

# Setting Up the Puppy Pen

As puppies become more and more active and grow larger in size, they need a larger living space. Most fosters will find a playpen to be perfect for creating a secure space for their pups.

Their space should be divided up into these areas:

- Sleeping (“bedroom”)
- Playing (“family room”)
- Eating (“dining room”)
- Pottying (“bathroom”)

We recommend having an open crate available at 4+ weeks of age.



The space they use to eat, play, and sleep will likely overlap. Puppies are not bothered by sleeping in the play space and vice versa. The sleeping area should have bedding that feels cozy. The eating area should be easy to clean up as pups are messy eaters until about six-weeks of age.

There should be enough space for limited play but keep the pen small enough to encourage them to potty in an appropriate area.

You can always set up a separate play space where you can interact with the pups and keep their main pen for sleeping and pottying. This has the added benefit of the pups learning to enjoy difference spaces. Their spaces should be passively enriched with textures and toys.