

## **Crate And Potty Training**

Crate training is a valuable training tool that is beneficial for training young puppies and adult Scotties alike. No matter what age your Scottish Terrier is, you will come to find that a crate can be used for many purposes.

A crate acts like a private “den” for your Scottish Terrier—a safe and secure place that he can go to anytime of the day. For you, the doggy owner, the crate is a safe and secure place for you to keep him when you are away from home.

A crate is a safe place to keep your Scottish Terrier when you need to leave the house. If you do not place him in a crate, your Scottie will not know what to do or how to act.

Therefore, he will become anxious and nervous and will take this nervous energy out on your rugs, plants, furniture, etc. He will do all of those bad habits that a Scottish Terrier does when he is scared or bored: dig, bark, chew, destroy, attempt to escape, pace back and forth, etc.

Your Scottish Terrier’s response to the crate will all depend on how you introduce him to it. You want his crate to be his most favorite place in the whole wide world, so make it a positive experience every time he goes near it.

In this free bonus you will learn how to maximize the value of the crate by learning how to use it in training your Scottish Terrier, as well as how to easily and quickly potty train your Scottish Terrier.

## ***Benefits to Crate Training***

You’ve probably already learned that crate is a safe place for your Scottish Terrier.

Other benefits include:

A crate can help prevent behaviors such as digging and chewing, because it will serve as a “time out” spot.

A crate provides as a safe sleeping environment for your Scottie so he stays put in one place at night.

A crate can be used when you can’t watch a puppy for a certain amount of time.

A crate is helpful in your Scottish Terrier’s potty or “house” training, which you will learn about on page 5.

A crate helps your Scottish Terrier adjust to a regular schedule for sleeping, going outside, etc.

A crate is transportable so it can be moved from room to room, so your Scottish Terrier can always be with the rest of the family no matter where they are.

A crate can be easily transported in a car or airplane.

In order for a crate to be beneficial in any of these ways, you need to help your Scottie

### ***Adjusting to a Crate***

As you previously learned, the Scottish Terrier's first experience with a crate should be positive. Once you bring him home, you will introduce him to his crate.

Have some treats and toys waiting inside, with the door closed. Walk him to his crate and he will see the goodies inside. Once he is pawing at the crate, open it up and say "yes, good boy" and let him walk inside. Don't close the crate door yet, just praise him for walking inside.

When he exits the crate, *don't* praise him. You don't want him to think that being outside of the crate is better than being inside the crate.

Never force your Scottish Terrier inside the crate. He will interpret that as a form of punishment. So if you need to, toss in more treats.

Repeat the exercise a few times, each time increasing the amount of time that your dog is inside the crate. Continue to praise him. Then, start shutting the door behind him.

He may whine or bark and try to get out. If he does this, wait until he stops, then open the door to let him out. If you let him out while he is still whining or barking, he will think that you are rewarding his bad behavior. Let him in again, but this time for a shorter amount of time.

Once your Scottie is comfortable walking in and out of the crate, start adding the word "crate." Then, practice the command from farther distances and keep him in for longer periods of time.

For the first few days of crate training, you should increase time by short increments, but never over 30 minutes. The only time that he should be in the crate longer is when it is time for him to go to sleep.

## ***Sleeping in the Crate***

The first few nights you have your Scottish Terrier home, you should consider keeping the crate in your bedroom. If this is not possible, keep it in another room that is close to an outside door.

If you are training a new puppy, he will most likely cry during the night to be let outside. If he does cry, take him out.

If your puppy cries in the crate and you are positive that he doesn't need to go to the bathroom, but just wants out of his crate, don't let him out while he is barking. If you do this, you will be rewarding him for barking and he will do it every time—longer and louder!

## ***Leaving the House***

Once you know your Scottish Terrier is comfortable in a crate during the night, you can begin leaving him in the crate for longer than 30 minutes during the day. Try leaving the house for awhile and see how he reacts.

If you can, listen at the door for any crying or barking. Or, leave a tape recorder so you can tape his vocals.

When you get back, immediately let him out of his crate, again with no praise. Then, let him outside to eliminate.

When you return, look for signs of separation anxiety. Did he have any accidents in his crate? Did he move the crate? Is his chest fur wet from drooling on the floor? Does he greet you frantically like he just had the most horrible experience?

