



Housetraining Plan for Puppies and Dogs who need a bit more help

- Use this plan in conjunction with the main Housetraining leaflet. That means following the young puppy routine to begin with and only increasing the time between visits to the garden when you know the dog is getting the idea.
- It is a good idea to shampoo all carpets that a dog has been to the toilet on and thoroughly clean hard floors and rugs so you can have a fresh start (or as many starts as it takes!). The carpet cleaners you can hire are good because you can usually put biological laundry liquid in those. It's just to stop them going again where they can smell they've been before. You can also then rinse the area with solutions of white vinegar, then surgical spirit. The house smells like a laundry, then a chip shop, then a dentists but it really helps!
- Restrict access to carpeted areas, carpets hold the smell which is unpleasant for people and encourages the dog to go indoors again and again.
- Remove training pads/newspaper during the day when you are there. Pads and newspaper can confuse the issue because dogs can't easily distinguish the right place to go i.e. pads give the message that it's ok to go indoors.
- Collect urine and faeces from indoor puddles and 'mark' an area outside. You may need to do this a couple of times a week while still training.

- Go out with your dog every time if possible, on lead to that area, treat any business performed outside, using favourite treats and fuss.
- Clean accidents up with biological cleaner diluted with water at 40 degrees+, either laundry liquid solution (Tesco value one is cheap and less perfumed than the main brands) or a specialist cleaner from vet (not pet shop).
- Avoid bleach and rinse away disinfectant thoroughly (both can encourage soiling/wetting).
- Put the dog's bed over the place where an accident was, or put her food bowl there, or scatter treats there or play a game there - or all of those! This helps to change the dog's association of the area - play, food and sleep areas are separate to toilet areas in a dog's 'programming'.
- Make a diary of the indoor accidents; see if there is a pattern. Write down the time, the weather outside, who was around, what was happening, when/what she last ate - you never know there may be a particular trigger.
- Practise not being cross either with voice, body language or anything. If you catch her in the act, interrupt but don't punish, and take her straight outside and praise her for being outside even if she doesn't go - high value food treats if she does.
- Use a large crate at night with separate sleep and toilet area (see toilet training leaflet in your puppy pack). If you don't use a crate, just put newspaper down near the door.
- When a dog is older than a year and therefore you know for sure she should be physically capable of holding it all night, you could put her in a crate so as to make the most of the fact that dogs don't like to soil their beds. If this is done too

early - before a dog is physically able to hold it all night, they are forced to go in their bed which is hugely distressing.