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## NEW PUPPY CHECKLIST

### ITEMS

- ☐ Dog bed
- ☐ Crate
- ☐ Pee pads
- ☐ Enzyme cleaner for urine stains
- ☐ Ceramic or stainless steel food bowl and water bowl
- ☐ Collar (to hold ID tag and rabies tag)
- ☐ Harness for walking
- ☐ Leash
- ☐ Toys of various textures, hardness and softness
- ☐ Container for toys
- ☐ Good quality puppy food (see dogfoodadvisor.com)
- ☐ Poop bags
- ☐ X-pen for confinement during the day (optional)
- ☐ Baby Gates
- ☐ Dog Food storage bin
- ☐ Brush and Comb
- ☐ Puppy shampoo
- ☐ Nail clippers
- ☐ Dog Carrier or sling

### CAR

- ☐ Crate for transport
- ☐ Paper towels and non-toxic cleaner for car sickness

### THINGS TO DO

- ☐ Store all detergents and chemicals out of your puppy's reach.
- ☐ Store breakable items safely out of the way.
- ☐ Hide or cover electrical cords so he won't chew on them.
- ☐ Use a cover and/or protective fencing if you have a pool or a hot tub.
- ☐ Restrict access to plants that are dangerous to dogs, including poinsettias, azaleas, rhododendrons, dumb cane, Japanese yew, oleander and English ivy, nightshade, to name a few.
- ☐ Decide where the puppy's crate will be at night and during the day
- ☐ Restrict access to house with baby gates or x-pen
- ☐ Schedule first veterinarian appointment

### BOOK

Before and After Getting Your Puppy: The Positive Approach to Raising a Happy, Healthy, and Well-Behaved Dog by Dr. Ian Dunbar

## Struggling with Housetraining Your Puppy?



One important aspect of successful housetraining is that accidents indoors *MUST* be cleaned up completely. Once your puppy has emptied in your home the remaining odors after cleaning act as a magnet, beckoning your puppy back to that spot to relieve himself again. Since dogs' noses are 200,000 times better at smelling odor than ours, *every molecule* of urine or feces must be cleaned and neutralized, including material which has soaked deeply into your carpets, rugs and between the floorboards.

Most products today that advertise to neutralize urine do so, but stop there. I've found a product that keeps working for days.

### What Does My Dog Trainer Use?

Recently my 155 lb. Newfoundland dog had severe diarrhea. We came home to find several (very large) areas of diarrhea on the dining room rug. The unbearable stench had permeated the entire first floor. We cleaned up what we could and poured a well-known product on that works to eliminate pet stains and odors. However the stench remained. Then I remembered my **P<sup>2</sup> (P squared)**. I mixed up a batch and liberally applied it to the soiled areas and IMMEDIATELY the stains and smell were gone. No perfumes—the odor was gone. I've been using it ever since.

**P<sup>2</sup>** works so well and keeps working for days due to the use of enzymes *and* probiotics. It does not use harsh chemicals, is safe for use around children and pets, and is non-toxic.



Visit <http://www.p2probioticpower.com> and order your bottle

### iClean Everything

Since you mix iClean Everything with warm water, one bottle lasts for months!

— Recommended by Linda Lelak, CPDT-KA —

**Exclusive offer for Pawsitive Paws Dog Training Customers!**

**Enter the code: HAPPYPET at checkout for 10% off your first order!**



## **NILF (Nothing In Life Is Free)**

We've all heard the talk about how we should be dominant over our dogs. The domination theory is loosely based upon wolf behavior; however, our highly domesticated pet dogs have been living with humans for thousands of years and this 'wolf rule' no longer applies.

Rather than using dominance as a basis for your relationship with your dog, provide fair, consistent and clear leadership which enhances the human/canine bond. Dominance sets up an adversarial relationship, rather than a cooperative relationship of affection and trust. The NILF technique provides your dog with a clear picture of his role in the household. NILF works to increase your leadership, credibility and to strengthen your role as a benevolent leader. Leadership is not the same as dominance. Dominance involves intimidation and conflict, and there are leaders who use dominance to control others. However, leadership can teach through education, guidance and positive feedback, rather than a fear of retribution.

When dogs have not received consistent messages from everyone in the household, it is not uncommon for them to act out with such behaviors as persistent barking, disobeying or ignoring commands, and repeatedly engaging in unwanted behaviors (such as counter surfing). Consistent messages provide much-needed boundaries from which our dogs learn patterns that will guide them in adapting their behaviors to their humans' rules. When you think about it, it is pretty remarkable that we are asking members of one species to follow all the rules of another species, especially since many of our rules conflict with a dog's natural behavior.

