How to Prepare Your House for a Puppy

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Many people assume that in order to bring a puppy into your home, you must rearrange it. This is not necessary! You really don't have to start making changes to your house. You can have a nice house, own nice things, and still have a dog!

Always remember that training is more important than removing items. A puppy must be trained to respect your home. If you use 24 hour supervisory control from the time you bring a puppy into your home, you won't have as many problems with the puppy chewing, lifting its leg on the furniture or pooping all over the house. Just remember that accidents do happen, and they are easily cleaned!

Make sure you have the proper equipment for training before you bring the puppy home. You should make sure to have a **crate** or **vari kennel** for crate training, along with a **pad** or towel. Always leave the door open so the puppy has a safe place to go. This will also help the puppy get used to being in the crate for transportation purposes. Puppies will often go into alcoves or other small spaces. This is totally normal. The puppies aren't hiding. They are just looking for a refuge where they can be alone. If there are children in the house, teach them to respect the puppy when it goes to a safe area. It's down time and they should leave the puppy alone.

Your goal should be to live your normal life, with your puppy. Puppies must be taught that they are yours, not the other way around. If you compromise your lifestyle for a puppy, you will always be resentful.