Once you and your Scottish Terrier are on a regular routine, the crate will be even more useful.

## ***Using a Crate for Housetraining***

A puppy will generally not want to eliminate where he sleeps, so a crate is an effective tool for controlling your Scottish Terrier's elimination overnight or when you will be away from the house for a few hours.

Always allow your Scottie to eliminate before placing him in the crate and always allow him to eliminate once he is out of the crate.

If you think it is time for your puppy to eliminate, for example, he just woke up or he just ate and he does not eliminate outside, put him in his crate for 5-10 minutes. When the time passes, take him outside again and use your “go outside” commands. Housetraining with a crate will be explained in more detail in the next section.

### ***Tips for using the Crate***

The crate can be used as a great time-out tool. If your Scottish Terrier has been misbehaving, place him in the crate for 30 seconds. However, never use the crate to *punish* him/her for long periods at a time.

Try not to use the crate too often. It is certainly convenient, but if you use it too much, your Scottish Terrier will not get enough socialization with the family or exercise.

If your Scottish Terrier is sick with diarrhea or has been vomiting, don't put him in the crate. Also, if he has bladder or sphincter control problems, you should avoid using the crate until you talk to your veterinarian about the problems (which should be done immediately upon discovering them!)

Before you put your Scottish Terrier in the crate to go to sleep, make sure he has had a chance to eliminate outside. Otherwise, he will cry during the night and he could possibly even have an accident.

Keep the crate in a temperature-controlled environment. It should be neither be too cold or too hot.

## **Potty Training – Quick And Easy.**

One of the very first training exercises you will want to work on with a new puppy or an adult Scottish Terrier moving into your home is—housetraining! Housetraining is indeed a real test of your patience, but it is one of the first opportunities that you and your puppy will have to bond.

Housetraining can sometimes be hard work, but it is necessary to do well. You will need to have patience—and maybe even a sense of humor—as you train your Scottish Terrier. But don't worry, after all of your hard work, you will have a Scottie that is housetrained!

When it comes to housetraining, every Scottish Terrier succeeds at a different rate. It takes some Scottish Terriers only a few weeks to learn, where it may take other Scottish Terriers several months. They can be a bit stubborn!

Here is perhaps the most important thing to know about housetraining: The rate at which the puppy succeeds is determined by the amount of consistent training that you as the owner give him.

You should begin housetraining your puppy as soon as he arrives home, which is generally around 7 or 8 weeks. It is important to understand that he does not have full sphincter muscle control, so puppies are not able to hold their bladder and bowel movements for very long periods of time.

If your Scottish Terrier is not fully housetrained by 6 – 9 months, you should talk to your veterinarian to make sure there is nothing physically wrong. If there is nothing wrong, then you may want to seek professional training for the housetraining problem. Does that mean it will take 6 – 9 months to potty training your Scottish Terrier? No, it does not. Many owners have the potty training under control within a few weeks.

Although every Scottish Terrier trains at a different success rate, there are many commonalities for general housetraining. This chapter will explain those.

When you prepare for housetraining, keep in mind that consistency and reward are things that you should always do: be consistent with your training efforts and reward success every time!

## ***Training the Older Scottish Terrier***

If you are bringing an older Scottish Terrier into your home that has not yet been housetrained, it may be more of a challenge. Older Scotties already have developed their habits, so it will take time to retrain him. However, it *can* be done!

All of the lessons below can be applied to both the younger and older Scottish Terrier. It may just take longer with the older Scottish Terrier, so be patient.

Additionally, older Scottish Terriers eliminate fewer times than puppies throughout the day, so you have fewer opportunities in the day to train him.

## ***Things to Know about Houstraining***

Before you begin houstraining with your Scottish Terrier, there are some basics that you should know. Including:

### **Where Scottish Terriers Won't Eliminate**

Scottish Terriers develop natural preferences for where they want to eliminate. For example, Scottish Terriers usually don't want to eliminate where they eat, sleep, and spend their time.

You may be wondering *“So why does my Scottish Terrier eliminate on the rug?”* The reason is probably because he was expected to “hold it” too long and wasn't let outside. Or, he may have gotten overly excited about something.