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NILF means asking your dog to first do something for you before you give him anything that he wants, such as food, treats, petting, and being greeted by family, friends and strangers, etc. For example, ignore your dog if she jumps on you and only offer attention if she sits; ask for a sit and stay while you put the food bowl down; or ask for a paw or 'touch' before petting.

If you allow your dog on the furniture, make a new rule that dogs are only permitted on the furniture when invited. Reinforce this by making your dog get off the furniture if it gets on uninvited – every time. If you do want the dog to join you, wait for 10 – 20 seconds after the dog gets down, then and invite the dog up so it appears to be your idea.

The NILF protocol is simple; you only give your dog its desired resources after getting a behavior, much like asking your dog to say 'please'. However, for many of us who are accustomed to absently petting their dogs and who don't usually pay attention to the liberties the dog takes (and we give), compliance can be difficult and will initially require a great deal of mindfulness. First, observe your actions. When your dog nudges you for attention, do you absently reach over and pet him? When she asks to go outside, do you just open the door or do you ask for a 'touch' or 'sit' first? Take a few days to only observe your responses before instituting changes. Family members can help identify each other's tendency to respond automatically.

When accompanied by positive reinforcement training, NILF can bring significant change to your dog's ability *and desire* to comply with the boundaries you've set, which are necessary for a successful blended-species household.



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## RECOMMENDED READING

THE OTHER END OF THE LEASH - WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO AROUND DOGS  
by Patricia McConnell

DON'T SHOOT THE DOG  
by Karen Pryor

HOW TO BE THE LEADER OF THE PACK - AND HAVE YOUR DOG LOVE YOU FOR IT!  
by Patricia McConnell

ON TALKING TERMS WITH DOGS - CALMING SIGNALS, 2ND EDITION  
by Turid Rugaas

CULTURE CLASH  
by Jean Donaldson

CLICKING WITH YOUR DOG – STEP-BY-STEP IN PICTURES  
by Peggy Tillman

FEISTY FIDO – HELP FOR THE LEASH AGGRESSIVE DOG  
by Patricia B. McConnell, Ph.D.

100 OF THE SILLIEST THINGS PEOPLE SAY ABOUT DOGS  
by Alexandra Semyonova

## PUPPIES

PUPPY PRIMER – 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION  
by Brenda Scidmore & Patricia McConnell

BEFORE AND AFTER GETTING YOUR PUPPY - THE POSITIVE APPROACH TO RAISING A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND WELL-BEHAVED DOG  
by Ian Dunbar



## How Dogs Think

Do you want to know the biggest secret to teaching your dog? It's all about how dogs process information, and they do this much differently than we do. In a nutshell, dogs learn by observing patterns to discover what works for them. If it works, they will do the behavior more often. If it doesn't the behavior fades and eventually disappears. For instance, you may find it annoying when your dog jumps on you when you walk in the door, but he interprets your excited commands "Get down!" "Off!" and your pushing him as part of the *very* rewarding attention he is seeking. It works!

Dogs do not know right from wrong, good or bad. These are moral judgements; human moral judgements. Dogs are very simple; they do what works for them. They gauge our reactions and learn what they can do in our presence (chew on a shoe, jump on the counter), and what works better out of our eyesight.

**Where Did I Learn That?** – When learning a new behavior your dog not only takes in what you are asking her to do, but the environment as well. Teaching 'sit' in the kitchen means 'sit' in *that* room. She must learn 'sit' in the living room as though it were a new cue, as well as the hallway, outdoors, etc. until she can generalize the cue 'sit' to every environment. Often times your dog will do a behavior perfectly at home, but in class look at you as though she doesn't know what you mean. This is normal, and may indicate that the behavior must be re-taught in various environments.

## Positive Reinforcement Training

Positive reinforcement training focuses on catching and rewarding the behaviors that we want and ignoring those that are not desirable. For instance, if you find your dog chewing on an inappropriate object, you would remove the item from his mouth, replace it with a toy and praise him for chewing on the toy. Positive reinforcement training focuses on creating situations where you have the opportunity to praise. Praise can be given verbally, with affection, play, or with a treat.

