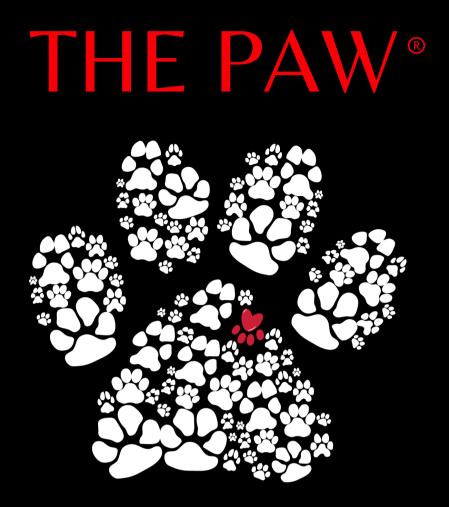
FEBRUARY 2025



OUR MISSION

WOUNDED PAW PROJECT® IS A 501(C)(3) THAT FOCUSES ON THE PREVENTION OF ANIMAL ABUSE AND THE REHABILITATION OF ABUSED AND RESCUED DOGS.

Welcome to The Paw[®], Wounded Paw Project's [®] monthly newsletter that keeps you up to date on how you and Wounded Paw Project[®] are making a difference for abused and rescued dogs. Each month, you'll get tips that you can use for your own pet and since Wounded Paw Project[®] was founded by a Purple Heart recipient, we'll also provide veterans with information they may not know.

In this issue, we're giving you potty training tips you can use to help you and your pet. We've also included a coloring page you can print in case you need some quiet time to yourself to relax and reduce stress.

We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and don't forget to follow us throughout the month on our social media platforms.

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Potty Training 101. It all depends on you!

When asked what's typically the hardest task of integrating a puppy into the home, potty training is at the top of the list. We want to give you some tips to help you and your pet conquer the challenges of potty training. Remember, you are the pack the leader and your puppy takes it's cues from you.

First and foremost, **establish a routine.** Take your puppy outside at the same times every day. Remember, your pet thrives on consistency.

Create **a designated potty area.** Pick a spot that's close to the house but separate from other areas of your yard. This helps your puppy get associate the right place they can go potty.

Use positive reinforcement. Reward your puppy with treats and praise when they potty in the right place!

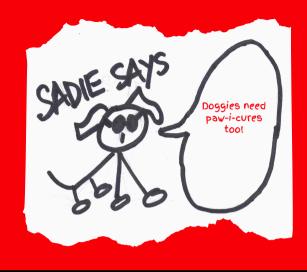
Avoid scolding your puppy for accidents. Don't punish your puppy for accidents.

Look for signs. Did you know your puppy will exhibit signs they need to go outside such as:

- Sniffing the ground excessively: This is a common sign as they are searching for a place to go.
- Circling: Often accompanied by sniffing, this indicates they are trying to find the perfect spot.
- Pacing back and forth: Restlessness can be a sign they need to go.
- Whining or whimpering: Vocal cues to let you know they need to go outside
- Squatting position: A clear sign they are ready to go
- Pawing at the door: This is a direct request to be let outside
- Sudden change in activity: If they were playing and abruptly stop to sniff around, they might need to go

Supervise your puppy. **Keep an eye on your puppy** during the day to prevent accidents. When you can't watch your puppy's every move, **create a restricted space** to keep them in a limited area in case they do have an accident.

Potty training your puppy can help reduce stress for both you and your dog, and create a more harmonious living environment.



MEET SADIE THE MO'PITTIE...THE MORKIE WHO THINKS SHE'S A PITBULL. EACH MONTH, SADIE WILL GIVE YOU TIPS TO HELP YOU HAVE A SAFE AND HEALTHY PET.

THIS MONTH, SADIE WANTS TO REMIND YOU THAT YOUR DOGGIES NAILS NEED TO BE TRIMMED REGULARLY! THIS WILL HELP PREVENT THE NAIL FROM CURVING AROUND AND GROWING INTO THE FLESH.



PUMPKIN PEANUT BUTTER PUPPY TRAINING TREATS

Puppies can't live on praise alone and using a tasty treat to reward your puppy for doing something good is another tool you can use for positive reinforcement. We found this recipe on thewoksoflife.com. We hope your puppy enjoys them!