### **Physical Capacity to “Hold It”**

Young puppies will need to eliminate every one to two hours during the day when they are active. If your pup has been eating, drinking, playing, or exercising a lot, he may need to go even more. They may or may not be able to hold it throughout the night. Generally, the younger the puppy is, the less he can hold it.

Older Scottish Terriers that are healthy have the ability to hold it for six to eight hours during the day and eight to ten hours over night.

However, every Scottie is different so you should track your Scottish Terrier's elimination cycle so you can better estimate when he will need to go out. For example, track his schedule for a couple of weeks.

Then, once you see a pattern, let him out 10-15 minutes before that scheduled time. Of course, he may need to go out more if he has been eating, drinking, playing, or exercising more frequently.

If the situation arises when you need to leave your Scottie for a longer period than which he can hold it, don't keep him in his crate. Rather, put him in a small room such as a

laundry room or bathroom where he can eliminate in an area on newspaper if he needs to, and still keep his sleeping and food area separate.

## **General Principles of Housetraining**

No matter which method you decide to housetrain your Scottish Terrier, you can apply these general principles to help your puppy succeed.

### **Consistency**

It is important for you to be consistent with your Scotties routine. This will be one of main rules that help you with housetraining. When your Scottish Terrier has a specific time for eating, sleeping, and playtime, he will more likely succeed in housetraining.

### **Eating Schedule**

A regular eating schedule will give your puppy a predictable appetite, which will help to regulate his digestive processes. What food goes “in” on schedule, it will likely come “out” on schedule.

Obviously, the more food and water you give your puppy, the more he will need to eliminate. Be sure to follow the instructions regarding how much to feed your puppy at which ages and weight level. During the housetraining process, refrain from giving your puppy table scraps, especially if he eats at a different time than the rest of the family because that will throw off his consistent schedule.

Also only leave your Scottish Terrier’s food down at meal times for about 20 minutes. Leaving food down throughout the day makes potty training much more difficult to master as it upsets your dog’s toileting regime.

After your puppy eats, there will be a very short amount of time before he needs to eliminate. To be safe, take him outside 15 to 20 minutes after he eats. Be sure to give your puppy plenty of water throughout the day, especially around mealtime because this is critical for carrying waste material from his body.

### **Sleeping Schedule**

Consistency in your puppy’s sleeping patterns is also important. Crate training really comes in handy here. A puppy likes to keep his “den” clean, so he will be less likely to eliminate in his crate as long as it is not too big. You will learn more about crate training for housetraining later in this chapter.

You can predict that a puppy will almost always need to eliminate when he wakes up in the morning or after naps. He should be given an opportunity to eliminate before retiring to the crate for a nap or for the night.

### **Playtime**

When a puppy engages in an exciting activity such as playtime, chances are he will need to eliminate during or afterwards. Keep your play sessions short and make sure you give him plenty of time to eliminate before coming back into the house.

### **Command Phrase**

Think of a command phrase that you will say every time you want your Scottish Terrier to go outside. It could be “Do you want to go outside” or “Do you want to go potty?” You will use this same phrase every time you take him outside. Whatever phrase you decide to say, make sure you say it in a very upbeat, positive tone! You want your puppy to think that going outside is a very exciting activity.

### **Supervise**

If you are constantly supervising your Scottish Terrier, accidents will happen less often. This is because you will be able to see “clues” such as sniffing around or walking in circles.

If you can't be in the same room with your puppy, you can keep him in a crate, but not for long periods of time.

### **Don't Punish**

All Scottish Terriers will have accidents. Even after you think that he is fully housetrained, he will still have the occasional accident.

You should never punish your dog if you stumble upon an accident that happened a few hours ago. For example, if you call your Scottish Terrier to an accident and say “Rover, come” and point out a mess to him and scold him, he will think you are punishing him for coming, *not* the accident. If you do this, your doggy may become fearful of you.

If you catch your Scottish Terrier in the act of eliminating, refrain from yelling or hitting him (even though you may want to!) Instead, use a verbal reprimand word or phrase such as “no,” “eh-eh,” or “hey” in a firm tone, but don't yell. This sound will interrupt his action and then you can take him outside.



