

5 reasons to crate train your dog

1. **Safety:** the crate is a baby-sitter for your dog while you are away from them. It keeps them from getting into harmful things when you are not home. It is also the safest way to transport your dog in a vehicle.
2. **Provides a safe, quiet place to rest:** dogs are den dwelling animals and like a protected safe space to sleep. Think of the crate as their bedroom, having a dog that is comfortable in their crate gives them a space to rest and be alone. The crate also provides a safe space for them to go when they need their own alone time.
3. **Reduce their stress in emergency situations:** having a dog that is crate trained helps keep them calm in stressful situations like going to the vet. Unfortunately, accidents happen and when your dog is recovering from surgery, they will be put in a crate. A crate trained dog will be less likely to panic or feel overwhelmed in an already stressful situation. The same applies for situations like going to the groomers. That can be stressful for many dogs and crates are a common tool used in grooming rooms. Reduce your dog's stress by teaching them a crate is a safe space.
4. **Preventing separation anxiety:** crate trained dogs will feel comfortable being alone and build independence by using their crate. Free roaming dogs don't have a safe, calm place that is solely theirs – those dogs are more likely to display signs of separation anxiety.
5. **Speeds up potty training:** dogs tend to not soil where they sleep and will quickly learn to let you know when they need to go out to potty. The crate provides a space you can supervise your puppy and take them out on a potty schedule to prevent accidents. The crate also teaches your puppy to "hold it". Free roaming dogs or dogs that use pee-pads never learn to "hold it" and those indoor pee-pads send them mixed signals on where to potty!