

Break Down of House Training over night

With any house training routine it is critical to firstly get a good and established feeding routine. With an animal that is allowed to free feed as and when he decides, the pets' body clock cannot be synchronised. Therefore the daily allowance of food should be split into two small meals one fed am and the other pm. The feed should be provided for 20 minutes and then removed and any remaining food discarded.

Dogs adopt an innate response to relieve at a point furthest away from their beds area, and therefore we have two possible options to offer as potential solutions.

The use of an indoor crate as a rest area overnight, confines the dog to an area he is less likely to soil. Therefore an indication is likely to be given by the dog that he would like to go outside to relieve. Introducing an indoor kennel should be a positive experience and dogs enjoy finding a simulated den area within the home, like behind sofas, chairs and under tables and a covered indoor kennel is no different and just as inviting. (See [Crate Training](#)) The use of the indoor kennel keeps the dog confined keeps him clean overnight and allows him to be praised for the correct response as opposed to being admonished. It is beyond a dogs reasoning ability to associate a telling off sometime after the event.

The indoor kennel is only a short-term measure until a new habit has been adopted. As time progresses and cleanliness overnight is becoming more consistent the indoor kennel door can be left open for progressively longer periods.

A second option with some dogs would be to allow the freedom of access many dogs are used to, by introducing a dog flap. This allows the dog the access to the garden he is familiar with, but will require a little while to get used to using the flap itself.

