your dog helps solve anxiety for your dog that may make him chew bad things and destroy things in your home. Teaching your dog to be separate from you creates a sense of security for your dog and teaches him how to be alone and yet well behaved in the house.



# fengshuiwithfido™

---

## How to get "out" of the gated area:

1. Put on leash.
2. Lift up on leash as you say, "Sit."
3. Open gate while saying, "Wait."
4. Repeat, "Wait" in a nice, calm voice.
5. If your dog does not wait, give a quick tug on the leash and say, "NO! NO! NO!" Then, "Sit" and, "Wait."
6. Then say, "OK!" This word is the release command from being gated.
7. Then say, "Outside!" (meaning "Go potty!") Then take to potty area.

## Fido Facts for Gating

- Dogs are den animals. This is not a punishment area. This process is meant to teach your dog to chill out, chew a bone, and hold the urge to go to the bathroom. (Think: Doggie Four Seasons Hotel in Hawaii)
- Music helps to condition your dog to relax. Gating should be done while you are home too!
- Apply the gating process in 20 to 40 min. increments several times a day. Then increase the time slowly to an hour or longer. Make sure, though, that your dog has been exercised and gone potty before you do the gating exercise.



# fengshuiwithfido™

---

- Always use the leash when getting your dog out of the gated area and go directly outside while saying the word, "Outside!" to go potty.
- Even if your dog is not being gated for housebreaking reasons, it is still important to always take your dog directly outside to potty after being gated.
- Gating/ crating is a temporary training process. It helps with housebreaking and teaching your dog to chew the right things as well as integrating children/other animals safely overtime with your new dog. This process of gating and crating eventually teaches your dog to "wait" without having to use the gate or crate. This allows total freedom in your house for your dog without him getting into trouble. The training tip teaches trust for both you and your dog!

**How to select the right chew bones for your dog:** Matching your dog's size, age, and chewing needs is the key. Chew bones are supposed to be a tough, jaw satisfying hobby, not a just a play toy.



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

© 2010 Paws For A Minute Productions, Inc. All Rights Reserved.  
Unauthorized duplication or transmission is expressly prohibited.