

How to use The Perfect Puppy Potty Plan

This plan has two goals:

- 1) Maximize the number of times that you can reward your puppy for using an appropriate doggy toilet.
- 2) Prevent your puppy from making any house soiling mistakes (which quickly turn into bad habits).

Create your Puppy's Potty Schedule

- 1) Determine which segments of the day someone will be available to help potty train your puppy. Mark those hours in the *CRATE* column. Initially, you should maximize the amount of time spent in the crate. Mark the hours when no one is available in the *PLAYPEN* column.
- 2) At each time they enter the crate, write the time down in the *SCHEDULED POTTY TRIP* column. If they will be in the crate for longer than one hour, schedule another trip for one hour later, and another for each additional hour they are in the crate.
- 3) In the *PERSON* column write down the name/initials of the person who will be responsible for taking the puppy to the toilet at the scheduled time.

You are now done creating your Puppy's Potty Schedule. You can photocopy and reuse this schedule daily.

Use your Puppy's Potty Schedule

Every time you have a scheduled potty trip:

- 1) Go to your puppy's crate, open the door, put on your pup's leash and run with your puppy straight to the toilet. Don't let your pup sniff or linger along the way.
- 2a) Stand still at your pup's toilet and wait for 2 minutes.
 - If your puppy pees**, praise earnestly, and **give 3 food treats**.
 - If your puppy poops**, praise a LOT, and **give 5 food treats**.
 - If your pup does both**, praise with all your heart and give 3+5= **8 food treats**.

Go back inside. If you have free time, play and train with your puppy for up to 20 minutes, but supervise closely the entire time and make sure your pup doesn't get into any trouble. Record the actual time your pup used the toilet, whether they urinated (U) or defecated (D), the number of treats you gave and how much, if any time, you spent playing or training with your pup afterward.

- 2b) **If your puppy doesn't use the toilet** after two minutes of waiting, return your pup to the crate. Add a scheduled potty trip for 30 minutes from now. Continue to take the puppy every 30 minutes until your pup uses the potty successfully, at which point, praise and reward your pup appropriately.

Take note of how long your pup goes between using the potty. If your pup regularly goes for 90 minutes or more between using the potty, you can adjust your Puppy's Potty Schedule accordingly. You can always skip a scheduled potty trip if it's been less than 30 minutes since your pup's last trip to the potty.

If you follow this plan your puppy will never have an opportunity to make a house soiling mistake. If they do, record it in the final column and resolve to follow this plan more carefully.

SIRIUS® Puppy Training 1 — PERFECT PUPPY POTTY PLAN

PLAYPEN	CRATE	SCHEDULED POTTY TRIP	PERSON	TIME OF POTTY SUCCESS	POTTY SUCCESS U/D	# of TREATS	PLAY TRAIN TIME	MISTAKES* / NOTES (*Please no mistakes!)
12am								
1am								
2am								
3am								
4am								
5am								
6am								
7am		7am	J	7:05	U+D	3+5	:15	
8am		8	J	8:15	U	3	:20	
9am		9	J	9:00	X			
9am		9:30	J	9:35	U	3	:05	
10am		10 skip	J					
11am		11	J	11:05	U	3	:20	
noon		12	J	12:10	U+D	3+5	:15	
1pm		1	J	12:45	X			
1pm		1:30	J	1:35	U	3	:05	
2pm		2 skip	J					
3pm		3	J	3:15	U	3	—	
4pm		4	L	4:05	U	3	:05	
5pm		5	L	5:00	X			
5pm		5:30	L	5:30	X			
6pm		6	T	6:00	U+D	3+5	:20	
7pm		7	T	7:15	U	3	:15	
8pm		8	T					
9pm		9	J					
10pm								
11pm								

Example 1

In this first example, we have a family of three and someone is always around so the puppy can spend the entire day potty training using the crate. Starting at 9pm, the family is asleep and so the pup spends the night in the playpen, resting and quietly chewing on food-stuffed chewtoys.

At the 9am trip to the potty the pup did not pee or poop, so Joe put the puppy back in the crate, and scheduled another trip for 30 minutes later. At 9:35 the pup peed and then played for 5 minutes before being returned to the crate. Since it had been less than an hour, Joe skipped the trip to the potty scheduled for 10am, so the next trip was at 11am.

Example 2

In Example 2, the pup is unsupervised for the middle of the day, so spends most of the daytime in the playpen. There are three short periods of several hours when people are available to potty train, one in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the late evening. This puppy goes like clock work, every hour, as would be typical of a younger puppy with a smaller bladder.

Example 3

In Example 3 the single owner can only supervise their pup in the night time hours. The pup spends the day in the playpen, largely unsupervised, except for the occasional check-in with a freshly stuffed chewtoy and poop removal.