



**Guide  
Dogs**

Sponsor  
a Puppy



# Coco

**Coco is off to a  
confident start**

**Pupdate 1**

# Thank you

## for sponsoring Coco



“ Hello, it’s  
Fran here,  
Coco’s Puppy  
Walker. ”

I’ve been puppy walking for almost 20 years and Coco is the 16<sup>th</sup> pup I’ve had so far. All of my pups have been amazing, which meant Coco had big boots to fill, but she’s exceeded my expectations.

Puppy walking is very rewarding, it almost becomes a way of life! When I’m out and about I love seeing Coco bring smiles to people’s faces. You get a lot of people talking to you about the pups, which makes puppy walking very social. It has given me a greater understanding of what it’s like to live with sight loss and how owning a guide dog changes your life.

### **Being part of the family**

Coco settled into the home immediately! We have a six-year-old golden retriever called Deano who has shown Coco the ropes.

Coco's definitely bonded with me; she's very intuitive and when she looks at you, you can tell she's trying to work out what she can do to help or please you. However, she also has a fun personality, and can be a cheeky monkey at times. Even early in the morning she bounces around excited for her walk!

## Toys and training

Coco has a few favourite toys. In particular, she likes a sheep toy that has a rattle inside it – she loves to chuck it about as it makes a noise. However, her all-time favourite toy is a soft duck that she sleeps with.

Coco is a bright pup and has learnt so much in such a short time. So far, she's mastered all her basic obedience skills, such as waiting for the whistle sound to eat her food and the 'sit' and 'wait' commands. We've even taught her to look at a bucket in order to get a treat – this is helpful for guide dog owners when they need to take their pups to the vet. Recently, we've been teaching Coco not to jump on the sofa when she wants to come for a cuddle and I'm already seeing an improvement.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Coco has grown in her own video:

[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-coco](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-coco)

## New sights and sounds

Due to COVID 19, Coco's inoculations were delayed so we thought that Coco would be anxious being around lots of people and meeting other animals. However she took it completely in her stride – and she isn't fazed at all by people wearing face masks. To start off, we visited different locations early in the morning to avoid busier times. However, now we can walk Coco at any time as she has got used to different noises and smells. She has also seen a variety of animals including ducks and swans!

**We love watching Coco take everything in her stride and can't wait to update you on her progress in your February Pupdate.**



## See how much Coco has grown

We have been taking pictures of Coco since she was born so you can see just how much she's changed. To see your exclusive video, please visit [guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-coco](https://guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-coco) and if you'd like to hear more from Sponsor a Puppy, why not visit our social media pages.



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