Punishment may seem at face value to solve some problems, but positive reinforcement makes desirable outcomes more frequent and stronger with an added bonus of establishing a collaborative, rather than adversarial, human/dog relationship. Punishing your dog or puppy for a natural behavior can result in a dog that is fearful or distrustful of you and others.

Scientific studies on both humans and canine behaviors have proven that what is rewarded is most likely to be repeated. Much like being employed, if someone is extra diligent doing his job because he is facing dismissal, he is being rewarded by not being fired (threat of punishment), along with loss of a regular paycheck. However, if he *weren't* getting positive reinforcement (paycheck), you can bet the *threat* of being fired would not motivate him or anyone to keep working at the job.

Positive reinforcement *is* the paycheck. It is saying, "You did that right, so here's your paycheck". Unlike bribery (which threatens to withhold the reward if the behavior is not performed), positive reinforcement makes the behavior self-motivating even when there is no visible reward. It also provides a clear answer to the question "How did I do?"





## PUPPY SOCIALIZATION CHART

When puppies are born sponges of learning. Their curiosity level will never be higher, nor fear level lower, than during the first 12 – 14 weeks of life. This is what canine behaviorists refer to as the socialization period -- a short window that once closed will never reopen. Up until 12 weeks\* of age, new places and experiences will be met with open curiosity, the need to investigate and very little fear. The puppy's experience(s) whether good, neutral or negative can actually imprint on the brain, framing how he will process information for the remainder of his life. After this period, unfamiliar things will likely be seen as something scary, which can lead to chronic fear or aggression.

Puppy socialization is a big job, taking time and commitment and should be *one of the most the significant factors* in deciding when to get your puppy. This early learning will stay with your pup for the rest of its life. Ideally, by 4 months of age a puppy should have had 100's of positive experiences, met at least 100 different people, walked on at least 15 different surfaces, experienced 30 new places, heard hundreds of noises, met different types of animals, and be actively engaged in weekly play with other dogs and puppies. Group puppy classes are a great way to help socialize and train your puppy for adulthood.

Use this chart to record your puppy's experiences and for great ideas. Mark down each encounter in the appropriate box, trying for as many encounters as possible. Don't just look for those experiences which you think your puppy will encounter during his lifetime --add more. Give intermittent rewards during socialization with treats and praise. Proceed at your puppy's pace. Stop if he seems overwhelmed or over stimulated, or if you see fear reactions like cowering, heavy panting, or hesitancy in particular situations. If your puppy shows chronic fearful or reactive behavior, consult with a trainer or animal behaviorist immediately for help with socialization.

PEOPLE	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	weeks	13-16 wks
Adults (men and women)							
Babies (boys and girls)							
Toddlers (boys and girls)							
Children (boys and girls)							
Juniors/Teens (boys and girls)							
Big looming people							
Bike riders							
Clowns							
Crossing guards							
Crowd of people							
Delivery People							
Different Ethnicities							
Elderly people							
EMTs							
Fireman							
Joggers							
Children running							
Children skipping							
Loud people							
Men with beards/moustaches							
Meter readers							
People (different body types)							
People in wheelchairs							
People singing							
People wearing glasses							
People wearing sunglasses							
People wearing gloves							
People wearing hats							
People wearing helmets							
People wearing winter coats/hats							



PEOPLE continued	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
People with an odd gait							
People with baby carriages							
People with back packs							
People with bears							
People with canes/on crutches							
People with shopping carts							
Police officer							
Postal Workers							
Roller bladers							
Santa Claus							
Skateboarders							
Street vendors							
Tall people							
Timid people							
Uniformed people							
Young Adults 18-20yrs							
OTHER ANIMALS (puppy safe)	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
Adult Dogs							
Puppies							
Cats/Kittens							
Small Pets							
Livestock							
Horses							
PLACES	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
Ballgame/kid's sports events							
Beach/ocean							
Boarding kennel							
Boat rides							
Busy intersection							
Campground							
Car wash							
City Streets							
City vs country							
Country vs city							
Crate							
Dog training facility							
Fairs/community day							
Friends' homes							
Gas station							
Grocery store parking lot							
Grooming Parlor							
Hiking trail							
Outdoor restaurant							
Outside a schoolyard							
Parks							
Party							
Pet Store							
Riding in a car							
Shopping malls							
The bank							
Tunnels							
Vet's Office							
Woods							

