

I'M YOUR PUPPY!

Hi! I'm your new best friend, and I'm ready to come home! Are you ready to play and cuddle with me? Are you ready to help teach me manners and correct behaviors?



This will be so much fun, but it will also take a special promise from you. Can you promise to spend time with me everyday? Will you feed me and give me water? *Will you treat me the same way everyday?* Treating me the same everyday is called consistency, and it's very important.



I am only a baby; all I do in my life right now is eat, sleep, and play. The first thing I need is a quiet place of my own to sleep. It's hard for me to adjust to living in a home with people, rather than with other puppies. I will often need alone time, please show me where to go, and allow me to go there by myself.



I have a lot of new things around me and sleeping helps me grow and take a break so I can learn.

The day I come home will be very exciting.
(no matter what the weather is like!)



I'll learn a lot about you the first time we meet. You
want to make sure the first time we meet you are

showing me your leadership. I know that is a big word, and it's probably hard to understand what I mean. So, in order to learn what I mean by 'leadership' you need to find your 'firm' voice. First, stand up straight. Now, out loud I want you to say "COME!" Make sure you are not yelling or screaming at me, that makes me scared and confused.



And never ever yell or scream in my face or ears. That can hurt me or cause me to jump and bite.

Before I go on, I want you to think of your puppy's name. Every time you see a line like this _____, I want you to say your own puppy's name. Let's practice..._____.



BE A TREE

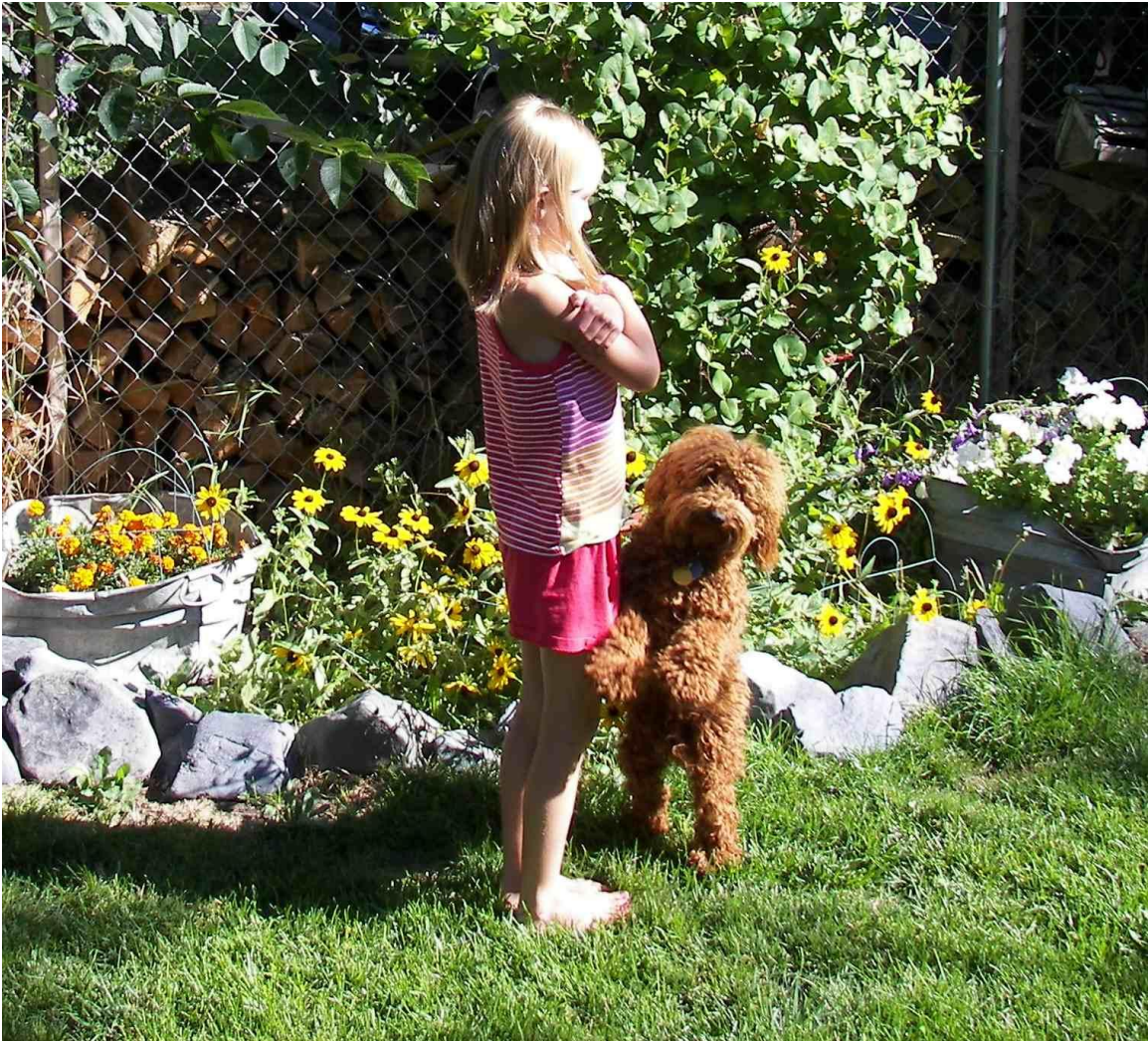
There is a very funny thing that I've heard adults say to kids. They say, 'be a tree.' To be a tree is to stand perfectly still and wrap your limbs (your arms) around your trunk. (This isn't fun for me, you'll learn why.)



