

TOILET TRAINING

'House Training' which is of immediate importance. Never chastise your pup for soiling any part of the house. It is up to you to see that it gets the opportunity to regularly relieve itself. Teaching pup to soil on newspaper is a slow approach and should only be used in circumstances where access to outside is difficult (eg. Apartment lifestyle). You should then watch your pup, particularly in the following circumstances:

- a. When it wakes up.
- b. When it has a feed or a drink.
- c. When you have played with it.

In these cases and in all other cases where a pup starts to turn around in circles place the pup on the newspaper or take it outside to the same spot it has gone previously. Repeat a word such as "*hurry, hurry*" or "*quick, quick*". When it has relieved itself, be sure to give it plenty of praise. That way it will know it has done the right thing. Do not lose your patience, but be gentle. You will find that your pup will respond and before long you will have overcome that problem.

With the obedience training of young puppies it is best and easiest to follow the natural way of training, using the pup's instincts to achieve your aims. In this way you obtain maximum results with the minimum effort, whilst no resentment is ever built up in your puppy. This why we utilise treats & toys when teaching young pups. Although you should be gentle in the handling of your pup, you must nevertheless be firm and if, for instance, you tell the pup to sit, you must insist on it doing so. Otherwise you will have sown the seed of disobedience and you will reap nothing but problems later on when certain bad habits have been formed. Such habits will be very hard to eradicate, so it is much better to prevent them from developing. The degree of gentleness or firmness to be used depends entirely on the puppy. Some need more of one, some more of the other. Dogs probably need more firmness than bitches. However, it should not be necessary to ever hit a puppy, or for that matter an older dog. It shows that something is amiss with your method of handling if you have to resort to such strong tactics.

The best way of training a pup or a dog is by continuous correction and praise, and of the last, there should be plenty.

Also, praise must always follow a correction, in order to restore the pup's confidence in you, his handler. Furthermore, corrections should always be made immediately the pup has done wrong. Not some time later when he has forgotten all about it.