THINGS	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
Airplanes							
Bicycles							
Buses							
Construction equipment							
Flags and banners							
Garbage cans							
Garbage trucks							
Hammocks							
Helium balloons							
Kites							
Motorcycles/ATVs							
Shopping Carts							
Skateboards							
Street cleaners							
Trucks							
Umbrellas							
NOISES	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
Baby crying							
Cars backfiring							
Clapping							
Clothes dryer/buzzer							
Clothes washer							
Construction activities							
Dish Washer							
Doorbell w/wo answering door							
Engines Auto/motorcycle							
Fireplace/camp fire sounds							
Fireworks							
Guests (people talking)							
Gun shots							
Hair dryer							
Kettle whistling							
Kids crying							
Knocking at the door							
Live music band							
Loud music							
People laughing							
Phone ringing							
Shouting							
T.V. sounds							
Thunderstorms							
Trucks backing up							
Vacuum							
Yelling							
SURFACES	7 weeks	8 weeks	9 weeks	10 weeks	11 weeks	12 weeks	13-16 wks
Bathtub							
Carpet							
Cement							
Ceramic tiles							
Elevated surface							
Grass							
Grates							
Gravel							
Linoleum							
Mud							
Pavement							



<b>SURFACES cont'd</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>9 weeks</b>	<b>10 weeks</b>	<b>11 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>13-16 wks</b>
Puddles/Streams							
Rubber mats							
Sand							
Slippery surfaces							
Stairs up and down							
Wood							
Black pavement with white lines							
Walking across two surfaces							
Wet grass and pavement							
<b>HANDLING</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>9 weeks</b>	<b>10 weeks</b>	<b>11 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>13-16 wks</b>
Check teeth – lift lips							
Clipping nails							
Collar touching/grabbing							
Examine ears							
Examine face							
Examine feet – gently squeeze							
Hold and brush tail							
Gently holding feet (duration)							
Kid Hug (around the neck)							
Pill practice using treats							
Sticking head through something							
Vet Hug (neck and body)							
<b>SMELLS</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>9 weeks</b>	<b>10 weeks</b>	<b>11 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>13-16 wks</b>
Strong perfume							
Air Freshener							
<b>Others:</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>	<b>8 weeks</b>	<b>9 weeks</b>	<b>10 weeks</b>	<b>11 weeks</b>	<b>12 weeks</b>	<b>13-16 wks</b>
Blowing air from a fan							
Walking in the rain							
Walking in the snow – if possible							
Wind							
<b>Puppy Born in the Spring or Summer? Add these ....</b>							
Heavy/bulky coat or parka							
Knit hat							
Gloves							
Boots							
Scarf							

\*Should your vet recommend that your puppy's exposure be limited until all vaccinations are in place, carry your pup when you go out and only put it down where other dogs have not walked.

**Did you get your puppy during warm weather? Don't wait until winter to put on your parka, gloves and hat.**



## House Training Your Puppy

*Please read these helpful tips to help you house train your puppy or dog. I will alternately use male and female pronouns in this article for the sake of simplicity.*

House training seems to be a single concept from our human point of view; Eliminate outside. However, puppies think much more simply than us, so there are two separate concepts that your puppy needs to understand in order to be successful. The first: Eliminate outside. The second: Do not eliminate inside. We much teach both concepts clearly and with consistency.

### How Long Will It Take?

The time it takes for house training depends upon several factors. House training is about consistency, patience, and positive reinforcement. The goal is to instill good habits and build a loving bond with your pet while teaching him.

It typically takes 4-6 months for a puppy to be *completely* house trained, and some puppies may take up to a year. Size can be a predictor; small dogs often take much longer to house train because smaller breeds have smaller bladders and higher metabolisms. Your puppy's previous living conditions are another predictor. You may find that you need to help your puppy break old habits in order to establish those that are more desirable.

While you are training, do not worry if there are setbacks. As long as you continue a management program that includes 100% supervision, taking puppy out at the first sign he needs to go, and rewarding him for emptying, and other tips listed here, he will learn.

### When to Begin House Training

Breeders typically release puppies as early as 8 weeks of age, so begin house training your puppy as soon as you get him. Although puppies do not generally achieve complete bowel/bladder control until around 12 weeks, by starting now you are teaching him that elimination is to take place done outside. Thus, when he has achieved that control, you are already halfway there!

If your puppy is older than 12 weeks when you bring him home or you have obtained the puppy from a pet store, shelter or rescue, and he has been eliminating in a cage (and possibly eating his waste), house training may take longer. You will have to reshape the dog's behavior -- with encouragement and rewards.

