

HOW TO CRATE-TRAIN YOUR NEW PUPPY

STEP 1: FIND A SUITABLE CRATE

- Should be large enough for puppy to stand up, turn around, and lay down
- Choose a crate that will accommodate puppy's adult size
- Block off any excess space to discourage the puppy from using the crate as a place to use the bathroom
- Place in a communal living space so the puppy is not completely isolated

STEP 2: BEGIN TRAINING-PATIENCE IS KEY!

- Introduce your puppy to its new crate
 - Leave the door open so they can explore on their own will
 - Place treats inside, praise puppy when they go in, and make the experience enjoyable
- Start leaving puppy in the crate for short periods of time—start with 10 minute intervals and slow increase
 - Can use the crate for meal times or special treats/toys
- Be out of sight of the crate with the puppy inside for periods of time until you trust that the puppy is safe and content(not scared, anxious, or upset)
- Use the crate for them to sleep in at night– place soft, washable towels or beds

STEP 3: DO NOT USE THE CRATE AS A PUNISHMENT!

- Remember that the crate is your puppy's **safe haven**
- Do not associate the crate with negativity or punishment-this could result in behavioral problems later on such as separation anxiety or destructive behavior

