

### Other Issues

If you've consistently followed the housetraining procedures and your dog continues to eliminate in the house, there may be another reason for his behavior, such as:

**Medical problems:** House-soiling can often be caused by physical problems such as a urinary tract infection, a parasite infection, or even a seizure. Check with your veterinarian to rule out any possibility of disease or illness.

**Submissive or excitement urination:** Some dogs, especially young ones, temporarily lose control of their bladders when they become excited or feel threatened. Submissive or excitement urination usually occurs during greetings or periods of intense play, or when they're about to be punished.

**Territorial urine marking:** Dogs sometimes deposit small amounts of urine or feces to scent-mark their territory. Both male and female dogs do this, and it most often occurs when they believe their territory has been invaded.

**Separation anxiety:** Dogs who become anxious when they're left alone may house-soil as a result. Usually, there are other symptoms as well, such as destructive behavior or vocalization.

**Fears or phobias:** When animals become frightened, they may lose control of their bladder and/or bowels. If your puppy is afraid of loud noises, such as thunderstorms or fireworks, he may house soil when he's exposed to these sounds.



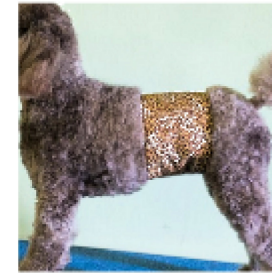
### Belly Band Measuring Instructions

**BOY DOG MEASURING INSTRUCTIONS:** Wrap a measuring cloth/flexible tape around the MIDDLE of your boy dog's tummy; over his private parts that the belly band needs to cover. Pull the tape snug, but not too tight. This is your boy dog's waist measurement. Bands will have an extension for an overlapping closure using Velcro.

If you are interested in purchasing Belly Bands, you may email Judy Franklin at [judyfranklin24@gmail.com](mailto:judyfranklin24@gmail.com). Include your name, address and pets belly size. She will contact you with price. Average price is from \$5 to \$10 depending on size, plus postage. Colors will vary. For every band that is sold, Carolina Poodle Rescue receives 2 free.



# Belly Bands



## For Male Dogs

Belly bands are designed to wrap around a male dog's body and cover his penis. It is a physical barrier between his urine and your furniture. A belly band is in fact a dog diaper for male dogs.

Belly Bands are made of a thick absorbent type of fabric, such as fleece or flannelette. They are wrapped around the dog and fastened by means of a velcro strip sewn at each end of the wrap. Usually a good fitting belly wrap requires no elastic and will stay in place quite well. You can also use a self adhesive feminine pad or an incontinence pad inside the belly band. These will hold more urine than the belly band alone, and you won't have to launder as often. Belly bands should be machine washable and reused as needed.

*Belly bands are not meant to worn constantly*, but rather as an aid when you want to allow your dog inside the house without the headache of keeping a constant eye on him making sure he doesn't pee on your furniture. You should remove the belly band when your dog has to relieve himself outside.

A Belly Band will not stop your dog from urine marking its territory inside your house but it will save your furniture, carpets and floors from the damage of dog urine.

Belly Bands will also save you a lot of the frustration of cleaning up dog urine odors.

Often a male dog will mark its territory in the house or even worse when you go visiting he marks inside someone else's house. This can be quite embarrassing to say the least.

### Senior Dogs

Older dogs often become incontinent and a belly band is an excellent method to prevent urine dribbles on your floor and carpet. Here are some reasons why adult and senior dogs might have accidents in the house:

As your dog ages, he may need to eliminate more often than in the past. Just as people can have difficulties as they age, so can dogs. They may not be able to "hold it" as long as they used to. They also may become incontinent. This is not a housetraining issue.

If your senior dog has accidents frequently, your vet should examine him for possible medical problems. If the vet says it's not a medical issue, you will have to manage the situation instead of trying to housetrain the dog.

If you are at work all day, you may need to:

Hire a pet sitter to visit your dog to let him outside.

Confine him to a room of the house where accidents will be easy to clean up.

### New Home

Any dog, even a fully housetrained adult dog, may have house-soiling accidents when he first moves to your home. The stress of new surroundings and a new schedule can disrupt his routine. Usually, once he gets accustomed to your household schedule, the accidents stop..

It's also possible he's never been housetrained. Give him a few weeks to settle in to his new home and follow the procedures for housetraining dogs.

### How to Housetrain Your Dog

Any dog, even a fully housetrained adult dog, may have house-soiling accidents when he first moves to your home. The stress of new surroundings and a new schedule can disrupt his routine. Usually, once he gets accustomed to your household schedule, the accidents stop. It's also possible he's never been housetrained. Give him a few weeks to settle in to his new home and follow the procedures for housetraining. Housetraining your dog requires vigilance, patience, plenty of commitment and above all, consistency. The more consistent you are in following the basic housetraining procedures, the faster your dog will learn acceptable behavior. It may take several weeks to housetrain your dog, and with some of the smaller breeds, it might take longer.

