

What Are the Benefits of Crate Training?

Crate time can become a positive and enjoyable experience that creates a stronger bond between you and your furry friend. Your pet can learn valuable life skills such as patience, discipline, and good behaviour



SAFE DEN

A crate can provide a comfortable space and sense of security for your dog. A place your dog can retreat to when feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or when they just want to relax after a day's adventure.



HOUSE TRAINING

Dogs have an innate instinct to not soil the area where they sleep, so you're encouraging them to hold it in until they're outside. When you're not around to supervise, crate training helps prevent destructive behavior



PREPAREDNESS

In cases of emergencies or a trip to the vet's, a crate trained dog will have the skills and understanding to calmly enter their crate and stay there until it's safe to emerge.

Tips for Successful Crate Training

The process of training a pet with a crate can vary in length, depending on its age, behaviours and previous experience. As you go through this process, it's critical to keep in mind that the crate should always have a pleasant association and training should take place in gradual, incremental steps.

1 Familiarise your pet with the crate

To start, position the crate in an area of the house that your family spends a great deal of time in, like the living room.

Leave it open so that the dog can explore the crate as it pleases, making sure that the door is open and secured.

Your pet's experience in and around the crate should always be positive and playful. Try placing small treats, toys or a lick mat in and around the crate and encourage them to step in and retrieve them.

2 Positive Reinforcement

Once your pet has become familiar with the crate, you can start feeding it regular meals close to it, further

building a positive association with the crate. Gradually begin to close the door during meals. At first, open it once your pet finishes its meal, but each time try to extend the length of time it spends in the crate.

3 Gradual Extension

When a good comfort level has been developed, begin to confine your pet while you are still home.

Guide it to the crate with your command and give it a treat. Stay close to the crate for five to ten minutes, then take a few steps away and observe. After a few minutes, return, stay for a brief time, and then release your pet. Practice this process several times a day and increase the length of time in the crate, as well as the length of time you stay out of sight.

Nevertheless, it is important to note that crate training is not the answer for every dog and should never be used as a substitute for the necessary exercise and mental stimulation they require. Additionally, no dog should be left in a crate, or anywhere else, for prolonged periods of time.