

Preparing for training school

Pupdate 3

# Monty's

skills are progressing!



Hello, it's Joanna and Anthony here, Monty's Puppy Walkers. We have been preparing Monty for Guide Dogs Training School.

Monty's confidence has improved massively and it's lovely to see him settle in all social situations. Unfortunately, due to the impact of coronavirus and social distancing guidelines, we've had to overcome some extra challenges and adapt our training routine. But before the restrictions were put in place, we regularly let Monty stay with other Puppy Walkers to get him used to staying in a different home and being around different handlers. This was a success. and we saw Monty adapt to being with other people and animals.

# Overcoming past challenges

Previously Monty was slightly anxious when using public transport due to the noise. To overcome this, we have been exposing him to busier environments. We've noticed that as he's got older, lorries and buses aren't as intimidating, and he has overcome his fear of walking past them.

Monty is an eager learner, so when he tries things a couple of times you can always see him getting better and his confidence increasing, which is really rewarding!

Monty loves spending time with adults and children, especially our nephew Caleb. Monty is gentle with children and is so easily handled that Caleb even helps with his training from time to time! We think that Monty would be an ideal guide dog for someone who wants a friend and companion, as Monty loves spending time with people all hours of the day. He'd also be good for someone who likes going outside – bad weather doesn't put him off!

### **Exploring the world**

We've exposed Monty to different sights and sounds, including visiting different restaurants, cafés and shops. Monty was perfectly behaved, although he did have a quick sniff of the teddies on the shelves in the toy shop! He loves spending time with us and is happy to sit at our feet if we're at a restaurant.

(Continued overleaf)









#### What's next

Our experience as Puppy Walkers has been nothing but positive. It's been so good that we're already on the waiting list for another puppy to train! We're so proud of the progress that Monty has made, and there will be a huge gap in our lives once he goes to training school. Without a doubt, Monty will be a wonderful companion for his future partner – we wish him all the best in his next stage towards becoming a fully qualified guide dog!



Thank you so much for sponsoring Monty. Look out for your next Pupdate to see how he is progressing at training school.

## Next stop for Monty - training school

Your donations can help to pay for an 'Off to School Kit', which costs £50 for a puppy moving into their first stage of training.

#### An 'Off to School Kit' includes:

A reflective sleeve for the lead, helping the public recognise a guide dog in training

**£18** A harness handle

**127** A brown training harness – the iconic symbol of a training guide dog

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