

LillyBits Spotty Dog Training Place Tips

We thought we would share a few of the things we have figured out along the way using the Spotty Dog Training Place and share them with you.

When you open your Spotty Training Place it will be easy to put together and you will find everything you need in their original packaging. I think that the product is well designed and attractive for a dog potty everything fits together nicely.

Setting Up Tips:

If your green coil mat isn't laying flat, here is the solution I found: Take your hair dryer and lay the Spotty green mat on a flat surface. With the warm air from the dryer pass it over the green mat. I held mine just inches from the mat. As the plastic warms up the green mat will flatten. This even worked with a replacement mat I purchased that I thought would never lay flat!

Before your puppy comes home or before you introduce a Spotty Dog to a new dog in your home I would spray the green mat with bitter apple. That way it tastes awful and could divert any initial temptation to nibble on the mat. I have not had that trouble here at my house but one puppy could get bored and decide to give it a nibble. Having something more attractive to chew in your puppy area is a good idea. I suggest a bully stick.

Side Note if you have purchased a Richell Playpen:

Your Spotty comes in two sections. If you have purchased the Richell Playpen the Spotty Dog is too wide to fit horizontally at the end and takes up too much space vertically. You can use ½ of the Spotty Dog independently of the other half. You would use a smaller potty pad and face what would have been the middle of the Spotty towards the back side of your Richell Pen. Your green mat will have to be cut in half also. I experimented cutting one of my spare mats and surprisingly they cut nicely. Just be sure you are careful for a straight cut so it looks nice!

The Spotty fits perfectly in the Iris playpen that is our favorite and on our LillyBits shopping list.

Potty Pads Tips:

I have found the Spotty dog very easy to clean. I change the potty pads once a day but with only one puppy you may be able to go longer than that. I have found the Spotty Dog Training Place to be odor free.

The Spotty company makes their own potty pads that fit the Spotty dog perfectly. Here is what I will say, as advertised their potty pads do seem to last the longest and are extra

absorbent. Any other potty pad and you will need to use two in the Spotty Dog because of the length. For disposable pads I have used two of the Iris potty pads found on Amazon because they are the right depth. I think if I had one dog only, I might get the Spotty pads if I chose to go the disposable route.

What we do here at LillyBits is use re-usable potty pads made by Ezwhelp. They can be found on Amazon.com and I use the 20 by 27 size. The fit isn't perfect but it works well enough to be very doable. Not everyone is up to washing potty pads and I totally understand that. I just wanted those that were interested to know there is a green option if you like.

Cleaning and Storing Tips:

The idea of the Spotty Dog is that you are picking up solids with tissue and flushing them. So to begin with making sure you have picked up all the solids off your Spotty Dog.

I take the green mat into the utility sink. Your clean up job will be much nicer with warm water. I have a sprayer hose with good pressure. I first take the sprayer and hold it up to the mat and pass over the whole mat so any debris comes off. Then I spray it down with Simple Green. I use a toilet scrubber designated for the Spotty and quickly scrub both sides and then rinse. This literally takes less than a minute or so! I lay a towel out on the ground and lay the Spotty mat on top of the towel. Then I roll the Spotty mat up in the towel like you would a wet bathing suit except you are keeping the mat flat as you roll it up. Now step on the rolled towel a few times. Unroll your towel and your Spotty mat is now dry and ready to use! No hang drying or waiting!

For the plastic portions of the Spotty Dog Training Place I just wipe them down with disinfectant wipes as needed.

If you are going to store a few extra replacement mats I would encourage you to store them laying flat. That works best for me.

Important Note:

During your dog's lifetime they may pick up a parasite, on a walk or even at the dog park! When you treat or de-worm your dog it will be important to disinfect the Spotty Dog mat. I just fill the utility sink with warm water and put a Trifectant tablet or two in the water and soak for ten minutes. You could use a splash of Barbicide (amazon carries it) or anything else meant for disinfecting/germicide. I have never used bleach. Be sure to thoroughly rinse the mat when you are done soaking it in disinfectant.

I hope this article is helpful!

Enjoy your puppy!

Cheers,

Heather

