

Your Plan

Do one full read through of the plan before you begin.

This simple 'Best Bath' plan lays the foundation for stress-free baths for your dog and you. Use tiny, soft, high value treats. Repetitions are key. If you need more detail please refer to the post "A Plan for the Best Puppy Bath" on ultimatepuppy.com, then print and use this training plan.



Supplies

- Lots of treats
- Big towel
- Sponge
- Hair dryer (optional)
- Two no-slip shower mats
- Bucket
- Dog Shampoo

The Mat

Create a positive association with the mat using the following steps.

- Invite your puppy to stand on the mat, feed five tiny treats, one at a time. Toss a treat off the mat so your pup moves away from it. Invite them back on. Repeat this step until your puppy is eagerly coming back to the mat.
- Pour some water on the mat and repeat the steps above.
- Move mat to bathroom and repeat step one.
- Move into bath or shower. (Place the second mat on the outside for when pup comes out.)
- Before you move onto the next step of the puppy hearing and seeing water be sure your pup is comfortable in the bath location.

Water

Pair each step with food and do sufficient repetitions.

- Puppy hears and sees slow running water. Pair with treats and happy chatter.
- Pour a bit of water on the mat. Puppy hears and sees running water. Pair with happy chatter and food.
- Add water to a bucket.
- Dip sponge and wring out sponge



Towels

- Show towel and feed.
- Touch pup with towel and feed.
- Do one gentle swipe with towel and feed.
- Gradually build to multiple swipes and drying motions.

Smells and sounds

Pair each step with food.

- Introduce sound of water running in bath.
- Allow your pup to sniff the shampoo, then begin shampooing.
- Turn the hair dryer on to it's lowest setting, slightly away from your pup.
- Gradually begin drying your pups fur.

Tips

When you move to the step of getting your pup wet for the first time consider just water versus soap and water.

When you add soap use very little so there is less rinsing needed.

Use high value food. Food sources like cooked chicken, turkey or beef are often considered high value by many dogs.

If your puppy won't take treats you may be progressing too quickly.

Notes on today's plan _____

