



For further information please contact Nutley Dog Training and Behaviour on Tel 07717893087

or email enquiries@nutleydogs.co.uk

Toileting – When you bring your puppy or new dog home, it is likely that the first thing they will need to do is have a toilet break outside your home or in the garden.

Supervision is key to successful toilet training. So please keep an eye on your dog at key times when they are likely to need a toilet break such as after a meal, after a nap or after something exciting has happened such as play. It is also helpful to keep a note of the key times your dog needs to toilet for instance it may be 45 minutes after a meal. Then you can start to predict when a toilet break is needed. However, continue to monitor your dog's behaviour e.g. key signs as they will indicate the need for a toilet break.

Start to learn the key signs that happen to indicate they need to toilet such as sniffing the ground, circling and wandering. When they do this please take them outside to do their toilet. Certainly, to start with have them on lead so you can be with them in the garden ready to praise/ reward them for toileting outside. Then clear up any "poo" to avoid any risk of the dog becoming interested in their poo and trying to eat it. See handout on "Crcophagia"

Your dog is likely to have an accident during their initial toileting training period. If they toilet inside stay calm take them outside without making a fuss and take the dog to their toilet area outside. Let them carry out their toilet and clear up after them as needed. Then clear up the inside toileting accident ideally when the dog is elsewhere. So, they don't get under your feet. E.g. pop them behind the puppy gate or in the puppy pen. Accidents are best cleared up using disinfectant that is safe to use with pets. This will then help mask the smell of where the toilet area was so that the dog is less likely to smell the toilet smell and repeat toilet again in the same place.

There will be times when you cannot supervise your dog in order to read your dog and avoid unwanted toileting accidents. When those occasions arise please place your dog either in their puppy pen or behind the dog gate. Have their bed area separate from a toileting area. Place paper down so the dog can toilet on there as necessary and make sure the paper is away from the bed area. Dogs do not like to mess their bedding area.

Cleanliness after a toileting accident is important as an association with a toilet spot can quickly be developed through smell, location, type of surface, sound or word association and what happens in an area. If the area a dog has an accident is kept clean and clear of smell, then the association of toileting in an accident area can be diminished.

If you feel that your dog has excessive toileting habits or unusual in form, colour or smell then a vet visit is suggested.

So key things to remember are reward toileting in the right place e.g. outside. When there is a toileting mistake inside stay calm. When this happens take your dog to the toileting area and calmly clear up the toilet accident