



Guide Dogs for the Blind Puppy Raising Department

Puppy 101 Course

About Puppy 101

This course consists of a presentation/webinar followed by a 5-session course to provide information and hands-on training to prospective raisers and sitters for Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB) puppies.

Link to presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=midkTLrPArQ&feature=youtu.be>

This course:

- provides detailed information on requirements to be a raiser or sitter, as well as what is expected of you once in that role
- reviews information about GDB mission, history, and program
- includes review of basic training and handling techniques and provides hands on experience with active guide dog puppies in training

The purpose of Puppy 101 is to ensure you are ready to make the commitment before you get a puppy and to give you the training and tools to succeed! GDB requires use of specific training and socialization techniques. It is important that all puppy handlers (sitters and raisers) understand and use these techniques consistently.

During the next five weeks we will be meeting weekly. There is a lot of information! The purpose of the meetings is to try and touch on most areas of the manual but spend more time on specific puppy-centered components. It is very important that you read/review the online GDB manual/protocols and videos when referenced before each session.

After completing the course, a home visit will be scheduled to make sure your home is safe for a puppy. If you have not filled out a GDB volunteer application, you will be required to do so. This allows you to be covered under GDB insurance, as well as adds you to GDB's database and provides access to the puppy raising website.

Note: This course is an *introduction* to puppy raising and cannot be comprehensive in the time allotted. The course is intended as a starting point to your puppy raising education and will be augmented by ongoing skill-building at your local puppy club meetings.

Homework

In the next few days, before the first class of the course please look at the following in the GDB online manual: www.guidedogs.com/prmanual

WELCOME TO PUPPY RAISING

- Read [Welcome to Guide Dogs for the Blind](#)
- [Puppy Raising Volunteer Application Process](#)

PUPPY RAISING OVERVIEW

- Read from the Puppy Raising Overview:
 - [Final Behavior Goals](#)

TRAINING AND GAMES

- Section 1: Starting Off Right
 - [R+ Training: The Basics - Part 1 \(Food Protocol\)](#) YouTube video
 - [Human-only Training Games](#) (can practice without a puppy and be prepared for handling a puppy)
 - [Pezzing and Luring](#)

PREPARING FOR A NEW PUPPY

- [Equipment](#)
- [Confinement](#)

PUPPY CARE

- [Exercise and Play](#)
- [Puppy Raising Toy Policy](#)

PUPPY RAISING OVERVIEW

- [Puppy Raising R+ Training Philosophy](#)
- [Modifying Inappropriate Behavior](#)