

Awake: Puppy Success program in your home
This program is for puppies under 14 weeks of age.

I start training my pups at 8 weeks of age. Pups CAN learn at this age, and can benefit from early training through play. Early puppy training will make your pup more confident, easier to live with, and can improve your pup's development potential as an adult. By starting early, you will make the later training go much smoother.

Puppies can learn quite a bit. Your puppy's brain is like a sponge soaking up everything and learning every moment they are awake! They are fast learners and can benefit from learning early skills through play. However where and what they learn is very important for prevention of many common behavior problems. These all too common problems arise, generally speaking, when a dog's natural energy isn't being used properly.

Most mainstream puppy classes aren't really designed for what's most natural in terms of how young puppies are genetically designed to learn. A pup needs to just plain move his/her little body around constantly in meaningless ways. And s/he needs to do that a whole lot more than s/he needs to be taught how to sit still in puppy class held in a distracting and many times stressful environment!

These classes might be interfering with our pup's natural mechanisms for learning positive social behaviors and impulse control, and which may even stunt some forms of neurological development. It's also why play itself is, generally speaking, a more valuable form of training for dogs than plodding through the process by reinforcing single behaviors, one at a time, or by forcing or scaring a dog into obeying.

The Puppy Success program is an 8 session series. I will come to your home for eight daily, bi-weekly or weekly lessons, and personally work, train and play with you and your puppy. This program will cover the following:

- 1.) Potty Training.
- 2.) Bite Inhibition: We will cover preventing biting, chewing, and other nuisance behaviors. We will also go over other issues such as being on furniture, jumping, barking and how to relax your pup.
- 3.) Foundation games and management options: Magic Carpet, Name Game, Eye Contact, Impulse control, coming when called.

- 4.) Double toy Fetch, Tug and Hide n Seek: I will work with you and the pup to get these important skills started effectively. These can be invaluable ways of teaching your dog important skills.
- 5.) Introduction to Toys: I will work with your pup to help the pup start chewing and playing with toys, instead of your furniture, shoes, plants, etc.
- 6.) Introduction to a Leash: Many pups panic when first put on a leash. Panic is detrimental to your pups development, can harm your later training, and can permanently damage your long term relationship with your dog. I will work with you and your pup to help your pup voluntarily to accept a leash and collar.
- 7.) Introduction to a Crate and/or Kennel: It is essential that you teach your pup to sleep in a crate and/or kennel. One day, you might have to leave your pup at the veterinarian's office for surgery, or you might have to fly your dog somewhere, or have some other type of emergency. If your adult dog panics in a crate, it might injure itself trying to escape. Imagine the damage if your veterinarian requires that you confine your dog to a crate for healing an injury, and your dog avoids be put in one... that could make the difference between your dog living or dying. It is important that you teach your pup to accept a crate as a bedroom, early on, to prepare for later emergencies and to have a consistent safe place to relax.
- 8.) Biting and Chewing: It is no fun to be around a pup that bites you or destroys your things. I will work with you and your pup to help to prevent these behaviors. Puppies naturally default to mouthing behaviors when they get aroused and excited. That is how they solicited play from their littermates so it is natural that Pup would use the same tactics to solicit play from people. It is also important to remember that many young puppies are tactually sensitive. Touching them is highly stimulating so they quickly resort to defending themselves by mouthing. It is also very important that his low tolerance level for physical stimulation be respected while s/he is taught how to tolerate handling through the Relax Game.
- 9.) Other behavioral issues your dog might display. If special problems are developing with your pup, we will go over those in detail, and begin homework to resolve those issues.

The Puppy Success program is the BEST way to start your puppy off. It will make life much easier for you, and make your puppy much more responsive as an adult