



# Clyde

**Clyde's starting  
his journey**

**Pupdate 1**

# Welcome to your October Pupdate

**I hope you're enjoying the start of the new season, as the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisper again.**

Did you know that every day, 250 people in the UK start to lose their sight, four of which are estimated to be children? Nearly half report feeling isolated and cut off from the world around them. Together, we can change that.

Your support goes beyond helping puppies become life changers; you're also making a multitude of vital services possible. We're dedicated to breaking down barriers by providing information, advice and support for adults, children and families. None of this would be possible without supporters like you.

Thank you for your invaluable and continued support of Guide Dogs. Your generosity directly impacts the lives of people with sight loss, ensuring everyone can live actively, independently, and well. You are making a massive difference!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Steph".

**Steph Potter**  
Puppy Sponsorship Manager



# Thank you

for sponsoring Clyde



“  
**Hello, it's  
Maureen  
here, Clyde's  
Puppy Raiser.**  
”

I've been raising puppies for Guide Dogs since 2016. My adventure started after I met a puppy raiser and their pup when I was volunteering at a riding school for people with disabilities.

Raising puppies for the charity is so enriching. I've made lasting friendships, including meeting my partner, who's also a puppy raiser! The greatest reward is witnessing my pups become life changers and making a real difference for someone with sight loss.

## Clyde

Clyde's my eighth puppy, and I enjoy discovering all the different pups' personalities. Clyde is a real gem. He settled in beautifully from the start; he's always happy and incredibly easy to train. Like many pups, he likes to socialise and discover his boundaries! He made great friends with golden retriever Freddie, who was raised by my partner and is now a guide dog dad. Freddie has now moved on, following his new path. However, they used to love playing together or cuddling up for a snooze.

Clyde's a very playful pup; he has a whole collection of soft toys and loves anything squeaky! He likes his pineapple-shaped enrichment toy, he plays with it to release some kibble. There's also a slow feeder maze and a couple of other puzzle toys that work in the same way. All these tools keep his clever mind entertained and stimulated, while he figures out how to obtain his food reward.

One of his funniest quirks? Every evening around 7pm, he gets the zoomies! It's hilarious to watch him sprinting around. Sometimes, he even joins in on conversations my partner and I have, voicing his opinion with an occasional 'woof'!

## Early learning stage

Clyde's doing great! I'm working on perfecting the basic cues like 'sit', 'stand', 'stay', and 'down'. His recall is improving, and he comes back to me not long after he hears my whistle, even around other dogs. His food manners are top-notch and grooming him is very easy. He likes it when I brush his coat.

I use positive reinforcement with Clyde, using treats, toys or praise to reward him for doing what I ask. This builds a positive experience for him, and he's eager to learn more.



Watch Clyde show off his amazing loose lead walking skills by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or going to:  
**[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-clyde](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-clyde)**



Scan me



I've been practising putting his TTouch harness on him, which has two points of contact and encourages dogs to walk calmly without putting pressure on any one point of their bodies. He wears this for loose lead walks and while traveling in the car. He's still quite small so needs a little lift to get in. My partner and I recently took him on a camper van holiday with us, and he handled the whole trip like a perfect traveller!

## **The next few months**

As Clyde grows, I'll teach him not to be too vocal. I'll also work on practising cues and continue building a positive association for him with the TTouch harness. Together we'll explore new areas, and travel on buses and trains. I can't wait to see what this amazing pup accomplishes.

**Thank you for sponsoring Clyde. I'm excited to update you on what he's been learning in your next Pupdate in February.**



## Where is Clyde on his Pupdate journey?



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## Our volunteers

We wouldn't be able to train our life-changing dogs without the help of our volunteer puppy raisers and fosterers. Once our puppies are 8 weeks old, they will go to live with a puppy raiser. These wonderful volunteers provide a loving home and the vital foundation needed for the pup's future role. They introduce early training, socialisation, and a variety of new environments. After 12-16 months, our dogs move on to training school, where they learn guiding skills. Evenings and weekends are usually spent with our fantastic fosterers who care for the dog, reinforce training, and drop them off to training school each day! **To find out more about volunteering, please visit [guidedogs.org.uk/GDvolunteer](https://guidedogs.org.uk/GDvolunteer).**

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