

Potting In One Place

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The following will help you to teach your dog to eliminate in one area, keeping the remaining yard free of urine burned grass and doggy “doo”.

Preparation:

- decide on where you would like to have your dog potty, making certain the size of the area accommodates the size of your dog(s) and also allows for some roaming room
- grass, wood mulch, small pebbles, even concrete can be used for the surface
- for male dogs place a rock, etc. there for them to piddle on
- thoroughly clean the yard and hose it down to wash urine into the soil
- pick up a scoop or two of doggy “doo” and place it into the designated potty area

Training:

- when your dog shows signs of needing to relieve himself
 - go to the door
 - leash him
 - as you open the door use an associated word or phrase such as “Go

Potty”

- immediately take him to the spot
- once there repeat the cue “Go Potty”
- stay with him, and as soon as he eliminates, softly praise him and offer him a treat
- as soon as he is finished return with him to the house using the same door-
 - don’t use
 - the training session for play time
- for two to three weeks he should exercise and play off property (this is difficult, but important to the training)

Initial Test:

- after two to three weeks place the leash on him
- say the cue “Go Potty” as you open the door
- go with him but let him walk to the area by himself if he doesn’t go to the right place, take the leash and lead him there
- once he relieves himself praise and treat him
- when he is reliably going to the spot you must continue to be patient, consistent and observant for several weeks

Next Test:

- don’t use the leash
- use the cue “Go Potty”
- open the door and follow him
- be ready to correct him if he wanders from the potty area

Final Test:

- use the cue “Go Potty”
- open the door and watch him
- be ready to interrupt at the first sign of a mistake

A few notes:

- if there are mistakes be prepared to return to using the leash
- keep the area clean and hose it down frequently
- for a few months continue to praise and treat

Most Importantly, make certain you take your dog off property to eliminate.

Take walks

in different areas (pavement, grass, gravel, sand) so he will feel comfortable going on various surfaces and in different environments.