### Steps for Housetraining Your Puppy

The number one key to successful housetraining is to supervise your puppy at all times. If supervision is not possible (such as when you need to take a shower), the puppy should be placed in the crate. Supervision in this case means not taking your eyes off the puppy, even for a moment! Keep the pup in your sight, snap a leash on him and tether him to you, or place him in a crate that is sized appropriately to discourage elimination.

It is important to the process that the puppy not have an opportunity to make a mistake. In the animal world, it is completely normal to squat and go when the urge hits -- regardless of location -- so potty accidents are not acts of defiance or disobedience. Pups want to be able to eliminate in peace, however it soon becomes obvious that when humans see the pup emptying in the house they become excited and



## House Training Your Puppy

interrupt them. However, because pups realize that they are able to eliminate without interruption when they cannot see a human, the obvious solution is to eliminate elsewhere, such as in another room or behind furniture.

It is helpful to keep the puppy on a regular feeding schedule. Discard his food if he hasn't finished his meal within 20 minutes and try again at the next feeding time. Feeding on a schedule will help you predict the timing of his bowel movements.

### **When Should I Take My Puppy Outside?**

Take the puppy out first thing in the morning and every 30 minutes to an hour during the day. In addition, puppies usually need to empty after eating, drinking, playing, waking up from a nap, and exiting the crate. Take him out before placing him in his crate, before a car ride, and before taking him into any home or business.

### **Taking Puppy Outside to Eliminate**

Simply opening the door so he can run out to the fenced-in yard does not provide the puppy any information about what is expected and will affect the amount of time it takes to house train.

Take puppy out on a 6-foot leash (not a flexi-lead) and go to the same spot in your yard each time. Stand in the middle of the spot and let the pup walk around you, but do not allow him to pull you around the yard. Let him know that that 6-foot radius around you is the potty area. His scent will prompt him to go. If he does not go within a few minutes, take him back inside and crate him, tether him to you, or watch him 100%. After 10 minutes, take him out to try again.

When your puppy eliminates outside, praise him or give him a treat. Walks around the neighborhood or free playtime outside are nice rewards too.

Give puppy a learning boost by naming the behavior. For instance, say 'potty time' before you open the door to go out. While the pup is emptying, reinforce by quietly saying 'good potty' in a happy voice. Don't get too excited when you say this or puppy may stop in the act to see what all the commotion is about.

### **Using a Crate to House Train Puppy**

A crate is an excellent idea for house training your puppy. It will allow you to keep an eye on him for signs he needs to go and teach him to hold it until you open the crate and let him outside.

Here are a few guidelines for using a crate:

Make sure it is large enough for the puppy to stand, turn around, and lay down, but not big enough for him to use one end of the crate as a bathroom.

If you are using the crate for more than two hours at a time, make sure puppy has fresh water, preferably in a dispenser you can attach to the crate. If you cannot be home during the house-training period, make sure somebody else gives him a break in the middle of the day for the first few months.

Many wire crates come with dividers. This allows you to purchase the size that will be appropriate when your puppy is fully-grown, yet allows you to modify the size of the crate to facilitate house training.

### **Signs That Your Puppy Needs to Eliminate**

Whining, circling, sniffing, barking, or, if your puppy is confined in the crate, scratching at the crate, can be signs he needs to go. Take him out immediately, or you may find yourself cleaning up an accident.



## House Training Your Puppy

### Does Your Dog Ask Already?

It's possible that your dog already asks you to let her out in dog language. Maybe you just don't understand what she's telling you yet. Hints that your dog might drop when she needs to eliminate include:

*Circling*

*Sniffing*

*Whining*

*Pacing*

*Standing by the door*

*Scratching at the door!*

*Moving to a distant part of the room, into a corner or behind furniture!*

*Also, approaching vertical objects, like walls or the legs of furniture while sniffing and/or standing close to them as if to lift a leg (usually male dogs), or approaching you and staring, whining or wagging.*

If you see any of the signs above, immediately take your dog outside so that he can eliminate. If he does, calmly but enthusiastically praise him or give him a tasty treat immediately after he finishes.

### If Not, What Can You Do?

If your dog does not give you any clear signs before eliminating indoors, or if her signs seem too subtle, you can teach her to do something obvious to tell you when she needs to go. For example, you might need to train your dog to ask to go out if her current method is to stand silently by a door. If you're in another room of the house and can't see her, you won't have any idea that she is "asking" to go out.