As a puppy I want to chase anything that moves, so if you are still...I can't chase you. One thing I just love is when kids run and hold their hands in the air. It's really fun to chase, jump, and chew on kids when they do that!



But if you are a tree, it makes my game a little more difficult to play. It might be hard at first to be a tree (boring, too). I still might jump up, just turn away without looking at me. I'll take a hint after a few minutes and leave you alone.



FEEDING

It's important that *you* feed me, rather than your mom or dad. Hold my food dish up high so I can't reach it. Hold your pointer finger up and say, "_____, SIT" in your firm voice. (Mom or dad may have to help push on puppy's bum until he/she learns what 'sit' means.)



After I sit, put my food down and pet me from my nose to tail while I'm eating. This teaches me who the boss is. If I try to be bossy and growl or snap at you, say "_____, NO" in your firm voice and take my food away. A little bit later you can try feeding me again.



POTTY

Shortly after I eat and drink, I'll need to go outside. I may not ask to go out though. I haven't figured out where I should go potty yet. I'll need to be taken outside to go potty quite a bit until I learn to let you know. You need to take me outside and tell me, '_____, GO POTTY' until I go. Once I start going, change your voice to a nice tone and say 'good boy/girl.'

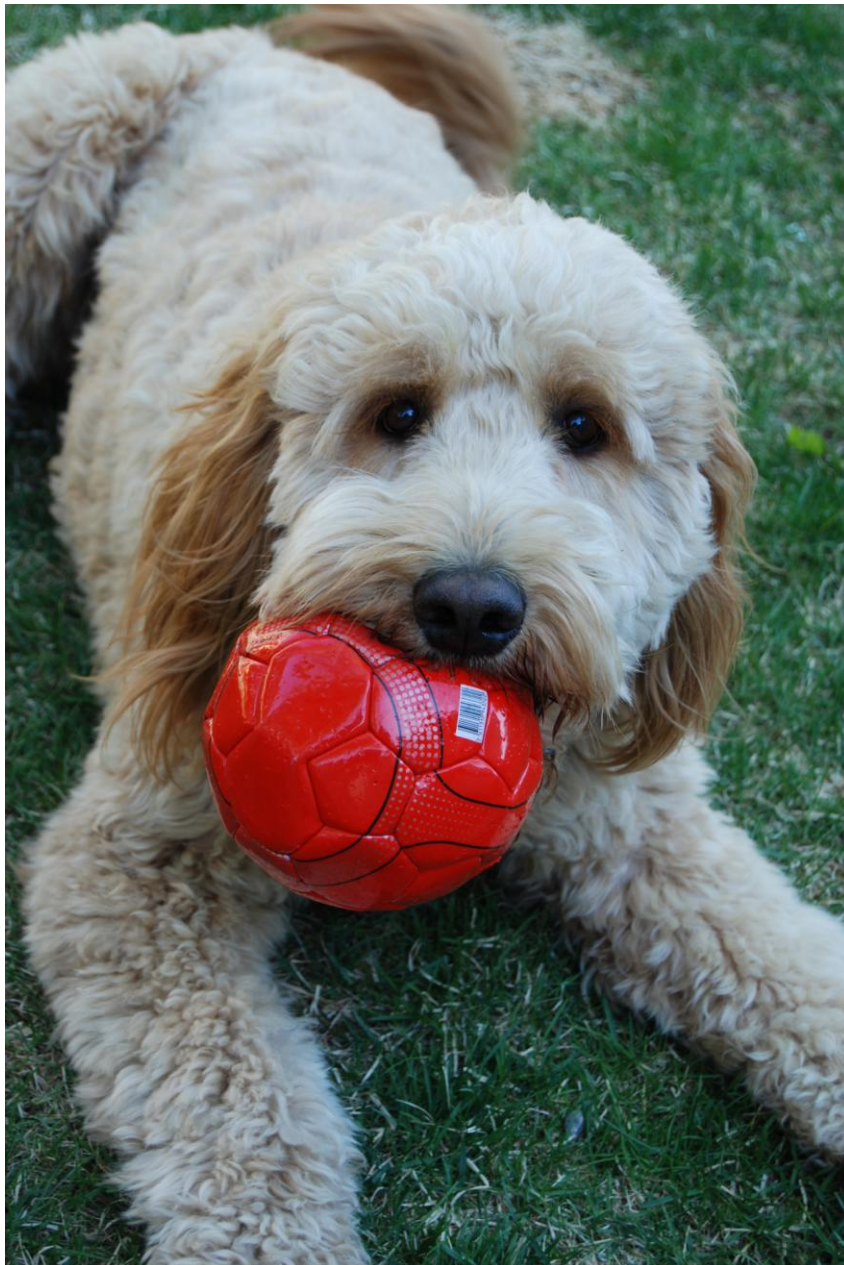


When I'm inside with you, and I need to go, I'll start sniffing around the floor. When you see me doing that, it's a good sign to take me out.



CHEWING

When I begin to chew on something that I shouldn't, take it away and in your firm voice say, "_____, NO BITE!"



Then give me a chew toy. Play with me for a minute with the toy, so I will learn what I can and can't chew, on.



An important thing to learn is that I will chew on *everything*. It feels good on my baby teeth to chew and I'll get new teeth until I'm 14 months old!