You should also never punish a Scottish Terrier for submissive elimination. This could happen when your dog gets overly excited, if he gets scolded, or if there are visitors in the house. This is something that he will eventually outgrow, but until then, just be patient with him.

## **Clean Messes**

When your Scottish Terrier has an accident in the house, clean the mess as soon as you can with a deodorizer to get rid of the odor. If you don't clean the area with a deodorizer, the odor will draw your Scottish Terrier back to that spot to eliminate.

You should also clean up your puppy's messes outside too. A clean environment is important for your puppy's health. Piles of feces on the lawn not only look and smell bad, but it can cause diseases from being infested with canine worm larvae.

## **Grant Freedom**

As your Scottish Terrier has fewer accidents inside the house, you will be able to let him wander around the house more. Do this gradually. If he has accidents with this new freedom, go back to watching him closely until you he has proven himself again.

## ***Deciding Which Method to Use***

Before your new puppy arrives to your home, you should decide how you are going to housetrain him. There are several ways to housetrain your puppy. It is important to decide on a method and then stick with it for the duration of your Scottish Terrier's life. Changing methods will confuse your Scottie and will ultimately cause accidents. Apply the principles that you just learned to these methods.

You can train him to go outside, "paper" potty training, potty pads, or a litter pan. Once you make the decision, everyone in the family should be sure to train the same way.

## **How to Housetrain to Go Outside**

Housetraining is teaching your Scottish Terrier to eliminate outside only—he is never allowed to eliminate indoors. From the moment you bring your new puppy or Scottish Terrier home, you want to take him immediately to the spot you want to designate as his “elimination area.”

Use your command phrase “go outside” or “go potty.” As soon as he eliminates, immediately give him verbal praise and a reward.

Anticipate his future needs to go outside by tracking his cycle as mentioned earlier. Whenever it is time to eliminate, take him outside and once again give the command phrase “go outside” or “go potty.”

If your yard does not have a fence, or you live in an apartment, you will want to take your Scottish Terrier out on a leash. Attach the leash to the collar and say “Rover come” in an upbeat tone. When he begins to walk, praise him. Lead the puppy directly to where you want him to eliminate, and say use your command phrase. Otherwise, he may be confused and think you are taking him out for a walk.

He won't always eliminate on cue. In fact, you could spend several minutes outside waiting for him to eliminate. But until he is fully housetrained, you *need* to be there with him. Once he finally eliminates, give him immediate praise and a reward.

If you are taking your puppy to eliminate other than your own yard, make sure that you keep him from going on your neighbor's lawn, in public recreational areas, or children's playgrounds. Always take a plastic bag with you so you can pick up his feces and throw it away immediately into an outdoor trash can.

Female Scottish Terriers squat to urinate, however, male Scottish Terriers raise their hind legs and aim at vertical objects, or “targets.” So, be aware of where your male Scottish Terrier chooses to urinate.

Curbs, phone poles, and fire hydrants are acceptable locations. However, automobiles, bicycles, mailboxes, young trees, fences, plants, and shrubbery are not. If you see your Scottish Terrier striking the pose, gently tug on the leash and keep walking until you find an appropriate object.

Consistency is very important with housetraining. If you are not consistent with *when* you take him out and *where* you take him out, it will be hard for your Scottish Terrier to know what is right and what is wrong.

## **How to Paper Train**

Paper training is when you train your puppy to eliminate on several layers of newspapers inside your house that are in the same spot at all times. Of course, you change the papers after each use, but the key is that the newspapers are always available for the puppy's use.

Paper training is separate from housetraining. It is not a preliminary step to housetraining. This is a common mistake among people. The only exception is for very young puppies that are too young to go outside. If you decide to teach your puppy paper training, it then should be used for the rest of his life.

Paper training is a practical method for:

People who have a small Scottish Terrier and live in an apartment.

People who are elderly, handicapped, or find it difficult to walk their Scottish Terrier.

People who have young puppies with little or no control of their bladder or bowel muscles yet.

People who have puppies that have not had all of their immunization shots yet.

People who work long hours and must leave their Scottish Terriers home alone.

