



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Sprout

Sprout's calm personality
shines through

Pupdate 3

Thank you

for sponsoring Sprout



“ Hello, it’s Chrisi here, Sprout’s Puppy Raiser. I’ve been preparing Sprout for Guide Dogs Training School. ”

I’m very proud to say that Sprout’s calm nature and ability to adapt to any new environment means he is now being put forward to begin training!

Sprout has a lovely personality. He is calm in all situations and always wants to please. Whether it’s going out in the car or on a walk, Sprout is always so enthusiastic to go out. He is so loving at home, and I’ve found he loves ice cubes... If he hears some being dispensed from the fridge, he comes running through to the kitchen and head butts me on my bottom until I give him one!

Staying in different places

Sprout walks well on the lead and is well versed with all the previous skills learnt; I’ve recently started teaching him how to find a chair. Sprout recently stayed with some fosterers as we were due to go on holiday; this is good practise for pups in training as they can learn to take cues from other people. I was delighted to hear that Sprout’s recall was still as good when he was with his fosterers!

We also went to the Lake District for a short break, and Sprout behaved brilliantly in the new surroundings and crowds of people. It was the first time he'd seen swans on a lake and whilst he did initially think the swan would like to say hello, one word from us and Sprout retreated!

New sights and sounds

Nothing seems to faze Sprout - if any noise makes him jump, he doesn't shy away from it. The Red Arrows flew over our house recently and I ran to check Sprout was OK, but he just looked at me wondering what all the fuss was about!

I took him to the hairdressers recently where there are lots of different noises and smells; I was so amazed by Sprout's calm approach - he just lay there fascinated by other customers having their hair done!

Future plans

Previously I had been concerned about his recall and curiosity, but I'm delighted to say his recall is now reliable. Whilst he's still interested in what's going on around him, he no longer gets distracted and remains focussed.

(Continued overleaf)



See how Sprout has grown in his own video:

[guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-sprout](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-sprout)

Now restrictions have been lifted, we may go on longer town visits; we're also having a large family gathering soon which will be a new experience for Sprout – no doubt the children will want to groom him which he'll love!

Whilst it will be difficult for me when Sprout moves on, I've learnt to just appreciate the time I've had training these pups and accept it's someone else's time to enjoy them. We may not take on another pup straight away, but we'll continue to board pups to give their owners a break.

Thank you so much for sponsoring Sprout. Look out for his next Pupdate!



Thanks to your amazing support, you are helping puppies like Sprout move to training school and learn from our guide dog trainers, who will teach them the specialist skills they need as fully qualified guide dogs. **Your sponsorship donations contribute towards equipment for a new pup in training, costs which can include:**

£8 A collar for a working guide dog.

£18 A harness handle.

£25 An hour's training for a guide dog.

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