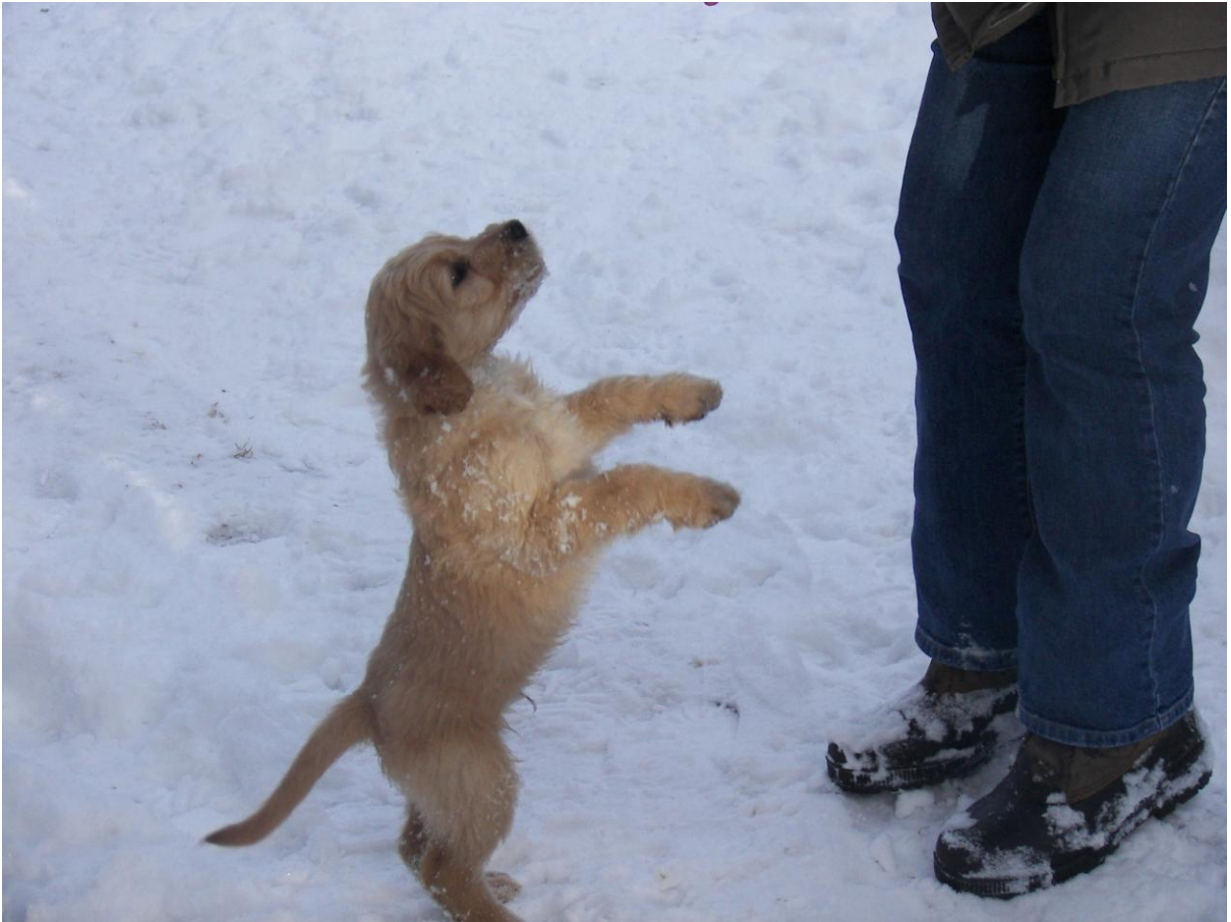


You can't grab things out of my mouth, or you can pull my little baby teeth out. Gently open my mouth and take out what's inside. Tell me, "GIVE" at the same time. (It's hard to be upset with me because I'm so cute)



JUMPING

I have a lot of energy and love to jump. There are lots of reasons I jump. Sometimes it's because I want to be taller than you. If I jump on you, push me down hard and say, "_____, OFF!"



Don't ever let me put my paws on you. Right now it might be cute because I'm so little, but when I'm bigger you won't like it. I could knock you, or someone, down and accidentally hurt them.



EXERCISE

Running and playing outside is good for me and lots of fun. There are ways to play with me that also teach me. As you are running with me say “_____, COME.” Soon, I’ll learn to listen to your voice and come to you when you call. Make sure that you never run away from me; that will teach me bad habits.

