



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Jasper

The adventure
begins

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,

Steph

Steph Potter
Puppy Sponsorship Manager



Thank you

for sponsoring Jasper



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**Hello, it's
Susie and
Peter here,
we're
Jasper's
Puppy
Raisers.**

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A little about us

We became interested in puppy raising by chance. When picking up a prescription from our local chemist, we saw a gorgeous guide dog puppy in training in the shop and instantly fell in love. After chatting with the puppy raiser, we went home and applied to become puppy raisers ourselves. Within weeks, our Puppy Development Advisor arrived with the biggest bundle of fluff! We couldn't believe this pup was only eight weeks old; it was love at first sight, and eight years later, we've never looked back.

We really enjoy raising puppies and we're also speakers for Guide Dogs. It's great to meet new people, and these volunteer roles give us some amazing opportunities to do that and talk about the brilliant work Guide Dogs does.

Jasper is the eighth puppy we've welcomed into our busy household. We're a family of eight, including a rehomed golden retriever, Parsnip. Parsnip's amazing with puppies, and he's affectionally known as 'Uncle Parsnip' in our house. All the pups learn so much from him; it's incredible how much he teaches them.

Jasper

From the moment Jasper arrived, he was incredibly confident. As with all pups, they take a few days to settle in, and he and Parsnip have become inseparable.

Jasper's the happiest pup we've raised. From the moment he wakes up, his tail starts wagging. He's just such a joyful soul. He's very clever and really enthusiastic about everything he does, always giving it his all, including sleeping on top of Parsnip any chance he gets!

Jasper will play with any squeaky toy he can find. He loves carrying them and squeezing them so they make a noise. He also loves his pink dragon soft toy.

Learning the basics

We've been attending puppy classes, and we're teaching Jasper the basic cues, such as 'sit' and 'down', which he picked up quickly. We're working on the cue 'wait' - Jasper's such an energetic pup that he always wants to be on the go. So, waiting until he hears the release cue 'okay' can be hard for him, but with lots of practice, we're sure he'll get the hang of it. He's mastered sitting and waiting for the whistle before eating, which is fantastic progress. So, we're confident he'll learn to wait in other situations too.



Scan the QR code or go to guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-jasper to watch Jasper demonstrate his fantastic food manners in his Pupdate video!



Scan me

Jasper loves to travel in the car and has recently grown big enough to jump in – which is always a proud moment for us. He’s a very inquisitive boy and is happy to sit and watch the world go by out of the window. Wherever we go, he loves to meet people but can get a little overexcited and want to jump up. However, he’s learning that by sitting and waiting, he’ll get fuss faster.

The next few months

We’ll continue going to puppy classes, teaching Jasper new cues, and taking him to many new environments. We’ll keep working on the ‘wait’ cue too. Jasper’s learnt so much while he’s been with us, and we’re so proud of his progress.

Thank you for sponsoring Jasper. We’re excited to update you on what he’s been learning in your next Pupdate in February.



Where is Jasper on his Pupdate journey?



1

2

3

4

5

6



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://www.guidedogs.org.uk/GDvolunteer).**

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 GuideDogsUK

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