**Bells** – Bells are a great way to teach your puppy to signal he has to go out to potty, particularly if the door to the yard is not in your view. You can purchase bells or make them yourself (sew large jingle bells on a long ribbon) and hang it on the door you use to go out to the potty area. Just before you open the door, hit the ribbon to ring the bells. Do not open the door unless you have rung the bells. Eventually puppy will learn that the door does not open unless the bells ring and will begin to ring the bells when she needs to go out.

### Troubleshooting

#### Playtime vs. Potty Time

Once they discover that bell ringing makes the door open, many clever dogs ring the bells whenever they would like to go outside - even when they do not need to eliminate. If this sounds like your dog, you can teach her that bell ringing is only about potty breaks. When she rings the bell to go out, praise her, clip on her leash and take her directly to the place where you would like her to eliminate. Don't play with her or let her run around. Just give her three to five minutes to urinate or defecate. If she does, great! Praise her again and give her a few treats before taking her back in. If she doesn't eliminate, just take her back inside and continue supervision.

#### My Dog Is Still Eliminating Inside!

If your dog is asking to go out but she still makes mistakes inside, you might have a separate problem on your hands. It might not be that your dog knows to go out to potty but does not realize that inside the home is NOT the place for eliminating. Remember, there are two things your pup needs to learn to be successful at housetraining. If you think this might be the case, you may need to assess whether you are supervising her enough. It is easy to become complacent about supervision once your pup is 'asking' to go out. A puppy is not considered housetrained until she has gone one month accident free.



## House Training Your Puppy

### House Training Setbacks

Accidents are common in puppies up to a year old. The reasons for accidents range from incomplete house training, to infrequent trips outside, to a change in the puppy's environment.

When your puppy does have an accident, keep on training. If it still doesn't seem to be working, consult a veterinarian to rule out a medical issue. Urinary tract infections, which are more common in females than males, can cause frequent urination and can make housetraining very difficult. If you observe a significant increase in frequency in urination, call your veterinarian.

### Proper Cleanup of Accidents

The odor of urine or feces acts as a magnet for puppies, even if we cannot smell it, and encourages repeated elimination in the odiferous area. Since a canine's sense of smell can be anywhere from 10,000 to 100,000 times more sensitive than ours, it is imperative that all odor be eliminated using an enzyme cleaner made especially for urine odors.

**Carpets/Rugs** - Remove feces or soak up as much urine as possible before following the directions on the bottle. Although most enzyme cleaners come in spray bottles, it is not sufficient to spray the surface of a rug/carpet with the cleaner. Because the enzymes break down the odors from the waste, the cleaner needs to come into contact with *every molecule* of urine. If not, the odor will be detectable by your puppy's super nose which will pull him back to the site again and again, so pour the cleaner into the rug. Do not rely on commercial carpet cleaners unless used with an enzyme cleaner. Never steam-clean a carpet that contains urine. The smell will be much worse!

**Wood/laminate/tile Floors** – Use an enzyme cleaner that is labeled safe for your type of flooring. After cleaning the accident up, follow the instructions on the bottle. Make sure the cleaner touches all the urine. Do you have a wood floor with gaps between the boards? If the urine got down there, the cleaner must as well.

### Potty Training Do's and Don'ts

Never, ever punish your puppy for having an accident. It teaches your puppy to fear you and is ineffective in house training. If you found the evidence but didn't see the act, don't react or yell and definitely do not rub his nose in it. Quietly clean the area and realize you lost an opportunity because you were not supervising your puppy. Besides, puppies are not intellectually capable of connecting your anger with their accident and will learn that you are 'unpredictably' frightening, which will damage trust.

If you catch your puppy in the act, make a noise to interrupt (but not frighten) him. Immediately take him outside to the potty area on leash whether he still needs to go or not. If he empties outside, praise him or give him a small treat. If he does not go, take him back inside and resume supervising him.

### Teaching Your Dog to Ask to Go Out

It's not always easy to live with humans if you are a dog. First, you have to learn that humans do not like it when you urinate or defecate indoors. Then you have to figure out how to get outside when you need to go! Since you don't have opposable thumbs for opening doors, you're in a bit of a predicament.

Sometimes it's difficult for pet parents to tell when their dogs need to go outside to eliminate. Some dogs show obvious signs, but others are not as adept at telling people when they need to go out. If your dog falls into the latter category, do not worry. There is a way to help her let you know when she needs a bathroom break.