#### Establish a routine

Like babies, dogs & puppies do best on a regular schedule. The schedule teaches him that there are times to eat, times to play and times to potty.

Generally speaking, a puppy can control his bladder one hour for every month of age. So if your puppy is two months old, he can hold it for about two hours. Don't go longer than this between bathroom breaks, or he's guaranteed to have an accident. If you work outside the home, this means you'll have to hire a dog walker to give your puppy his bathroom breaks. Older dogs are usually good for 5-8 hours. Senior dogs require frequent outings, about every 2-4 hours. Take your dog outside frequently—at least every two hours—and immediately after he wakes up, during and after playing, and after eating or drinking.

Pick a bathroom spot outside, and always take your dog (on a leash) to that spot. While your dog is eliminating, use a word or phrase, like "go potty," that you can eventually use before he eliminates to remind him what to do. Take him out for a longer walk or some playtime only after he has eliminated.

Reward your dog every time he/ she eliminates outdoors. Praise him/ her or give a treat—but remember to do so immediately after finished eliminating, not after he/she comes back inside the house. This step is vital, because rewarding your dog for eliminating outdoors is the only way to teach what's expected. Before rewarding, be sure he/she's finished eliminating. Dogs may be easily distracted: If you praise too soon, they may forget to finish until back in the house.

Put your dog on a regular feeding schedule. What goes in on a schedule comes out on a schedule.. Feeding your dog at the same times each day will make it more likely that they'll eliminate at consistent times as well, and that makes housetraining easier for both of you. Pick up your dogs water dish about two and a half hours before bedtime to reduce the likelihood that they'll need to potty during the night. Most dogs can sleep for approximately seven to 9 hours without having to eliminate.

If your dog does wake you up in the night, don't make a big deal of it; otherwise, he/she will think it is time to play and won't want to go back to sleep. Turn on as few lights as possible, don't talk to or play with your dog, take him out to do his business and return him to his bed.

### How to Housetrain Your Dog continued

Supervise your dog in the first month or so. Don't give your dog an opportunity to soil in the house; keep an eye on them whenever indoors. You may want to Tether your dog to you or a nearby piece of furniture with a six-foot leash if you are not actively training or playing with him. Watch for signs that your dog needs to eliminate. Some signs are obvious, such as barking or scratching at the door, squatting, restlessness, sniffing around or circling. When you see these signs, immediately grab the leash and take him outside to his bathroom spot. If he eliminates, praise him lavishly and reward him with a treat.

Keep your dog on leash in the yard. During the housetraining process, your yard should be treated like any other room in your house. Give your dog some freedom in the house and yard only after they have become reliably housetrained. Confine your dog when you can't supervise him/her. When you're unable to watch your dog at all times, restrict to an area small enough that they won't want to eliminate there. The space should be just big enough for them to comfortably stand lie down and turn around. You can use a portion of a bathroom or laundry room blocked off with baby gates or you may want to crate train your dog and confine in the crate. (Be sure to learn how to use a crate humanely as a method of confinement.) If your dog has spent several hours in confinement, you'll need to take her/him directly to the bathroom spot as soon as you let him/her out—and praise him/her when he eliminates.

Oops! Take mistakes in stride. Expect your dog to have a few accidents in the house—it's a normal part of housetraining. Here's what to do when that happens: Interrupt your dog when you catch him in the act of eliminating in the house. Make a startling noise (be careful not to scare them) or say "OUTSIDE!" Immediately take to bathroom spot, praise, and give a treat if they finish eliminating there.

*Don't punish your dog for eliminating in the house.* If you find a soiled area, it's too late to administer a correction. Just clean it up. Rubbing your dogs nose in it, taking him to the spot and scolding him or any other punishment will only make him afraid of you or afraid to eliminate in your presence. In fact, punishment will often do more harm than good. Clean the soiled area thoroughly. Dogs are highly motivated to continue soiling in areas that smell like urine or feces. Check with your veterinarian or pet store for products designed specifically to clean areas soiled by pets.

It's extremely important that you use the supervision and confinement procedures outlined above to minimize the number of accidents. If you allow your dog to eliminate frequently in the house, they'll get confused about where they are supposed to eliminate, which will prolong the housetraining process.

If you clean up an accident in the house, put the soiled rags or paper towels in the designated elimination area. The smell will help your dog recognize the area as the place where they are supposed to eliminate.

