



LIESSE ANIMAL CLINIC

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Dr. R. J. Langill ~ Serving the community since 1950

HOUSETRAINING CORRECTION GUIDE

Key Points:

- 1) Choose 1 location for elimination, outdoors, which should be on a direct route from the door. Keep small amounts of feces or urine in this location to encourage further elimination.
- 2) Praise/ reward the dog lavishly when this proper area is used.
- 3) When at home, *always* keep one eye on the dog. Never let your dog out of your sight. This way he either won't eliminate, or you'll catch him in the act.
- 4) If caught in the act, disturb the dog by yelling, making a loud noise, or throwing something. Remember, you do not want to punish the dog; this will only make him afraid of *you*, not the house soiling. You want to make it unpleasant, or frightening to him, so he will not eliminate there again. When you have interrupted him, immediately take him outside, and praise him if he eliminates.
- 5) If you must leave your pup alone, or if you must take your eyes off him for more than a few minutes, he must be placed outside, or in his crate. (see crate training)
- 6) Anytime that the dog shows pre-elimination signs (squatting, circling, sniffing furniture, sneaking away), he should be corrected, and taken outside. Praise him whenever he deserves it, even if he has just stopped doing something wrong. You can't just teach him what is wrong, you must also teach him what is right.
- 7) Keep to a schedule. Take the dog out after meals, waking up, and activity, as all of these stimulate the bowel movements.
- 8) If urine or stool is found in the house, do not make a big thing of it. Avoid scolding in any way. Apply correction if the dog looks or smells the soiled spot, then immediately take the dog to the normal toilet area. Point to the area, then praise lavishly, when the proper toilet area is used.
- 9) Clean up any spots with a non-ammonia type cleanser. Veterinary products are the best, but vinegar or dettol may work. Soak up any residue of this solution with towels. Remember, a dog may smell the urine or stool odor, even though you can't.