



CRATE TRAINING

1. Set your crate up in a common area such as your lounge room. Crate doors open.
2. Encourage your puppy to be in or near the crate by dropping treats inside.
3. When your puppy goes in to the crate give them lots of verbal praise.
4. When they come out, drop in a few more treats and repeat.
5. Always reward with the treats inside the crate, not outside the crate.
6. Once your puppy is happily going in to receive treats, slowly shut the door whilst they are eating the treats, then say 'OK' and open it as they finish. Repeat this step, slowly increasing the time the door is shut.
7. Remember to talk to them, giving them encouragement as you do so.
8. Start with a few seconds and add time from there. (Do a few sessions a day)
9. As you increase time with the door shut, start to stand up and move around. Keep talking to them. You should be talking to them, *more than you aren't* in the beginning ! Then return, reward by dropping a treat in the crate and open the crate door.
10. Eventually your puppy will be happy to settle in the crate, whilst you potter around.
11. If you see your puppy interact with the crate at any stage, reward them !
12. Your puppy shouldn't be distressed when in their crate. If they are, you may need to go slower.
13. Deliver your puppies meals in the crate, doors open to start with. Be creative – use things like snuffle mats, scrunched up towels, licki mats etc.
14. Encourage naps in the crate. You may need to lay near them in the early stages.
15. Give your puppy a long lasting chew in the crate. If they take the chew outside the crate, you can attach the chew to the side of the crate so they can only access it, whilst in the crate.

Go Slow and keep it fun !

