

Melrakki Cotons

Toilet and Crate Training your Puppy

Indoor training

Toilet training should be quite a simple process, as long as you take the time and trouble to get into a good routine.

While your puppy has been growing up it has been used to relieving him/herself on a puppy pad, and I would suggest that you continue to use these until your puppy has got into a routine in your home. Please be prepared for mishaps and ensure that you have several pads spread around your room. Eventually you will be able to reduce the number of pads to one once your puppy has got him/herself in to a routine.

Never scold your puppy should any mishaps occur, just say never mind and place your puppy onto a pad and use a cue word like, “pee pee”, “wee wees” or “poo poos” depending on what he or she had done and then praise your puppy even if he or she does not do anything.

You may at times have to leave your puppy on his/her own. I would suggest that you take him or her to the puppy pad and encourage him/her to go using your usual command. Praise him or her no matter what happens. Upon coming back home your puppy will most likely want to relieve him or herself immediately and therefore you should ensure you take him/her to the puppy pad to do so, praising him all the time. He or she will eventually get the message.

Remember your puppy is very intelligent and will want to please you and he or she will learn that the puppy pad is a good place to be.

Please remember that a puppy will not be clean immediately and it will take time and patience on your part, but eventually you will be rewarded with well toilet trained dog.

**The key to good in home toilet training is PRAISE, PRAISE AND PRAISE AGAIN.
Never scold no matter how difficult it is.**

Outdoor training

Once your puppy has got into a routine in your home of relieving him/herself in the area where you want them to go, you will want to think about training them to relieve him/herself in your garden.

To do this, choose a general location that is easy to clean up afterward. Then use the key words you have already practice for indoor training.

Remember timing is everything and you will need to remember that a puppy’s bladder needs to be emptied every one to three hours. Your puppy will more than likely want to relieve him or herself after the following events:

- Waking in the morning
- Eating

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- Playing or training
- Being left alone
- Prior to bedtime

Remember if you allow your puppy to relieve him or herself on the lawn he or she will always do this, so if you do not want them to pee up you prize flowers etc choose an area of hard surface. This will also assist when cleaning up as well.

The key to good outdoor training is PRAISE, PRAISE AND PRAISE AGAIN. Never scold no matter how difficult it is.

Crate Training

There will come a time when you've got to leave your puppy alone. You can either put your puppy in the kitchen or you might consider crate training while you're out (or out of sight). Choose a crate that is big enough for your puppy to lie down in stretch out and is big enough to be able to move around. I would recommend a metal crate that has side and front doors for easy access. Croft Crates are a good product.

Many puppies eventually find such areas reassuring and view their crate as a cozy niches, safe havens from the world. This can also cut down on anxiety in your dog when you are out and will help stop destruction in your home. The best way to achieve a happy crated dog is to make it fun for your puppy:

1. Begin at mealtime, making a game of tossing kibble pieces into the kennel. This ensures she has a positive experience with her crate.
2. Place her in when your puppy is tired, but leave the door open so that he or she can get out when he or she want to.
3. Place your puppy's favorite toy in the crate so that he or she feels comfortable to be there.
4. Slowly extend the amount of time, but never ask him or her to stay in it for longer than he or she can hold his or her bladder or bowels.

If you must keep him or her in a crate for extended periods of time then please ensure he or she has ample room to move around in and that there is an area away from the sleeping area where he or she can relieve him or herself without fouling his or her sleeping area. It is said that an area of 15 to 30 square foot should be sufficient for this purpose).

However, you must ensure that there is ample water for your puppy while in the crate.

Please try not to leave your dog for more than 6 hours at the most.

We trust you find the above to be of assistance to you, but should you have any queries please feel free to call us.