

Recommended Methods of Crate Training

Size Selection Of A Dog Crate

The crate length should be 1½ times the length of your dog when full grown. Your dog should be able to stand up, turn around and lie down in the crate comfortably. If you are purchasing the crate for a puppy, place something indestructible, like plywood, in the crate to act as a partition. Place the partition so that the puppy has 1½ times his length to move around in the crate. As the puppy grows, move the partition to accommodate the growth. The partition will keep him from soiling in the crate's excess space.

Crate Training A Puppy

Puppies need constant supervision during the first few months. To begin training, place a treat in the crate. Allow the puppy to enter the crate on his own. Dogs learn best when they are rewarded for positive behavior. Repeat this procedure several times. Another suggestion is to feed the puppy in the crate as a method of introduction. Make the crate comfortable. Place a soft old blanket or pillow in the crate. Place a few of his favorite, safe toys in the crate. Dogs will be reluctant to soil in an area that they recognize as their bed or den area. Make sure you take your dog outside before confining him to the crate. When the puppy seems comfortable lying down and has adjusted to the crate, close the door for a minute or two. Stay nearby. If the puppy whines, wait until he stops, and then let him out of the crate. When you open the crate door, ignore the puppy for a few minutes so that he does not associate coming out of the crate with receiving attention. A puppy can injure himself if he is uncomfortable in a crate and left unsupervised.

Crate Training An Older Dog

Although it may be harder than training a puppy, crate training can be done by rewarding the older dog the same way. Follow the same steps for training a puppy. It is essential an adult dog be supervised carefully while he is introduced to the crate. Some dogs adjust more rapidly than others. An adult dog can injure himself if he is uncomfortable in a crate and left unsupervised.

Length Of Time A Dog Should Be In The Crate

It is recommended during the training process, that the puppy should be in the crate a maximum of 1 hour per month of age.

Once he is trained, do not leave the puppy in the crate more than 4 hours.

An adult dog (1 year of age) should be in the crate no longer than 8 hours at one time.

Crate Training Process

It is best to allow yourself a month to train your dog. If that is not feasible, try the above techniques as frequently as you can without putting stress on you or your dog.

Do's And Don'ts For Crate Training:

Do introduce your dog to the crate gradually.

Do take the dog outside often enough that accidents do not happen inside the crate.

Do clean the crate and pan often. Use clear warm water and dry with a towel. Keep the crate sanitary.

Do place the crate somewhere highly visible but quiet so the dog can relax.

Don't use the crate as a form of punishment. The crate should be a place the dog wants to be.

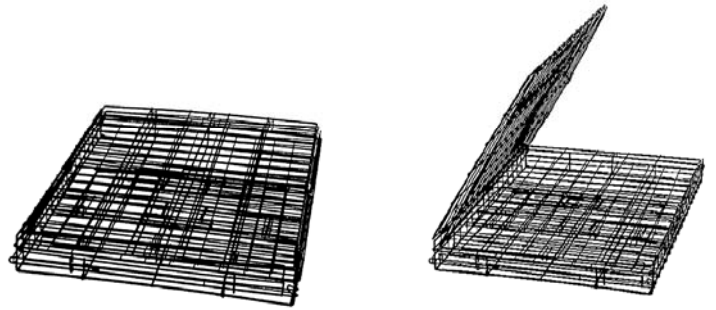
Don't place your dog in a crate with a leash or collar on.

Don't place food or water in the crate.



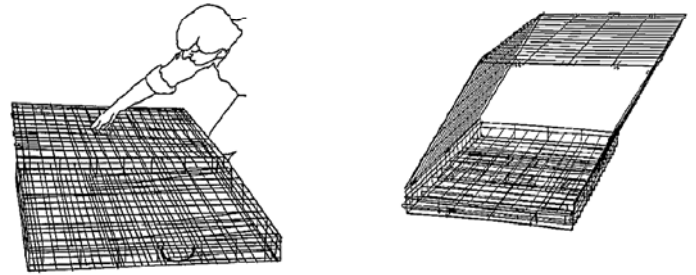
Dog Crate Instructions

1. Lay folded dog home on floor with pan on the bottom. (A)
2. Lift top 2 wire mesh panels and open completely like a book. (B)
3. With one hand, grasp the top wire mesh panel lift, swing up to form a box. (C-D)
4. Holding the box steady, lift the end panel on top into an upright position. (E)
5. Pull outward on end panel, engage hooks on each side.
6. To secure top of end panel, lift up on top of crate and pull end panel toward you, clearing underside of top hook. Engage end panel in hook.
7. Repeat steps 6 & 7 for remaining end panel.



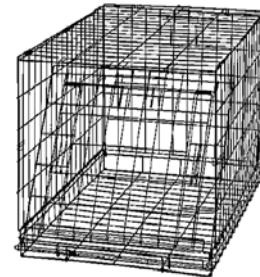
A

B



C

D



E

To open door:

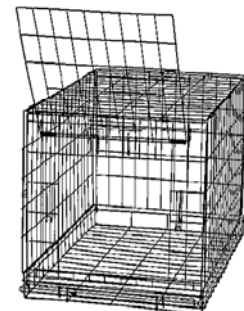
1. Push in and hold flat lever to release lock.
2. Use other hand to lift door straight up vertically and out of lock and door retainers.
3. Door opens from the bottom and swings up to lay flat on the top of home. (F)

To close door:

1. Swing door from the top of home to the closed position.
2. Lift door vertically. Push inward and down behind door retainers until latch catches.

To remove pan:

1. Lift pan retainer bar upward to disengage hook.
2. Swing retainer bar out of the way and remove pan.



F