Crate Training

Why Crate Training is Important
Crate training is a safe, effective way to:
• Give your puppy a secure, cozy den to relax
• Prevent accidents while house training
• Protect your home from chewing and mischief
• Help with travel and vet visits
• Create a calm bedtime routine

Choosing the Right Crate
• Size: Your crate should be just big enough for your puppy to stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably.
• Type: Wire crates are great for ventilation and visibility; plastic crates can feel cozier and den-like.
• Extras: Add a soft mat or blanket and a safe chew toy.

Introducing the Crate
1. Start Slow: Leave the crate open and let your puppy explore it on their own.
2. Make it Positive: Use treats, toys, and praise to build happy associations.
3. Feed Meals Inside: Begin feeding your puppy their meals in the crate with the door open.
4. Short Stays First: Close the door for short periods while you're nearby, then gradually increase the time.

Daily Routine
• Morning: Potty break → Playtime → Breakfast → Crate time (short nap)
• Midday: Potty → Play/training → Lunch → Crate (rest)
• Evening: Potty → Dinner → Play → Calm crate time
• Bedtime: Final potty → Crate for the night

⏰ Puppies may need potty breaks every 2–4 hours depending on age. Be patient and consistent!

Do's and Don'ts
✅ DO:
• Use the crate for naps, bedtime, and when you're away
• Make it a positive, comforting space
• Stick to a routine
❌ DON'T:
• Use the crate as punishment
• Leave your puppy crated too long
• Forget to provide potty breaks and play

Common Questions
Q: Will my puppy cry in the crate?
A: Some fussing is normal at first. Stay calm and consistent. Avoid letting them out while they're crying, or they'll learn that crying gets them out.

Q: How long can I leave them in?
A: A good rule: one hour per month of age, up to about 4–5 hours. Overnight is fine with a potty break until tahey're older.

Q: What if they have an accident in the crate?
A: Clean it thoroughly, and adjust their potty schedule. Make sure the crate isn't too big — puppies avoid going where they sleep.

Final Tip: Be Patient and Encouraging!
Every puppy learns at their own pace. Your Cavapoo is smart, affectionate, and eager to please — with gentle consistency, crate training will be a smooth and positive experience!