Ingredients

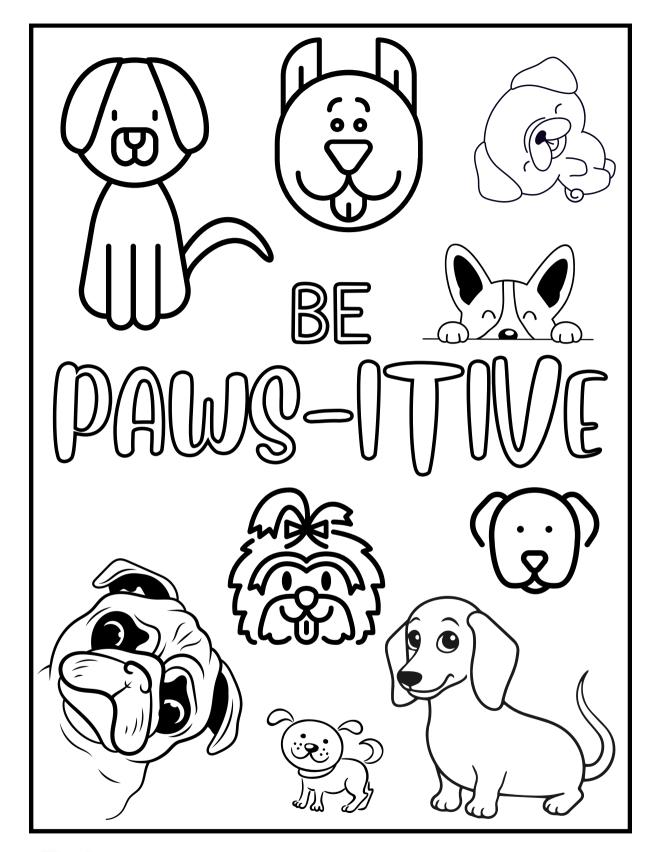
- 21/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 2 large eggs
- 2/3 cup pumpkin purée (canned or fresh)
- 3 tablespoons peanut butter

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Add all the ingredients to the bowl of a stand mixer. Using the paddle attachment, mix until combined. If it's a little dry, add some water. If it's wet, add a little more flour.

2. Knead the dough together on a clean surface and roll it out really thin (between 1/8-1/4 inch thick).

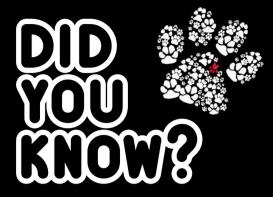
3. Cut squares and continue rolling/cutting until all the dough has been used. Transfer to an ungreased baking sheet and bake for 25-30 minutes. It may take longer to bake them until crunchy, depending on how thin/thick you rolled the dough and the size of the treats.







WOUNDED PAW PROJECT[®] Coloring Page BE THE VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS[®]



FEBRUARY 16 - 22, 2025 IS NATIONAL JUSTICE FOR ANIMALS WEEK! THIS WEEK IS DEDICATED TO

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS AROUND CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST ANIMALS LIKE DOGFIGHTING AND OTHER FORMS OF ABUSE.



BE THE VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS®



Each month The Paw provides valuable information to our Nation's veterans on services and opportunities that may not be common knowledge to Vets.

GIBILL UPDATE The Department of Veterans Affairs announced it has updated the process for awarding GI Bill benefits. This change means that many Veterans who served multiple periods of military service (for example, Veterans who reenlisted) will be eligible for up to an additional 12 months of education benefits.

This policy change also means that many Veterans who were previously limited to 36 months will now be eligible for additional education benefits. Specifically, Veterans who served at least two qualifying periods of service — one that qualified them for the Montgomery GI Bill and a second that qualified them for the Post-9/11 GI Bill — may be eligible to receive up to 12 months of additional GI Bill benefits (bringing them to a total of 48 months).

For more information, visit <u>https://benefits.va.gov/GIBILL/rudisill.asp</u>

COMMONLY USED VA PHONE NUMBERS

VA MAIN INFORMATION LINE 1-800-698-2411

> VA BENEFITS HOTLINE 1-800-827-1000

VA HEALTH BENEFITS HOTLINE 1-877-222-8387

WOMEN VETERANS HOTLINE 1-855-829-6636

CAREGIVER SUPPORT LINE 1-855-260-3274

eBENEFITS TECHNICAL SUPPORT 1-800-983-0937 ARE YOU A VET IN CRISIS? CALL FOR HELP DIAL 988 THEN PRESS 1









(703) 323-1188





MilitaryTimes



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