



We put a twinkle in your eye, a smile on your face, a song in your heart, skills in your hands, so that the time with your family dog will be some of the best times of your life.

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Issue 70

Living With Dogs: The Case for Crates

The crate is a marvellous tool: Good for short stints of alone time and for getting your dog to settle down during Zoom meetings, great for house-training and travel. Worried a crate is just one step up from imprisonment? No need. Like coyotes and wolves, dogs are den animals that enjoy close quarters. That said, it would be unkind to simply deposit a dog in a crate if he's never seen one before – it would also likely trigger loud and long-lasting objections. Here are some tips for helping your dog love his crate:

Use irresistible treats. “Edible toys” (i.e. treats stuffed in a Kong) are the way to get your dog to fall in love with his crate. Stock up on liver treats, chicken bits, or whatever high-value healthy snacks make your dog sit up and take notice. Make sure you have a favourite toy or chewie set aside for crate training time, and don't

break out that particular goody for anything else.



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Did You Know: How to say *Dog* around the world?

- Albanian: Qen
- Arabic: Calb
- Belarusian: Sabaka
- Bengali: Kukur
- Blackfoot: Imitáá
- Catalan: Gos
- Chinese: Gou
- Danish: Hund
- Dutch: Hond
- Eskimo: Kringmerk
- French: Chien/ne
- Greek: Skylos
- Hebrew: Kelev
- Italian: Cane
- Lithuanian: šuo
- Malay: Anjing
- Maori: Kuri
- Mongolian: Noqai
- Polish: Pies
- Samoan: Maile
- Sepedi: Mpaá
- Spanish: Perro
- Tagalog: Áso
- Tamil: Nayin
- Urdu: Kutta
- Welsh: Ci
- Yiddish: Hunt or kelef

cont.

... crates

Go slow. Only gradually increase the amount of time you ask your dog to spend in the crate during crate training. Likewise for the amount of time you leave him alone in the crate once he's used to it. Going slowly is the key to success. Remember, you're building a positive association to last a canine lifetime.

Exercise first. Make sure your dog has had a good workout before each crate training session. Crate training goes faster and works better if your dog has worked up an appetite and – for when you get far enough in the training program to leave him alone in there – is nice and tired and ready for a snooze.

Note: Never leave your dog in the crate for more than 3-4 hours at a time, except for bedtime.



Family Dog: School is back in session

The kids have headed back to school, but what about the dog? This time of year is a opportunity to brush up on his manners or teach him new tricks. You'll keep your canine communication skills strong – and have fun with your family.

One thing you can do is buy a book of dog tricks and have your children pick a new one each month to work on. Jumping through a hoop, putting toys away, or closing a door are fun, hands-off activities that are fairly easy to teach. Alternatively, look into the many brain toys or interactive toys on the market to get your dog thinking and solving problems. Providing your dog's morning meal in a Kong or another interactive toy will keep your dog busy while you get everyone ready and out the door in time for school. That means less stress for you. Have the kids pack a Kong the night before, and, for a longer-lasting treat for the morning rush, freeze it.

So, as you shop for school supplies, consider adding a few dog treats and toys to the supply list. Dogs like to go back to school, too!



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