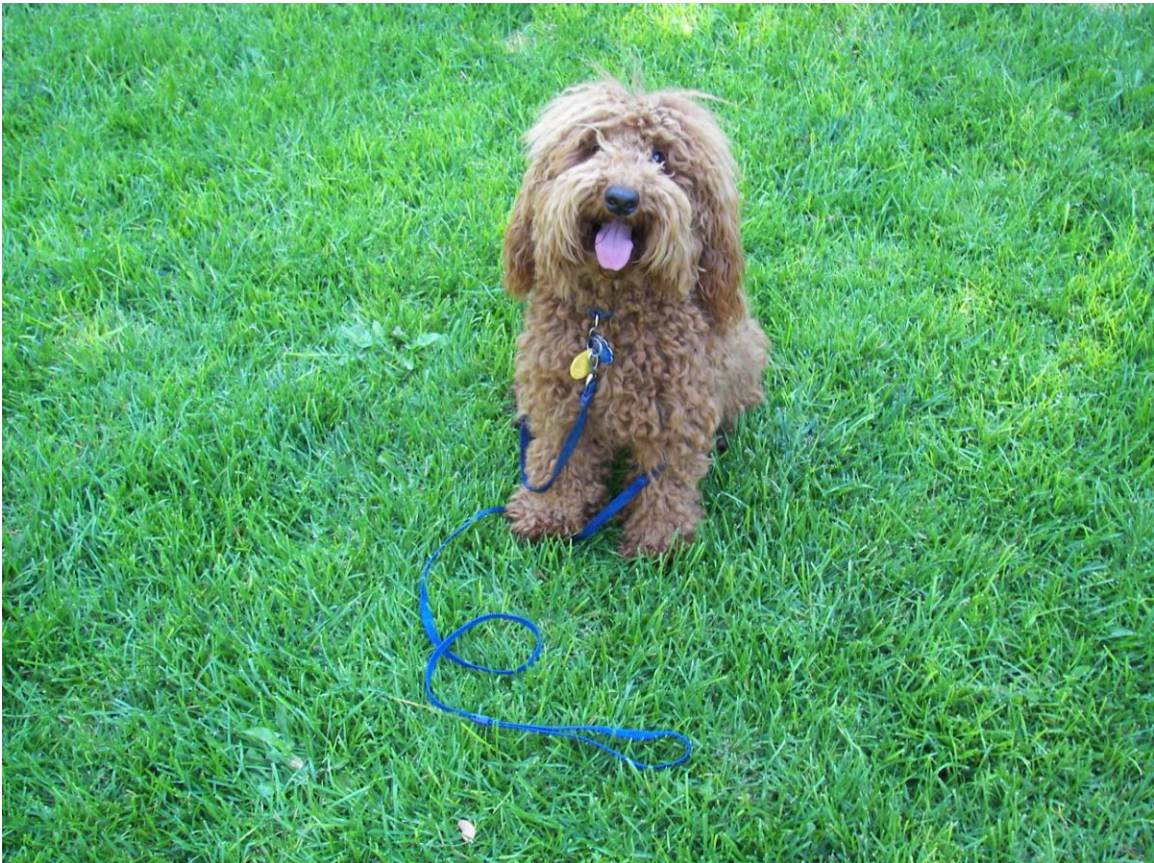


LEASH TIME

When I'm learning to walk on a leash, don't drag me or pull on me.



A leash is a bit scary for me at first. I have to learn that when you put it on you want me to stay at your side. I'll soon learn that when you put my leash on we are going somewhere fun, and I'll be excited to go! Your mom and dad will have to help a lot when I'm learning to walk on the leash, and they can help you learn, so you can teach me.



Make sure I stay on the same side of your body every time you put my leash on. Keep my leash short, so that I have to stay right at your side. Tell me, "_____, HEEL".



When you stop walking, pull gently on my leash and say, "_____, SIT". At first you will probably have to push on my bum to make me sit. Every time you come to a street corner make me sit. When you start walking again, take your first step with the foot closest to me and say, "_____, HEEL." I know we'll have fun walks together!



PRAISE

When I do something I'm supposed to do, pet me only a couple of times, and tell me good boy/girl. Don't go overboard with your praise if I've done something you expect me to do.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Remember not to get in my face, or I might jump and scratch you. I'm not being mean when I do naughty things; I'm doing things that are natural to me.



These are things that I learned from my 4-legged mom and brothers and sisters. I have a lot to learn to become a member of your 2-legged family, I hope you'll be patient and not get mad at me.



I really just want to be with you all the time.



But, I know I have to go to my crate sometimes if you go somewhere, or if it's nap time.

