

How to use this Housetraining Log

This plan has two goals:

- 1) Maximize the number of rewards you give your dog for peeing or pooping in an appropriate place.
- 2) Prevent your dog from peeing or pooping in any inappropriate places.

Create your Dog's Potty Training Schedule

1) Divide your dog's schedule into PLAYPEN and CRATE segments. Mark the hours when someone is available to potty train your puppy as CRATE hours. Mark the hours when no one is available in the PLAYPEN column.

2) Add a SCHEDULED POTTY TRIP any time they go into their crate. Schedule an additional potty trip for each additional hour they are in their crate.

3) Write down the name/initials of the person who will be responsible for taking the dog to the toilet at the scheduled time.

You are now done creating your Dog's Potty Training Schedule. You can photocopy and reuse this schedule daily.

Use your Puppy's Potty Schedule

Every time your dog has a scheduled potty trip:

1) Go to your dog's crate, open the door, put on your dog's leash and run with your dog straight to the toilet. Don't let your dog sniff or linger along the way.

2a) Stand still at your dog's toilet and wait for 2 minutes.

If your dog pees, praise earnestly and **give 3 food treats**.

If your dog poops, praise a LOT and **give 5 food treats**.

If your dog does both, praise with all your heart and give 3+5= **8 food treats**.

Go back inside. If you have free time, play and train with your dog for up to 20 minutes, but closely supervise your dog the entire time to make sure they don't get into any trouble.

Record the actual time your dog used the toilet, whether they urinated (U) or defecated (D), the number of treats you gave and how much, if any time, you spent playing or training with your dog afterward.

2b) **If your dog doesn't use the toilet** after two minutes of waiting, return your dog to the crate. Add a scheduled potty trip for 30 minutes from now. Continue to take the dog every 30 minutes until your dog uses the potty successfully, at which point, praise and reward your dog appropriately.

Take note of how long your dog goes between using the potty. If your dog regularly goes for 90 minutes or more between using the potty, you can adjust your Dog's Potty Training Schedule accordingly. You can always skip a scheduled potty trip if it's been less than 30 minutes since your dog's last trip to the potty.

If you follow this plan your dog will never have an opportunity to make a house soiling mistake. If they do, record it in the final column and resolve to follow this plan more carefully.

	PLAYPEN	CRATE	SCHEDULED POTTY TRIP	PERSON	TIME OF POTTY SUCCESS	POTTY SUCCESS U/D	# of TREATS	PLAY TRAIN TIME	MISTAKES* / NOTES (Please no mistakes!)
12am	✓								
1am	✓								
2am	✓								
3am	✓								
4am	✓								
5am	✓								
6am	✓								
7am		7am	7am	J	7:05	U+D	3+5	1:15	
8am		8	8	J	8:15	U	3	1:20	
9am		9	9	J	9:00	X			
10am		10 skip	10 skip	J	9:35	U	3	1:05	
11am		11	11	J	11:05	U	3	1:20	
noon		12	12	J	12:10	U+D	3+5	1:15	
1pm		1	1	J	12:45	X			
2pm		1:30	2 skip	J	1:35	U	3	1:05	
3pm		3	3	J	3:15	U	3	—	
4pm		4	4	L	4:05	U	3	1:05	
5pm		5	5	L	5:00	X			
6pm		5:20	6	T	5:30	X			
7pm		7	7	T	7:15	U+D	3+5	1:20	
8pm		8	8	T					
9pm		9	9	J					
10pm	✓								
11pm	✓								

Example 1

In this first example, we have a family of three and someone is always around so the dog can spend the entire day potty training using the crate. Starting at 9 pm, the family is asleep and so the dog spends the night in the playpen, resting and quietly chewing on food-stuffed chew toys.

At the 9 am trip to the potty the dog did not pee or poop, so Joe put the dog back in the crate, and scheduled another trip for 30 minutes later. At 9:35 am the dog peed and then played for 5 minutes before being returned to the crate. Since it had been less than an hour, Joe skipped the trip to the potty scheduled for 10 am, so the next trip was at 11 am.

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1am	✓								
2am	✓								
3am	✓								
4am	✓								
5am	✓								
6am	✓								
7am	✓								
8am	✓								
9am	✓	9am	9am	J	9:05	U	3	1:15	
10am	✓	10 skip	10 skip	J	9:35	U	3	1:15	
11am	✓	11	11	J	11:05	U	3	1:15	
12pm	✓								
1pm	✓								
2pm	✓								
3pm	✓								
4pm	✓								
5pm	✓								
6pm	✓								
7pm	✓								
8pm	✓								
9pm	✓								
10pm	✓								
11pm	✓								

Example 2

In Example 2, this pup is unsupervised for the middle of the day, so spends most of the daytime in the playpen. There are three short periods of several hours when people are available to potty train, one in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the late evening. This puppy goes like clockwork, every hour, as would be typical of a younger puppy with a smaller bladder.

In Example 3 the single owner can only supervise their dog in the nighttime hours. The dog spends the day in the playpen, largely unsupervised, except for the occasional check-in with a freshly stuffed chew toy and poop removal.

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1am	✓								
2am	✓								
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5am	✓								
6am	✓								
7am	✓								
8am	✓								
9am	✓								
10am	✓								
11am	✓								
12pm	✓								
1pm	✓								
2pm	✓								
3pm	✓								
4pm	✓								
5pm	✓								
6pm	✓								
7pm	✓								
8pm	✓								
9pm	✓								
10pm	✓								
11pm	✓								

Example 3