



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Lily

Continuing
to progress

Pupdate 2

Lily continues her journey



“ Hello, it’s Carole here, Lily’s Puppy Raiser. I’m excited to update you on her progress. ”

Lily is growing into a very sweet natured girl. She recently stayed with her mum, Jolly, for a week and she’s just as tall as her now! I love each stage that the pups grow into, and Lily is just a joy to have.

Life at home

Lily will happily amuse herself with any toy that makes a noise. She still loves her green snake toy and enjoys shaking around her new purple octopus toy. Free running and playing in the garden with Ursi are her favourite things to do, especially when the weather is nice and sunny. She’s recently learnt the word ‘give’, so when we play fetch, she will happily retrieve and wait for me to throw her toy again!

Lily is very sensible. If it’s warm outside, she will lie in the shade without being asked, and sometimes goes inside to cool down on the kitchen floor. She settles very easily and is very affectionate. She still likes to sleep next to Ursi, but it’s getting a little tight on the doughnut bed now!

Developing skills

Recently I have taken Lily into shops where she has practised her left and right turns. There is a row of posts just outside the retail park, so Lily practised walking in and out of these, just as we did at puppy class. Lily is also not fazed when using the lift; she will sit in the corner, away from everybody – she's just brilliant! If I stop to speak to someone on our walks or we visit a coffee shop, she has learnt to lie down without me prompting her. She's so well-behaved, you can't help but love her.

Lily picks up things so quickly, she amazes me sometimes. At first, Lily wasn't too keen about electric scooters, so previously, I would sit her at the end of the path, and we'd watch one go past together. We've practised this a few times, and now she's not bothered about them anymore.

Looking ahead

Lily walks very well on the lead, but her dog distraction is something I'm working on. When there is a dog nearby, Lily will get excited if they are too. But if I say 'no, leave' she listens, and we continue with our walk.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Lily has grown in her own video:
[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-lily](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-lily)

We've been on a bus and Lily was as good as gold. I've taken Lily to the train station to let her see the trains and listen to the noises. She was completely unbothered by it! I'm hoping to take Lily onto a train journey soon to see how she copes with stepping over the gap. She's a really sweet dog and has one of the best temperaments compared to some of the other puppies I've raised.

I can't wait to see Lily progress further in her journey to becoming a qualified guide dog. Look out for your next Pupdate!



Training – puppy to qualified guide dog

It takes around 20 months of training to transform a pup into a qualified guide dog. The pups learn basic skills and are introduced to new surroundings with their Puppy Raiser. They then venture on to Guide Dogs Training School, where they learn the foundation tasks required of a guide dog. The final stages of training focus on their partnership with a new owner, where they learn specific skills tailored to their owner's specific needs.



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