

Joy

**GUIDE
DOGS**



Pupdate 3

New adventures

Preparing for early training

**SPONSOR
A PUPPY**





Hello, it's Jeanne here, Joy's Puppy Walker. Joy will be off to early training soon but I'm excited to update you on how we've been preparing.

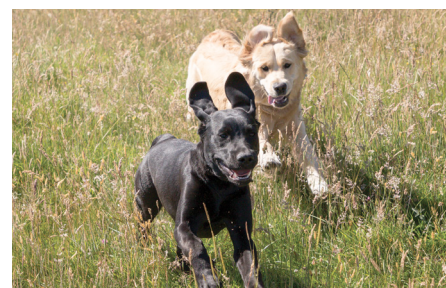
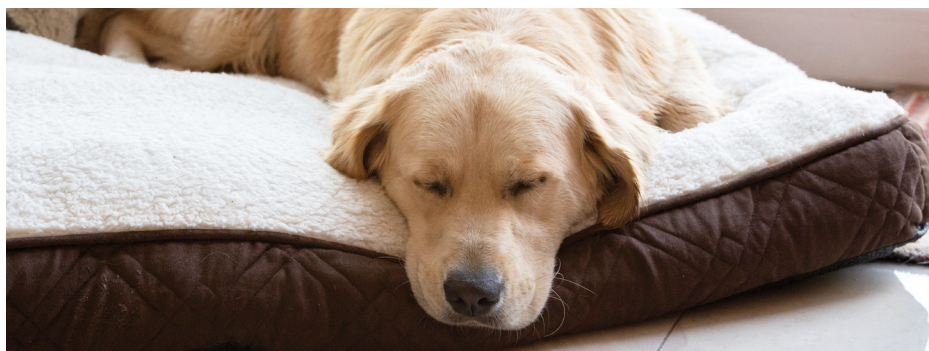
Joy is such a loving and affectionate puppy and it's truly been a joy being her Puppy Walker, her name suits her perfectly! She is like my shadow and is always

content to just sit and be stroked. We love relaxing together in the evenings but we've also been busy getting ready for Joy to begin early training!

London calling

We have been travelling down to London frequently and Joy has proven to be an excellent travelling companion. She has excelled on trains, both the overground, and underground and we even went on a river boat and she wasn't fazed at all! These experiences will really help her to be confident once she is partnered and be ready for anything that may come her way.

Recently, a group of puppy walkers and guide dog



puppies went on a day trip to the Globe Theatre in London. We weren't too sure how Joy would behave as we are still working on her dog distraction, but she behaved so well and we were really pleased with her. Her focus has come on leaps and bounds, especially when she is wearing her blue puppy coat as she knows that is when she needs to concentrate.

When it's time to have some fun, Joy loves going on free

runs. We have taken her to the coast and she really adores running around on the beach. She makes us laugh because she isn't interested in going in the sea at all!

(Continued overleaf)



Preparing for Early Training

Soon Joy will be progressing to early training so we have been making sure she has mastered her basic obedience skills.

Her recall is brilliant, even in new, exciting places like Regents Park. When I am out on my own with her she never strays too far away. 'Touch' is another command she excels at due to her loving nature. When you put out your hand for her to touch she does it almost automatically

without the command. This will be brilliant for her future owner as it will allow them to locate Joy easily. She really does love being close to people and will make an amazing guide dog as well as a brilliant companion.

We can't wait for Joy to move on to early training and see all the progress she will continue to make in her journey to become a guide dog. Look out for your next Pupdate in February to see how she is getting on!

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 early training where they spend about 19 weeks with a Guide Dog Trainer learning the foundation tasks required of a guide dog. For the last 12 weeks they're with a Guide Dogs Mobility Instructor for partnership training to learn specific skills tailored to their owner's specific needs.



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