

Fletcher

GUIDE
DOGS



Pupdate 2

Building confidence

Fletcher is growing up

**SPONSOR
A PUPPY**





Hello, I'm Jill, Fletcher's Puppy Walker. Welcome to his second Pupdate...

Everyone that meets Fletcher falls in love with him. He has such an affectionate nature and a goofy, fun personality that makes us all laugh. I particularly love his big, bushy tail as it reminds me of a fox!

I'm really enjoying being a volunteer puppy walker for Guide Dogs. Dogs find such happiness in the small things and that kind of joy is contagious. The experience

has also taught me the importance of patience, as it can be hard work raising a puppy. However, it's all worth it when you see your puppy master the skills you have been teaching them.

Hide and seek

One of our favourite games to play together is hide and seek. Myself and my grandchildren will hide and Fletcher will come and look for us. He adores this game and always finds us, usually with the help of us all giggling!

Fletcher is such a strong boy and so tug of war is a great way for him to use his strength and it's another game we love playing together.



New challenges

Fletcher has now mastered basic obedience skills such as 'sit' and 'down'. He is an intelligent boy and enjoys learning new things. As Fletcher adores his food, it makes it much easier to keep him focused on me when I have a tasty treat to offer as a reward.

Fletcher loves to play with other dogs, which

means he can become easily distracted by them. I've spent a lot of time encouraging him to remain focused on me when other dogs are nearby.

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I'm pleased to say my hard work has made a real difference and Fletcher's focus is starting to improve.

Fletcher can be a little sensitive to unfamiliar noises. We've been exposing him to lots of different environments such as the hospital, where there are lots of strange noises and smells for him to explore. Exposing Fletcher to new situations is crucial to improving his confidence. We recently had builders carrying out some work in our house, causing lots of loud noises.

Fletcher took it all in his stride, a true testament to how much his confidence has grown.

Yoga pup

Fletcher has become a regular at my yoga class and even has his own yoga mat to lay on! He used to get very excited and want to join in when the class started, but now he falls asleep and is just as relaxed as the people taking the class!

Thank you so much for sponsoring Fletcher. Look out for your next Pupate in October.

Training – Puppy to qualified guide dog

It takes around 20 months of training to transform a newborn pup into a qualified guide dog.

The pups learn basic commands and are introduced to new surroundings with their Puppy Walker.

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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