I might cry a little at first because I really don't like being alone.



But, leave me inside my crate no matter how loud I cry. If you take me out I'll quickly learn to cry when I want something. I'll learn faster if you can remember to *always treat me the same way each day.*
(remember that word: consistency?)



If I'm not allowed to do something...like, get on the furniture, never let me do it (not even once) or I will think that it's okay. It's hard to teach me not to do something that you have already let me do. *Always treat me the same way each day. (consistency)*

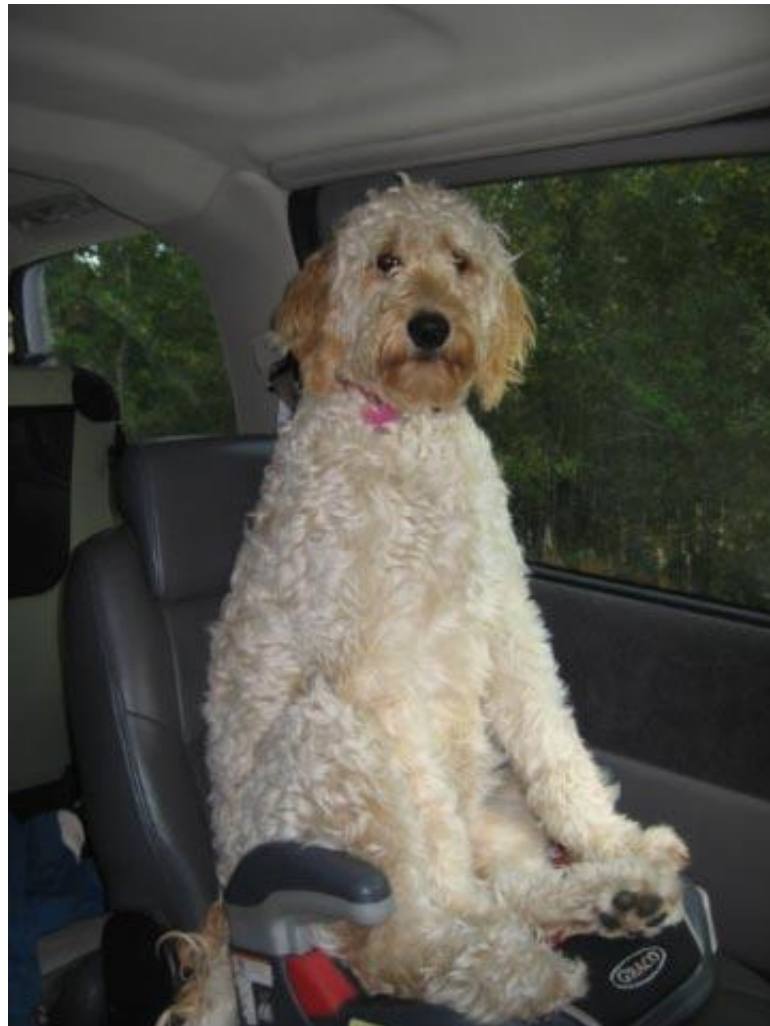


READY

I think you are ready for me to come live at your house now! Remember to be patient with me, and *always treat me the same each day... (consistency)* that's how I'm going to learn best. I know we'll both do things we are not supposed to, but we'll try hard to learn the right way.



I'm so excited to become a part of your family and go places with you.



I also look forward to cuddling with you after a hard day of playing, or comforting you when you're sick.



I can hardly wait to meet you, my new best friend.



Here I am with my first litter of puppies (2007). I love what I do! I hope that your puppy brings as many blessings into your home and life as they do mine.



I thank my Jesus for your gentle guidance, for the abundant blessings, and for the wonderful people you bring into my life through puppies.

Thank you my husband and children for your prayers in love and your help, and your support.

Thanks to all the breeders who work hard and invest the time and finances it truly takes to better the breed they stand behind; and to unite puppies with their new families and forever homes.

Montana Goldendoodles and Labradoodles

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