

Puppy\_Chews\_on\_Furniture.txt

Q. My puppy has lots and lots of toys, but he still chews on the door frame. How can I deter him from doing this?

A. I definitely can empathize. You can't imagine the destruction Bella rained on our wooden furniture when she was a puppy. She chewed up the foot board of the bed, among other things. Scout chewed the corners off my brand new coffee table. So Duke definitely comes by this naturally! LOL I got smart and when we redecorated a couple of years ago and got all distressed furniture so I could repair the damage.

Some chew toy suggestions...

Toys made of wood: Petstages Dogwood Stick <http://amzn.to/1nyw2na> (they also have Acorn and Pine Cone shapes). My dogs didn't like the Smartpaw brand of this, probably because the stick was too hard. If they can't destroy it, it's not fun.

Toys that have food inside them that's hard to get to, like the Treat Balls I had for the puppies in their pen (<http://amzn.to/1nyy86y>). Kong makes all kinds of treat dispensing toys, but I haven't tried any of them, because my adult dogs aren't big chewers.

Toys that make noise. The all-time favorite, for adults and puppies alike, are water bottle toys. Make sure you are able to replace the bottle (Multipet brand doesn't let you). The longest lasting are those that close with Velcro. The ones that close with elastic don't last nearly as long. The best I've purchased to date are made by Outward Hound (<http://amzn.to/1nPrxo4>).

None of my dogs, puppies or adults, like sheds, horns or antlers because they are too hard. Things like Bully Sticks, Tendons, Pig Ears and Himalayan chews are too soft - they are just very expensive treats. Some of my dogs will chew on hooves, but I find them to be smelly, so they stay outside.

When our dogs are sent to their "room" when we leave for the day or while we have company, I usually give them something special to chew on. Usually they each get a real knee-cap bone. I buy those made in the USA, such as Pet Carousel (5-pack, <http://amzn.to/1SjNIxV>), Redbarn (5-pack, <http://amzn.to/1nPvrgH>), Smokehouse (6-pack, <http://amzn.to/1nPvmto>) and Country Butcher (50-pack, <http://amzn.to/1SjOyuB>).

You can also spray the door with a bitter chew deterrent. Not all of the types sold work well, so I'd search Amazon and read the reviews before buying. Unfortunately, you may just have to wait out the chewing stage and patch the door :)