

Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part I: Preparing to Potty Train Your Pooch</i>	7
Chapter 1: No, Virginia, It's Not That Hard: Understanding Housetraining Basics.....	9
Chapter 2: Training the Housetrainer: Taking the Right Approach	17
Chapter 3: Getting Your Home in Housetraining Order	35
Chapter 4: Feeding Fido: What Goes In Must Come Out	55
<i>Part II: Putting a Plan in Place</i>	75
Chapter 5: Training to Love the Crate	77
Chapter 6: Heading to the Outside: Outdoor Housetraining	87
Chapter 7: Making Some Inside Moves: Indoor Housetraining.....	101
Chapter 8: Fine-Tuning Housetraining.....	117
<i>Part III: Solving Housetraining Problems</i>	129
Chapter 9: Accident-Proofing Small Dogs and Other Problem Potty-ers.....	131
Chapter 10: Understanding How an Oh-No Can Become a Problem-o.....	147
Chapter 11: Sorting Out Humans' Housetraining Challenges	159
<i>Part IV: The Part of Tens</i>	173
Chapter 12: Ten Housetraining Mistakes You Don't Have to Make.....	175
Chapter 13: Ten Reasons Housetrained Dogs Live in Happier Households	183
<i>Appendix: Other Helpful Pit</i>	
<i>Stops for Housetrainers</i>	189
Go Online.....	189
Book 'Em!.....	191
Flip through These Mags.....	192
<i>Index</i>	193

Table of Contents

***Introduction*..... 1**

- About This Book 1
- Conventions Used in This Book 2
- What You're Not to Read 3
- Foolish Assumptions 3
- How This Book Is Organized 4
 - Part I: Preparing to Potty Train Your Pooch 4
 - Part II: Putting a Plan in Place 4
 - Part III: Solving Houstraining Problems 5
 - Part IV: The Part of Tens..... 5
 - Appendix..... 5
- Icons Used in This Book..... 5
- Where to Go From Here 6

***Part I: Preparing to Potty Train Your Pooch* 7**

**Chapter 1: No, Virginia, It's Not That Hard:
Understanding Houstraining Basics 9**

- What Houstraining Is — and Why It Matters 10
- Why Your Dog Can't Be “a Little Bit Houstrained” 11
- Exploring Houstraining Methods 12
 - Location, location, location: Outdoor versus indoor training 12
 - Looking at lifestyle factors to help you choose your method 14
- Surviving Setbacks and Special Situations 14
- Understanding the Role You and Your Family Play 15

**Chapter 2: Training the Houstrainer:
Taking the Right Approach 17**

- Leaving Behind Houstraining Methods of Yesteryear 18
- Using Your Pooch's Instincts to Lay a Foundation..... 18
 - The training your dog has already had..... 19
 - Learning from his mom..... 20
 - Denning dynamics 22
 - Cleanliness is next to dog-liness..... 23
 - Life without guilt..... 24
 - Learning by repetition..... 24
 - The need for attachment 25
 - How instincts can be thwarted 26

Taking the 21st-Century Approach to Housetraining.....	28
Seeing your dog's point of view	29
Being benevolent	29
Working with your dog's instincts.....	30
Creating a schedule	30
Rewarding the good, ignoring the goofs.....	31
Being consistent.....	32
Attending to details	33

Chapter 3: Getting Your Home in Housetraining Order 35

Readying Your Dog's Room: The Crate.....	35
Understanding why every dog needs (and wants) a crate.....	36
Finding the right fit: Types of crates	36
Adjusting for size	38
Investing in crate accessories.....	39
Situating your doggie's den	39
Gearing Up for Outdoor Training.....	40
Selecting a potty spot — no matter where you live.....	40
Securing collars and leashes	41
Containing the situation: Fencing.....	44
Installing a doggie door.....	45
Prepping for Indoor Training.....	46
Exploring types of indoor potties	47
Setting up your dog's indoor living area and potty spot.....	47
Doing the Dirty Work: Cleanup Equipment	49
Choosing an outdoor cleanup method	50
Indoor cleaners	53
Other cleaning aids.....	54

Chapter 4: Feeding Fido: What Goes In Must Come Out 55

Knowing How Feeding and Watering Affect Housetraining	55
Understanding Nutrients: What Dogs Need to Eat	56
Proteins.....	56
Fats	57
Vitamins and minerals	58
Determining the Diet That's Best for Your Dog	58
Considering commercial dog foods.....	59
Making home-prepped dog foods	61
Serving Your Dog	64
Picking the place to feed your dog.....	64
Setting the canine dining ambience	65
Selecting your dog's dinnerware	66
Deciding when to feed your dog.....	67

To Treat or Not to Treat	69
Buying commercial treats.....	70
Preparing homemade treats.....	72
Choosing low-calorie treat options	72
Working with Your Dog's Drinking Habits.....	74
<i>Part II: Putting a Plan in Place</i>	75
Chapter 5: Training to Love the Crate	77
Introducing the Crate	78
Tie one on: The open-door policy	78
Encourage exploration.....	78
Shut the door (but not for long).....	79
Leave the room	80
Build up her tolerance	81
Encouraging Appreciation If Your Dog Hates the Crate	81
Limiting Crate Time: How Much Is Too Much?.....	83
Continuing to Use the Crate	84
Keeping the love alive	85
Beyond housetraining: Other uses for the crate	85
Chapter 6: Heading to the Outside: Outdoor Housetraining.....	87
Understanding How Outdoor Training Works	88
Introducing Puppies to Outdoor Training.....	88
Getting an early start.....	89
Taking the first trips outside.....	89
Responding when your puppy potties.....	90
A matter of timing: Setting up a puppy potty schedule.....	92
Scheduling Outdoor Training for Adult Dogs.....	95
Dealing with Boo-boos.....	96
Catching your dog in the act.....	96
Finding messes: Don't scold — just clean 'em up!	96
Preventing further accidents	97
Providing Indoor Potty Areas for Outdoor Trainees.....	98
Chapter 7: Making Some Inside Moves: Indoor Housetraining	101
Understanding How Indoor Training Works	101
Identifying good indoor-training candidates.....	102
Opting for indoor training only.....	103
Pick Your Potty: Deciding Which Type to Use.....	104
Newspapers	104
Puppy training pads	105
Litter boxes.....	106
Grate/tray potties	106



