

actions may be a hindrance to housetraining. A 50/50 solution of water and white vinegar or Listerine are effective in masking scent. Remember that your pup's sense of smell is acute, and masking scent is important. If not properly removed, scent will draw the pups back to the same spot.

7. Try not to take the pup outside for play or a walk unless you have him eliminate in the designated area first. Otherwise, he will constantly ask to go out even when he does not need to eliminate.
8. If your pup is not reliable, it is best to restrict him to a SMALL area when out of your sight. If given too much space, a pup will eliminate in one area, play in another, etc. He will learn nothing if you allow the pup the freedom to potty where he pleases.
9. As your puppy matures a bit and his bladder control increases, he may decide that investigating the yard and/or playing is more gratifying at the moment than doing his "business". I personally like to teach my puppies to eliminate promptly when I take them outside. If the pup does not eliminate within just a few short minutes, I then pick up the pup, take him inside and put him in his crate. I will wait 15-20 minutes, then get him and take him back outside. If he potties, I praise lavishly. If he does not, then he goes back into the crate for another 15 minutes. (If you know your puppy should need to eliminate but he chooses not to, then you are setting him up for a mistake by allowing him to run free in the house. Only when the puppy has done his business outside is he allowed to run free in the house.)

Remember, Be consistent about scheduling feeding and elimination. Housetraining requires patience and consistency for success. And, be sure to praise ALL success!

Next month I will talk about puppy nipping and my rule that teeth never touch the skin.

HAVE FUN WITH YOUR PUPPY!!!!!!

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