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March 2023

Your monthly tail wag!

It has been almost 7 months since I signed up on Rover.com to become a “pet sitter”. At the time I had no idea where this crazy idea would go, but what I did know was that I love animals and I love spending time outdoors walking on our beautiful Caledon trails. I also

knew that the pet industry was booming after Covid and so many people had added a new fur baby to their family. I anticipated that since travel restrictions had lifted and people were taking vacations that there would be a need for more pet sitters. Given that I work 100% from home I thought this would be a good fit for me. My own dogs, Mocha and Reese, are seniors now and are happy to sleep the day away with a short walk in the morning. I knew that if I didn't want to end up spending 10 hours a day sitting at my desk then I needed some younger pups to make sure I took a few breaks throughout the day. And so the Caledon Tailblazers was born.

Although, I am still a registered pet sitter on Rover, most of my clients are now through word of mouth or social media. I have a lot of repeat customers which I love because the more often a dog comes to my home the more comfortable it is. Overnights are so much easier with a dog that feels completely at home here. We all get a good nights sleep :).

I have to admit when I first started I didn't really know much about running a business and although I have learned a lot, I am still learning and growing all the time. One thing I started doing was getting some background information on the pets in my care. It's funny but Rover doesn't actually collect details like vaccination history or emergency contact information. That led me to create an intake form for all my boarding and daycare clients to help me get to know the dogs in my care. The intake form tells me a bit about your pup's personality and how they interact with other dogs. It also gives me some important information about allergies, vet information, and emergency contact information. I created an Instagram account and I try to post regularly although it's not always easy to find time! You can click on my Instagram link below or look me up at #caledontailblazers. I also have a logo and now a newsletter! Hoping to add a website soon.

My little business has now grown to a point that I feel like a monthly newsletter would be a valuable thing to send out to my clients. My thoughts for future newsletters are to share some tips and tricks and keep you, my valued clients, up to date on what is going on



Simple Dog Biscuits

Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour or whole wheat flour* and additional flour for dusting surface
- 2 large eggs lightly beaten
- $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup water

Instructions

- Preheat your oven to 350 degrees F. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.
- Mix flour, eggs and water in a large bowl, forming a stiff dough with your hands. Add more water if necessary.
- Dust surface with flour. Using a rolling pin, roll out dough about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch

here at the Caledon Tailblazers. I will notify you of any upcoming time away I have planned and weeks/weekends that are filling up quickly in order to give you all plenty of time to plan your own vacations. In the meantime I wish you all a great month of March and sending warm wishes for spring to arrive in the next few weeks! It's going to be a busy one for me with March break right around the corner! I am completely booked and have recruited the help of my youngest daughter, Lauren. Having just got her G2 she is very motivated to help me out and earn a few extra dollars (she has quickly learned that gas isn't cheap!). I would love to get your feedback on my newsletter! If you have ideas for future newsletters, I welcome those as well. Thank you my valued clients.

Katrien

For my first newsletter I thought I would share a recipe I tried at Christmas. I made a few batches of these cookies and gave them to the dogs that boarded with me over the holidays. They were a hit! What I love most is how few ingredients are in these cookies! I added pumpkin puree to my batch but there are several options.

Notes:

- This recipe yields approximately 35 (3 inch) bone shaped dog biscuits.
- Please consult your veterinarian before feeding your dog any type of homemade dog food or treats.
- Add-Ins: Add 2 tablespoons of one the following, if desired. Start with $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of water when using add-ins and add more water if necessary to form a stiff dough.
 - mashed banana
 - pure pumpkin puree
 - mashed sweet potato
 - peanut butter *** make sure it does **not** contain xylitol
 - honey
 - Water can be substituted with beef or chicken broth.

thick. Using a cookie cutter, cut into shapes (or use a pizza cutter wheel or knife to cut into small strips).

- Place onto prepared baking sheet and bake for 18 to 20 minutes, or until lightly browned and cooked through.
- Cool on a wire rack. Once cooled, store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 2 weeks

*I have tested this recipe with both all-purpose flour and whole wheat flour and both work well. However, whole wheat flour has more nutritional value.

This recipe can be found here:

<https://theblondcook.com/simple-dog-biscuits/>



[Link to my intake form](#)

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