

Dog Care and Behavior

Behavior Tips

• Barking

Chained dogs often bark out of frustration and loneliness. Just getting your dog off the chain will reduce barking. Some dogs bark more at night. Bringing your dog in your house at night should stop all barking! Dogs who are exercised and happy are less likely to bark. Walk your dog and let him get to know the neighborhood so he won't feel threatened by it. A tired, happy dog will sleep instead of bark. Teach the word "Quiet." After your dog starts barking, startle him with a noise (like calling his name) or by tapping a treat on his nose. When he is silent, say "Quiet" and reward him. Then you can use the command "Quiet" to stop barking.

• Begging

Decide at the beginning that no one will feed the dog from the table. Don't allow guests to break this rule. Feed the dog before your meal, and he won't be hungry.

• Biting

Every time puppy bites on your finger say, "Ouch". Not the way a person would say it, but the way a puppy would say it...high-pitched and loud! Puppy will think he's hurting you. Then ignore the puppy for a few minutes. Don't grab, squeeze or pop them on the nose.

• Tearing Stuff Up

Never leave your new dog alone in the house. You are asking for trouble if you let an untrained dog have full run of the house! A crate is best. Privileges are earned and your new dog must be mature and trained before you give him total freedom. Give him chew toy and rawhides. Let him get used to being alone so he doesn't chew out of nervousness. Gradually leave him alone for longer periods of time. Leaving and returning should always be low-key.

• Digging

Give your dog his own sandbox. Bury toys in it and teach him it's okay to dig in there.

• Jumping On People

When your dog jumps on you, back away or turn away. Don't say anything or look her in the eye. Do this every time she jumps. Your dog wants your attention. Only give your dog attention when all four feet are on the floor. Go online or visit your library for information about dog training and behavior. To find information online, search for specific terms such as: *dog barking, introducing new dog, dog jumping, dog aggression, etc.*

Dogs are pack animals and want to be part of a pack: you!

Teaching your dog to be a well-behaved member of your family will take time, but will be well-worth it as your dog becomes a loved friend.

Dogs who are used to being chained can make great house dogs, but may need extra training. Be ready for your dog to act excited when first coming in. Don't give up! Your dog will calm way down once he his used to being inside. He is just excited about being in a new place, with new smells and new things to see.

From UnchainYourDog.org
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