

Housebreaking tips for 4 month old puppies & older

Feng Shui with Fido™ Philosophy: The main thing to know is that housebreaking a puppy happens in stages! Crate training is essential to this process. Dogs are den animals and they feel safe in small spaces. However, you have to teach your new puppy slowly to like this crate area. Also, during this phase of housebreaking and crate training, it's important to incorporate the additional steps of time feeding and using a potty schedule, which all together teach your dog a daily routine.

Remember, during this stage the crate needs to move to a different area in the house. Yup, since your puppy is now ready to be crated all night long you can move the crate from the gated area to your bedroom. This is Feng Shui with Fido!™ The reason for moving the crate around is to get your new puppy used to relaxing in different spots in your house and learning the route outside to go potty. It also allows him to relax and get used to movements in your house and different surroundings. This process allows your puppy to have a routine and experience other parts of the house.



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get: Things to get while crate training your puppy

1. Two 6 ft. nylon or leather leashes. Keep one leash near his gated space. The other leash is best kept near his crate in order to guide him out from each area outdoors.
2. A baby gate or corral (aka exercise pen) as a daytime alternative to crating.
3. Crate
4. Crate pad to make crating comfy.
5. Proper chew bones
6. Toys
7. 2 bowls for water and food. Time feed your puppy 2 x a day to help the feeding schedule assist the potty training.
8. Download a Feng Shui with Fido™ Potty schedule.
9. Download the Feng Shui with Fido™ training tip "How to reprimand your dog: housebreaking".
10. Download the Feng Shui with Fido™ training tip "Tips for feeding 4 to 6 month old puppies".

use: The whole purpose behind crate training your pup is to teach him to hold the urge to go to the bathroom and know the route to outside. If your puppy has never been crated before, I would recommend leaving the crate with the door off in the gated or corralled area as a space to keep him while you are doing other things. This allows you new pup to get used to the crate by naturally using it as a



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den rather than being locked into it suddenly. Once this becomes a great place to hang out, at the age of 4 months, your puppy is ready to learn to sleep in the crate all night long. By doing so he learns your routine, is able to learn to hang out in different areas of your house and be taken out of the crate by a leash and guided in a happy way outside to go potty. You can also use crate time during the day for an hour or so for bone chewing time!

Never! Do not ever use the crate to punish your puppy! This is not a "time out" place. Ever!

1. The crate is meant to be a comfy condo and should be the best place to hang out. Your puppy must be slowly socialized to the crate, first, before shutting the crate door all night. If your puppy is not used to the crate you must put the crate in a gated or corralled space and teach your pup to naturally den. Leave the crate door off and practice gating your dog for a few weeks. * Note: see gating quick tip from the menu.

2. Never leave your puppy crated for too long. You must be sure of your puppy's pooping and peeing schedule and have the pattern down, before leaving your puppy crated for longer periods during the day. Use the Feng Shui with Fido™ Potty schedule to determine the pattern. Exercise your puppy often with frequent free time breaks in the



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yard and house after going potty.

when: Crate train your puppy according to your daily schedule. You need to take your pup outside (on a leash) to go potty and then guide your dog into his crate about ½ hour before you go to bed. Always take your puppy out of the crated space on a leash, guiding him outdoors saying 'outside', indicating to go potty, first thing in the morning. You can also crate your puppy occasionally for an hour, here and there, creating a bone chewing time when you're at home and busy doing other things.

how: Make sure your puppy has been gated and loves his crate over the last few weeks. Your puppy should be between 14 to 16 weeks old. Once your puppy loves his crate on his own (with the crate door off) while hanging out in the gated or corralled space he is ready to be crated all night long. Remember the crate has served as the puppy's comfy bed for several weeks.

1. Put your puppy on a leash.
2. Take your puppy outside to go potty.
3. In a happy voice say the words "let's go" and guide your puppy into the crate. Then pull gently up on the leash and guide him to sit.
4. Give you puppy a teething toy to chew or a safe chew bone.



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5. Then repeat the word "Wait" as you take off the leash and slowly shut the crate door.

where: Move the crate to a different location of the house. This is an important thing to do over the next few months. You can start by crating your pup in your bedroom and in a few weeks or a month, move the crate to the hallway, living room or den. This helps your puppy get used to being in the entire house during this training process. Moving the crate also helps your puppy get used to being in different areas while learning to be mellow and getting used to everybody. Otherwise, your puppy is only used to being free in the house and will have a hard time when you leave, not to mention destroy everything. This way he learns how to be included in the house yet has rules and a schedule.

put: A crate pad on the bottom of the crate to make it comfy. Also allow a few toys and a chew bone in the crate to relax your puppy. *Note: Just check the size of the chew bones and toss if it's too small. When crating your puppy in your bedroom with you at night, a water bowl in the crate is not necessary.

why: Crating your puppy during the ages of 4- 6 months (sometimes longer) is a great way to teach your dog to relax at times and teach him to become a loving, trust



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worthy, calm indoor dog. All dogs love to spend time outside but not all day and night. They want to be with you. Crate training is only a phase to teach your dog to go potty outside and get used to being inside and well behaved. Crating should be done for short periods of time several times a day and all night, with lots of free time in the house with you and exercise walks rolled up into your daily life.



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