

The Happy Hound

Havin' Fun with Tricks & Good Manners!

Peg Dawson Harrington

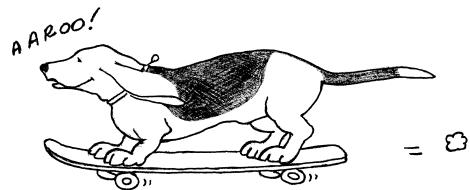
Trainer, Behavioral Counselor

Member APDT, #63215 exp. 12/07

Associate Member IAABC, #106

AKC CGC Evaluator #27443

Graduate Peaceable Paws Intern Academy Levels I & II



Fred, Dog of Destiny, Creative Advisor

Protocol for House Training (especially for adult dogs & intransigent puppies) (based on "Remedial Housetraining" by Mardi Richmond, from WDJ December 2004, Vol 7, Number 12)

Equipment

(i) Crate &/or x-pen

note: if dog is soiling crate then you **need** an x-pen. The x-pen will need to be located on a surface that is easily cleaned (not carpet!!!)

(ii) leash &/or tether

note: if dog is not in crate or x-pen, **then the dog needs to be physically tethered to you at all times**

(iii) Enzyme-based odor eliminator (go to the pet store and get this)

(iv) Some sort of timing device so that you will remember to take your dog out on schedule. (kitchen timer, wrist watch with easy to set alarm, etc.)

(v) a note pad so you can keep track of accidents and successes.

3324 Lealand Lane, Nashville, TN 37204

615-383-2476

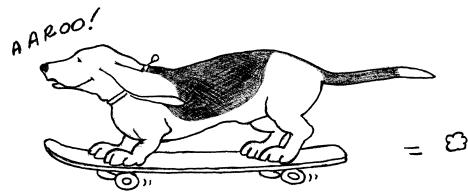
harringtonhound@mindspring.com

The Happy Hound

Havin' Fun with Tricks & Good Manners!

Housetraining Protocol for Intransigent Pups

Based on "Remedial Housetraining" by
Mardi Richmond



Rules:

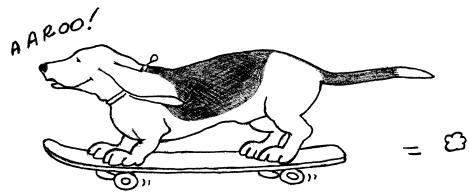
1. If your dog is not tethered to you, then your dog is confined. No free access to anywhere in the house...even if you're in the same room! (really)
2. Create a new "living space" for your dog. There can be no former associations with the good ol days of jus' being able to eliminate. So...
 - a) clean the area thoroughly with enzyme based odor eliminator—if the dog is to be in an area where elimination has happened before—even once!
 - b) if dog has eliminated on a particular type of surface (blankets, newspapers, carpets) make sure that surface is no longer available in the new living space.
 - c) your dog will be fed all meals in this new living space—dogs generally don't eliminate where they eat.
3. Set up a routine
 - a) Establish regular feeding, sleeping, and waking times. And stick to them.
 - b) your dog—at a minimum—will need to go out
 - 1) upon waking
 - 2) after eating and drinking
 - 3) before leaving home
 - 4) immediately after play
 - 5) when you first arrive home
 - 6) before bedtime
 - 7) add your dog's own unique requirements here:

The Happy Hound

Havin' Fun with Tricks & Good Manners!

Housetraining Protocol for Intransigent Pups

Based on "Remedial Housetraining" by
Mardi Richmond



4. Teach your dog where to go

a) Pick a regular spot outside

- 1) where there are not myriad distractions or scary things
- 2) where you've seen your dog go before
- 3) This is not any opportunity for your dog to wander all over the yard and drag you along. Stay in one area

b) Reward your dog on the spot when s/he eliminates

- 1) you're rewarding the choice of location, not the action
- 2) therefore don't take the dog inside and give a treat there

5. Don't punish your dog for an accident

a) if your dog is eliminating at all because of fear or anxiety, (for instance, submissive urination) punishment will only compound the problem.

b) dogs do not eliminate out of spite. Thinking your dog is spiteful isn't helpful

- 1) you can address anxiety, you can address medical problems, you can address ignorance. You can't argue about "spite" with a dog (or, really, with another human being...you might as well just address the behavior there too.)

6. Gradually expand the "safe" zone.

a) when you've got your dog down to reliably eliminating outside (for **one month** with no accidents) and not in the x-pen then gradually, carefully, slowly, allow your dog a little more freedom. **One month** at a time.

b) when you have an accident, back up to where your dog was last successful and start over from there.