If you paper train a puppy to go inside with the intentions of eventually training him to go outside, he will be very confused. Especially, when the change is gradual. If you must make the switch, it is better to do it all at once, that way he knows that the paper way has been replaced with going outside. Otherwise, he might not go outside, but instead go inside where his papers are—or used to be!

When you paper train, select a quiet corner in the kitchen or a bathroom. Make sure that this is a room that you don't mind being his permanent elimination area. The location should not be in a high-traffic area. After all, everyone likes their privacy!

Cut a plastic trash bag in an approximate 3 x 4-foot area and lay it where you want your puppy to eliminate. Next, lay 6 to 8 sheets of newspaper over the plastic bag and tape down the corners. After awhile, your puppy will recognize this as his elimination area and you can start making the space smaller.

It is essential that you lay the papers down in the same area every time. You will take your puppy to this area when he wakes up in the morning, 15-20 minutes after each meal, after each nap, after playtime, and before bedtime. Also, if he is ever showing signs such as excessive sniffing or walking around in circles, take him to the elimination area.

At the elimination area, give him his command “go potty” in a pleasant tone of voice. If he wanders off, place him back on the papers. Once he goes, praise him and reward him.

Once your puppy has become comfortable eliminating on the papers, then you can start using the “come” command. Whenever it is time for him to go, such as first thing in the morning or after a meal, walk to the papers and say “Rover, come.” He will then know that it is time for him to eliminate.

If your puppy starts having accidents off of the paper, you should start the paper training process over again.

## **How to Train with Potty Pads**

Potty training pads are also used for indoor training. These are absorbent pads that are scientifically treated to attract a puppy to eliminate on it. You can use the same steps for the potty pads as you do paper training. The benefit to potty pads is that it absorbs moisture so you can easily throw it away after use. Additionally, these are easy to travel with if you will be staying in a hotel, on a boat, etc.

## **How to Train with a Litter Pan**

Another indoor training method is litter pan training. This is when you train a small Scottish Terrier to eliminate in a cat litter pan. The main benefit to this method over paper training is that a tray filled with kitty litter or shredded newspapers is not as unsightly as soiled newspapers. A heavy-duty plastic pan is best because it can be washed easily with soap and hot water.

The basic concept of litter pan training is the same as paper training. To make the pan more appealing to your puppy, place a newspaper shred with his urine on it in the pan. Or, leave a small piece of feces in the pan. He will be drawn by his scent. Let him sniff around, place him in the pan, and say a command such as “Rover, go potty” or “Rover, use your tray.” When he eliminates, praise him.

If he doesn't eliminate, place him back into his crate for 5 to 10 minutes, then carry him to the pan again. Repeat this until he goes.

Remove the soiled papers from the pan immediately after use and flush solid waste down the toilet.

## **Other Housetraining Methods**

There are other housetraining methods that can be used too. These are the “bell” and “speak” methods.

### **Bell Method**

The bell method is just what it sounds like—using a bell to indicate when your Scottish Terrier has to go outside. Simply hang a string of bells on the door handle of the door he uses to go outside. Lower it to his level so he can easily reach it. Then, every time you go to take him outside, take his paw or nose and jiggle the bells. Once you repeat this several

times, he will understand that the bells are there for him to indicate that he needs to go outside.

There are some disadvantages to using the bell method. For one, many Scottish Terriers prefer to *play* with the bells, so it is hard to tell if your Scottish Terrier really needs to go out, or if he is just entertaining himself.

Second, the bells might not be able to be heard from all over the house. This actually defeats the purpose of having the bells if you can't hear it from every room.

Third, if you are traveling, you will need to take the bells with you.

### **Speak on Command**

This method is beneficial when your Scottish Terrier is already housetrained. When you are at the door to take him outside, say "Rover, do you need to go outside?" or "Rover, do you need to go potty?" Then say, "Can you speak?" When he barks, say "Yes, good boy" and open the door.

You can do the same thing for going back into the house. Be aware though, some Scottish Terriers think that you are actually playing a game. For example they may "speak" when you just had him outside. In this case, you need to pay close attention to his elimination schedule.

Housetraining will be one of your most proud accomplishments with your Scottish Terrier!

It does take a some work and a lot of patience, but you will feel a great sense of "relief" when your dog is housetrained!

Good luck and remember to laugh along the way!

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