

Management

Puppies come with a set of pre-installed behaviors: urinating and defecating when they feel the urge, chewing on anything they can put in their mouths, whining, crying and barking if they find themselves alone, eating any food they encounter (not to mention many NON-food items!), greeting by excitedly jumping up, and play-biting all living things. **These are all normal behaviors for any puppy or untrained adult dog**. Notice that there is little on this list of which humans are likely to approve.

To have a dog that chews only his own toys, eliminates outside, can relax alone quietly, greets without jumping up and plays without being mouthy, the onus is on us humans to mould the dog's behavior. Puppies need management and the safest policy with newly adopted dogs is to treat them as though they were puppies too!

Follow are important rules for managing your new puppy or dog:

- Confine any puppy or untrained dog to one room, such as the kitchen, to make dog-proofing the room and supervision easier.
- Supervise like crazy: feedback about both housetraining and chewing lapses has to be immediate. Never punish a dog late: it is ineffective and abusive. If you don't have time to supervise (or train, exercise, etc.) don't get a dog.
- Help him get it right most of the time: provide stuffed chew toys and praise him when he uses them, take him out often (every hour for a young puppy!) and praise & reward him immediately when he performs outside, enroll in a reward-based training course to learn how to communicate with him.
- Don't reward whining or barking when the dog is left alone by returning to the dog this
 teaches him that whining works and that you can be manipulated. Get him used to being alone
 by coming and going ZILLIONS of times for very short periods of time during the first few days
 that you have him, all done very matter of fact.