

## HOUSETRAINING 101

Housetraining is easy if you set yourself up ahead of time and commit to being disciplined. It doesn't take long – if you're consistent and disciplined but it does require a couple of key ingredients.

Be sure to thoroughly clean up any areas the dog goes in (clean beyond the area you notice soiled). Always use a product specific for urine - otherwise your pup will be drawn to go back to the area!

Until housetrained your dog is in 1 of 3 places – **at all times**

- With you and you're paying attention if they circle or squat
- In a place they can go to the bathroom (outside)
- Confined to an area of the house (crate/laundry room, etc)

If you catch them in the act, interrupt them and stand outside with them until finished. If you don't catch them let it go, it's too late to get any info across.

*General rule:* the pup can hold their bladder the number of months they are old plus 1; so a 4-month old pup can typically hold their bladder 5 hours.

pranaDOGS Behavior & Rehabilitation Center, is a not-for-profit canine training facility located just outside of Durango, CO.

We work with Shelters and Rescues to help dogs who need a bit more time and attention than a typical organization can provide.

Dogs  
Rock!



pranaDOGS

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## ADOPTING A PUPPY?



Be ready for a  
**part-time job**  
that lasts for at least 6-12  
months – no days off, no  
sick days – rain, shine,  
snow, or 100☀

# YOUR #1 PRIORITY IS TO SOCIALIZE YOUR PUPPY

Puppies grow up quickly! By 6mo old your puppy is similar to a 15yr child. It is SO important that they get safely exposed to the world during those first few months. An unsocialized dog can be fearful and reactive. And once those first few months have passed, there's no way to make them up.

Below is a short list of ideas on how to expose/socialize your puppy. Include regular people and activities that are specific to you and your lifestyle. And be sure to practice in different weather conditions and at different times of day. Note: this is NOT the time to visit common area where unvaccinated puppies may be.

Be sure your pup walks on  
different surfaces, including:

Stairs  
Tile floors  
Asphalt  
Gravel  
Sand  
Carpet

Escalators  
Marble floors  
Concrete  
Grass  
Rocks  
Wood

Be sure your pup hears  
different sounds, including:

Sirens  
Fireworks  
Gunshots  
Car horns  
Traffic  
Thunder  
Train whistles

Diesel engines  
Motorcycles  
Skateboarders  
Door bells  
Vacuum  
Appliances  
Diff music

Be sure your puppy interacts with  
different types of people, including:

Men! esp those with beards, hats,  
sunglasses, helmets, in uniforms, of  
different ethnicities, etc  
Big and small men and women  
People with canes, crutches,  
wheelchairs  
Kids! Babies, toddlers, young adults

Be sure to interact with  
your puppy, including:

Holding them  
Touching

their paws  
their teeth  
their ears  
between each pad

Clipping their nails

each toe  
their tails  
their collars  
their backend



## POSITIVE EXPERIENCES ARE A MUST!

If your puppy gets upset or scared, take a knee and be there for them or get distance from the thing that scares them – then come back a bit later to end on a positive note.