



As new parents we wanted to make sure Cuba had the best training. We started with the most important step in any puppy's life (and of his owners) - housebreaking. Having only a vague idea about training a dog, we diligently began reading up on the matter. We read that we should take our little guy to a predetermined spot outside, should he mistake our house for the toilet. We were then to chant a word or phrase - such as "go potty," until he started to go. After, we were supposed to immediately switch to words of encouragement, like "good boy," until he had completed his business. We repeated this for a week or so and were convinced that we had successfully trained our new family member. He even went on command! We were so proud. However, it was strange that he sometimes still had accidents in the house without notice and usually after praise. How could this be? We knew he was house trained. Later that week we would discover why. We had stopped outside of work and were introducing our new pup to colleagues, when one of them bent down and told little Cuba what a "good boy" he was. Cuba immediately paused, looked up at my coworker and (almost smiling) - squatted and proceeded to relieve himself on the company steps. Needless to say, we had successfully conditioned our new dog.

Dog official name	Cuba Claudius Kauten
Dog Nickname	Cuba
Breed	Yellow Labrador Retriever
Weight	30
Age	4 months
Do I drool?	no
Am I a barker?	no
Am I a cuddler?	yes
Do I sleep with my owners?	yes
1 word to describe me	sociable
My personal slogan is	food, friends and play makes my day
The best thing about me is	I am the happiest and cutest dog you will ever meet. I'm a real crowd pleaser!
The worst thing about me is	my gourmet taste in shoes, socks and belts
My best skill is	ringing the bell when I need to go potty
What makes me unique	I am bilingual/d understanding German and English. However, I sometimes pretend to be deaf
my favorite food is	boiled rice with beef
my favorite toy is	my platypus toy with the hidden squeaky balls
something I enjoy doing	I love meeting new puppies and people
my owner's tale of how I became part of the family	As a little puppy, Cuba flew into Boston from his home state of Texas to join our family



Since Ralphie's appearance in City Puppies Oceanside Edition we have celebrated his second birthday and moved to a brand new house in Portsmouth! Ralphie has been spending time with lots of new friends as well as all of his old buds. Although he is very busy, he has still found time for the same old antics. While spending a weekend at his aunties house, he managed to climb out a window onto the roof and howl at the moon until the police came. A few weeks later he was hanging out with mom and dad on the dock at our new house and he was reaching a little too far for some seaweed and fell in the water, thus completing his first ocean swim of the summer! Ralphie has decided that cats are now cool and we recently got the exciting news that Ralphie's little sister Clover will be moving back to Portsmouth at the end of the summer! Our next big adventure is going on vacation to the lake, Ralphie's favorite! Stay tuned for the next edition of City Puppies to see what Ralphie will be up to next!

Dog official name	Ralphie
Dog Nickname	Crazy Pants Swirly Bum
Breed	Beagle, Lab and Britney Spaniel
Weight	50
Age	2
Do I drool?	sometimes
Am I a barker?	yes
Am I a cuddler?	yes
Do I sleep with my owners?	yes
1 word to describe me	mischievous
My personal slogan is	trot trot trot trot trot
The best thing about me is	everything!
The worst thing about me is	my ability to go deaf when another dog enters my realm
My best skill is	Army crawling into confined spaces...I learned it in navy dog school
What makes me unique	I can fall asleep sitting up. I also learned it in navy dog school
my favorite food is	a steak cooked medium rare
my favorite toy is	my blanket
something I enjoy doing	chasing the squirrels that torture my soul
my owner's tale of how I became part of the family	The doggie gods were smiling on us!