



# Bowler's

## First Pupdate

A few weeks have passed since Bowler moved into his new home with Puppy Walker, Natalie. We've recently been in touch to find out how Bowler has been getting on.

Natalie told us that Bowler settled into his new home quickly and that he's slept soundly from 11.30pm to 8.45am each night since very early on. He enjoys his sleep so much that Natalie has to wake him up in the morning! Bowler shares Natalie's home with Midnight, the cat, who he's been keen to make friends with. Midnight has learnt to move slowly around Bowler, as he'll give chase if the cat moves anywhere fast.

Bowler has been doing well with house training and his only accidents indoors now are when Natalie hasn't noticed him at the backdoor asking to be let out. The 'busy' toileting prompt has been introduced to Bowler, and he seems to have got the hang of this already, which is good.

Some of the basic obedience commands have been introduced now too, and Bowler appears to be a very quick learner. He knows 'sit', 'wait', 'stay', 'down', 'stand' and 'up sit'. Natalie said that Bowler is quite a character already and that he loves to be challenged. He's also very food orientated, which comes in handy when teaching him the commands. Bowler has a very healthy appetite and is growing quickly. He eats very speedily, so Natalie has had to change his feeding bowl to one that helps slow him down a little!

Bowler doesn't mind the collar and lead, and gets excited when he sees the lead as he knows he's going on another adventure. So far, Bowler has been to some local shops, a supermarket, garden centre, café and some craft fairs. He's taken everything he's encountered so far in his stride, and has been very adaptable.

When out and about, Bowler has seen and heard lots of traffic, which he's mostly been fine with, although he wasn't quite sure what to make of a loud motorbike that passed by recently. ...continued

Car travel features regularly in Bowler's training and he's absolute this. He goes into a travel crate in the back, which he doesn't mind other than one or two little barks when they first set off, Bowler





on each journey. Natalie will also introduce Bowler to bus and train travel during the next month or two.

Bowler is a lovely boy who enjoys nothing more than snuggling up to Natalie in the evening and having his tummy tickled. Bowler loves all of his toys, but his favourite is a soft grey elephant, which is never too far away from wherever he is.

It sounds like Bowler has made an excellent start to his early guide dog training, and we hope you've enjoyed catching up with his progress and adventures. We'll be in touch again soon with Bowler's first report card from his Puppy Training Supervisor.

**Thank you for naming a puppy and helping Guide Dogs to change a life.**

