

GUIDE
DOGS



Daisy



Pupdate 4

The adventure continues

Daisy has started training school!

**SPONSOR
A PUPPY**





Hello, I'm Che, a trainer at Guide Dogs. I'm pleased to say Daisy has made it to training school.

I've been a guide dog trainer for five years and will be taking Daisy through the next steps in her journey to become a guide dog. The most rewarding part of my job is when I carry out a blindfold walk with a dog at the end of their training. As a handler, I give off subtle body language that gives the dog an indication of

what to do next. However, when I am blindfolded, they will need to make these decisions unaided. It's amazing to watch them put their learning into action and I can't wait to see Daisy accomplish this.

Starting school

Daisy is a very sweet and sensitive girl and it's my job to make sure she is settled into her new environment. I spent time building up our relationship for the first few weeks. We did lots of fun things together, such as playing with her favourite toys, grooming and cuddling, and going on lots of free runs in the paddock. I quickly became a very positive person in Daisy's life, as well as her favourite puppy pal Harper, the golden retriever who she loves to play with.



Learning to guide

Daisy is very eager to learn and tries so hard to please. She wasn't sure about the feeling of the harness at first, so I took my time introducing it to her, rewarding her for putting her head through the harness and then slowly building this up until she was happy for it to sit on her back. She is now confident when wearing the harness and I think she looks awesome in it!

Our day usually starts with a free run in the morning and then we focus on guiding work in the afternoon. We often travel to local quiet residential areas to practice kerb work or we stay on site and run through the obstacle course together.

(Continued overleaf)



The course is made up of every day challenges Daisy may come up against whilst guiding, such as traffic cones and road signs. We use this course to teach our dogs to navigate around obstacles and learn to give their handler space to get around them too. Daisy took to the course quickly and I'm looking forward to seeing her improve her guiding skills.

Overcoming challenges

Daisy can sometimes struggle with her recall skills, not always coming back when called. I will be spending time teaching her to come back to the whistle and rewarding her for doing so. I will practice this in our safe enclosed paddock and then venture out to new environments to see how she has improved.

Thank you for sponsoring Daisy. Look out for your next Pupdate in February to see how she is progressing.

The matching process

Every person and dog is unique, so matching a guide dog to an owner is a complex and carefully managed process. Our trainers take into account a person's needs including lifestyle, walking speed and height.

Once a match has been made, our trainers spend several weeks training the guide dog owner and dog together, learning their common routes and making sure their partnership is a success.



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