



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Derek

Derek's journey
has begun!

Pupdate 1

Thank you

for sponsoring Derek



**“ Hello, it’s
Glynis here,
Derek’s Puppy
Raiser. ”**

Derek is the eleventh puppy that I have puppy raised. I’m always delighted when a dog I’ve raised goes on to become a guide dog as it is amazing to see the difference they have made to someone’s life. It can be challenging, but I get a great sense of satisfaction and enjoyment from puppy raising.

Derek is a lovely, affectionate boy. He is an early riser — 6am is a lie in for him! We needed to provide some medication to treat a skin condition on Derek’s face, but since then, he has recovered well and settled in brilliantly.

Derek loves his cuddles

Derek loves having his ears scratched and is very friendly. He has a large soft toy lion which he loves to suckle on and knead with his front paws. It’s one of the many cute things that he does. He also likes a good squeaky toy and plays with them nicely. Although we leave a bowl of water out for him, Derek likes drinking water out of a watering can! It’s one of his funny quirks.

He is a very social pup. We have a four-year-old rehomed dog, Archie, and Derek will happily snooze with him.

When it comes to play time Archie will just sit and rest, whilst Derek is very eager, as though he is saying “I want you to play with me right now!” There’s a former puppy in training who lives close by to us and they play very well together. Sometimes she can be a bit bossy even though Derek is much taller than her, which is funny to watch!

Derek’s training

In some ways, Derek is easier to train than other puppies that I have raised because he absolutely loves to learn — especially when there’s food involved! He walks beautifully on a loose lead. His recall is particularly good when passing other people, dogs and cats. Overall, he seems very advanced for his age.

We play the bucket game which means that Derek will stay still and focus on the food inside of the bucket and practice his self-control. This is useful for him to focus on whilst I groom or examine him. He knows the ‘on your bed’ cue and currently we are working on ‘self-settle’. This is a good obedience to practise when I can’t give Derek my full attention, as he must learn to settle down himself. He really likes practising that.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Derek has grown in his own video:
guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-derek

New sights and smells

I've taken Derek to the local pub and butchers where there are lots of different smells. He got used to them very quickly and was very good. I recently took him to a café which was based quite high up on a balcony. Some dogs could have been frightened by this, but Derek was not bothered at all! He is a confident pup who is a joy to teach.

I love watching Derek take everything in his stride and can't wait to update you on his progress in your next Pupdate.



See how much Derek has grown

We have been taking pictures and videos of Derek since he was born so you can see just how much he's changed. To watch your exclusive video, please visit guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-derek and if you'd like to hear more from Sponsor a Puppy, why not visit our social media pages.



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