















## Quick Reference Guide

Start your training when you are able to be home with your dog. Always take care to remove chain collars prior to your dog entering her crate.

Allow your dog to **explore** the crate on his/her own. You can toss some of her favourite toys or treats inside and show interest in the crate to encourage her curiosity.

Leave the **door open** during the introduction period.

**NEVER** force your dog into her crate and

**ALWAYS** praise her anytime your dog enters on her own.

- 2 Once your dog enters and exits her crate willingly, **close the door** for a few seconds or a minute. Remain close to the crate **praising** her while your dog is inside. Then let her out in a calm quiet manner - do not make a big deal out of it. Do not release your dog if it is barking or crying - wait until your dog is **settled down** to release her.

Gradually extend the amount of time your dog spends in the crate.

Your first few absences should be **less than 30 minutes**.

Keep your departures and arrivals low key. Continue to crate your dog for a few minutes each day when you are home so that crating **does not always predict** that you leaving. Encouraging your dog to eliminate in the proper place **immediately** after your dog is released from the crate will quickly teach her when and where to "take care of business".

- 4 Within a few attempts over two or three days, most dogs will enter the crate **willingly** and quietly **settle down** for a nap.

A crate should **NEVER** be overused or used as a form of punishment. A crate will be most useful to you and your dog if it is regarded as a special retreat area and not a punishment.