

It is not uncommon for newly adopted dogs to toilet in inappropriate areas. This usually occurs within the first few weeks as they may be feeling overwhelmed and confused in their new environment. It is also possible that your dog has not been toilet trained in the previous home. Some dogs will urinate and defecate in inappropriate areas when they are stressed (e.g. when left alone).

Never punish your dog for toileting in an inappropriate area. If you don't witness the event, your dog won't know what you are punishing him or her for. Also, punishing at the time of the event will make our dog fearful of you and unlikely to toilet in front of you anywhere, which will make the situation worse. Punishment does not give your dog any information about what you want him or her to do instead, so it is best to refrain from this.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Step one:** Take your dog for a walk around the backyard before entering the house, allowing him or her to toilet outside. Reward immediately using a tasty treat.
- Step two:** Ensure your dog is taken out regularly over the first few days in the new home – six times daily or more frequently if possible. Always reward toileting outside immediately using treats.
- Step three:** If you see your dog toileting inappropriately, try to calmly get his or her attention and lure him or her outside to the correct place.
- Step four:** If your dog has toileted inappropriately and you don't witness it then just clean up as you're dog won't be able to make a connection. Ensure all accidents are cleaned thoroughly with a special enzymatic cleaner such as 'Urine Off'. Scent and stain residue may result in your dog returning to the same area. Regular cleaning products may contain bleach which is also likely to encourage them to return to the area.

Step five: Despite being taken out frequently, some male dogs may attempt to urine mark when they enter the house. Keeping your dog on lead while he explores the home and distracting with a treat or toy will help to prevent these occurrences.

Step six: If using a dog door – use treats to lure your dog in and out of the door. It may help to prop the door open for the first few days.

TIPS



If leaving your dog inside while sleeping or away, set him or her up in a confined area such as the laundry, play pen or behind a baby gate. This will prevent your dog from urinating or defecating throughout the house.

Use of Adaptil diffusers may help to reduce inappropriate urination and defecation.