- Introducing Puppies to Indoor Training 107
 - Deciding where to put the indoor potty..... 108
 - Starting out..... 109
 - Scheduling bathroom breaks 111
 - Switching a vaccinated puppy to
 - outdoor training..... 113
- Using Indoor Training for the Adult Dog..... 113
 - From outdoors to papers..... 114
 - From outdoors to litter box..... 114
 - From outdoors to grate/tray combo 115
- Responding to Mistakes 116

Chapter 8: Fine-Tuning Housetraining. 117

- Decoding Pre-potty Maneuvers..... 118
- Getting Your Dog to Ask to Go Out..... 120
- Encouraging Elimination 122
 - Peeing on cue 123
 - Prompting Mr. (or Ms.) Independent 124
- Deciding When to Grant More Freedom 125
 - The age factor: How old is old enough?..... 126
 - The responsibility factor: Should she have
 - freedom of the house?..... 127

Part III: Solving Housetraining Problems 129

**Chapter 9: Accident-Proofing Small Dogs
and Other Problem Potty-ers 131**

- The Teensy-Weensy Tinkler 131
 - Choose the right potty place..... 132
 - Don't push your luck (or her bladder) 132
 - Don't excuse lapses 133
- The Dog Who Pees Lying Down 133
 - Play it cool 134
 - Get down to her level..... 134
 - Don't stare her down..... 135
- The Dog Who Leaves His Mark 135
 - Neuter him..... 135
 - Remove (or at least contain) the target..... 136
 - Remind him who's top dog..... 136
 - Build a peaceable kingdom..... 137
 - Start remedial housetraining..... 137
- The Uptight Canine..... 138
- The Dog Who Gets Distracted 140
- The Fair-Weather Piddler..... 141
- The Bedwetter 141

The Dog Who Gets Amnesia 142
 The Dog Who Can't Hold It 143
 Rule out other issues..... 143
 Find a holistic vet 143
 Consider diapers..... 143
 The Poop Eater..... 144
 The Bleeding Lady, or the Canine Fertility Goddess..... 144

**Chapter 10: Understanding How an Oh-No
 Can Become a Problem-o 147**

A Whiz of a Problem 147
 Constant peeing 148
 Constant drinking and constant peeing..... 149
 Pee that comes out slowly or not at all 150
 Oddly colored pee 150
 The Scoop on Poop Problems 151
 Poop on the run(s) 151
 Soft, stinky poop 152
 Oily poop 153
 Poop that comes out slowly or not at all..... 153
 Poop that contains other things 154
 Gray, black, or red poop 155
 Skinny poop 156
 Gaseous Emissions 156

**Chapter 11: Sorting Out Humans'
 Houstraining Challenges. 159**

Crafting a Family Houstraining Plan 160
 Dividing duties: A plan to relieve the
 primary caregiver 161
 Getting the adults on the same page..... 161
 Getting the kids on board 162
 Balancing Crate Time 162
 Relieving the Home-Alone Dog..... 164
 Getting a pet-sitter or dog walker 164
 Bringing your dog to work..... 164
 Going home for lunch..... 165
 Working from home..... 165
 Creating a potty-proof home-alone area..... 165
 Sticking to the Schedule..... 166
 Managing Snacks 167
 Messing Up the Cleanup..... 167
 Anticipating Lapses Due to Household Changes 168
 Helping the Newly Adopted Houstraineer..... 169
 Hitting the Road with Your Houstraining Graduate 171

Part IV: The Part of Tens 173**Chapter 12: Ten Housetraining Mistakes
You Don't Have to Make 175**

Thinking the Crate Is Cruel.....	175
Getting a Crate That's Too Big.....	176
Failing to Stick to the Schedule.....	177
Failing to Clean Up Completely.....	177
Not Cleaning the Indoor Potty.....	178
Thinking Your Dog Looks Guilty.....	178
Scolding Her after the Fact.....	179
Rubbing His Nose in You-Know-What.....	180
Changing the Menu Abruptly.....	180
Declaring Victory Prematurely.....	181

**Chapter 13: Ten Reasons Housetrained
Dogs Live in Happier Households 183**

The Houses Smell Nicer.....	183
The Owners Save Money.....	183
The Owners Are Less Cranky.....	184
The Dogs Aren't Scared When Their Owners Come Home.....	184
The Owners Don't Worry about Stepping in You-Know-What.....	185
The Dogs Have One Less Way to Embarrass Their Owners.....	185
The Owners Know Right Away When Their Dogs Are Sick.....	186
The Dogs Have a Great Foundation for Further Training.....	186
Dogs and Owners Communicate Better with Each Other.....	187
The Owners Are More Likely to Keep Their Dogs.....	187

**Appendix: Other Helpful Pit
Stops for Housetrainers..... 189**

Go Online.....	189
Book 'Em!.....	191
Flip through These Mags.....	192

Index..... 193