



Dog Training 101: Tips and Tricks the Pros Use

A gift from Jana – the Angels Eyes Lady ☺

<http://MalteseEyeStain.com>

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Chapter 1 - Introduction

The kids have finally convinced you to get them a puppy. Now you have a cute, furry, ankle biter running around the house. Nothing is safe from this four-legged paper shredder. Everything that is in reach of your new puppy is fair game. You will soon find Fido using your shiny hard wood floors as his own personal bathroom. When you find your favorite pair of slippers chewed to bits you will wonder if getting a puppy was the right decision to make.

Do not worry, soon enough your new addition to the family will be your best friend. Puppies are like children in a way. They need to be taught how to behave. If you do not take the time to teach them right from wrong, you will not be able to enjoy the wonders a dog can bring to your life.

Training a dog can be a challenging time. You may begin to feel that training your dog is impossible. Every time your new dog has an accident in the house, or tears up one of the kid's toys, you will think about giving up and finding the dog another home. This is the reason many dogs end up at shelters. The dog's previous owners did not take the time that is needed to work with them.

It does not have to be this way. This book will help teach you the proper ways of training your dog. You will learn what methods of training work, and which methods to avoid. Training your dog does not have to be hard. You just have to stick with it and be consistent.

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Consistency is the key to properly training a dog. Just as you would not give up on potty training your child, you cannot give up when housebreaking a dog.

Another thing to remember when training a dog is it takes time. You will not train your dog in a matter of a few hours. It could take days, or even weeks to see changes in the dog's behavior. The main thing to keep in mind is do not give up.

In the following chapters, you will learn all you need to know about training your dog. We will cover housebreaking, leash training, chewing, teaching your dog new tricks, and so much more. Once you are done reading, you will be able to begin training your dog the right way. Soon the days of accidents in the house, and chewed up slippers will be a distant memory.

There are three main factors to remember when training a dog. They are time, patience, and consistency. We will discuss them in further detail as we go along.

Chapter 2 – Give Your Dog Time to Adjust

Getting a new dog can be a major change in a family's way of life. It is also a major change in the dog's life. If you have gotten a new puppy, they have been taken away from their mother and siblings. The puppy's whole surroundings have changed. They will need some time to adjust to their new life. They will not understand what is happening, they will just see everything changing.

Dogs that have been in animal shelters will need time to adjust to their new life too. They may have had hard lives where they were abused. Dogs do not understand why they have been placed in a shelter. All they know is that their whole world has changed. They may have just gotten used to life at the shelter and now things are changing once more.

Giving your new dog or puppy time to adjust to their new life will make training easier. If they feel comfortable with you and your family, they will be more willing to learn. Here are some tips you can use to help your new four-legged friend adjust.

- Before you bring your new dog home, designate an area for the dog to sleep. Make this an area that offers the dog a quiet space to relax. They may be nervous in their new surroundings and need somewhere to be alone.

- Once you get your new dog home, give them a chance to explore their new living area. It is a good idea to keep them on a leash when exploring the outdoors. They are not familiar with their new area yet and if they got away, they could get lost. The dog will need to explore and smell their new area.
- When you bring your new dog inside they may get excited and have an accident on the floor. Just tell them no, and remember their whole world has been turned upside down.
- Give your new dog time to settle in before introducing them to other animals. It is always a good idea to make introductions outdoors. This will help the older animals feel less threatened of someone taking over their territory. If there is more than one other animal, make the introductions one at a time. You would not want the new dog to feel like they are being outnumbered.
- When making the introductions with other animals allow them to smell and examine each other. This is just a dog's way of getting to know one another. Talk to them both in a calm, reassuring manner. You could even give each of the dogs a treat. The main goal is to make each animal feel relaxed. Dogs do not like to feel another is replacing them. Make sure to pay equal attention to all of the animals.
- When feeding your new dog, try to give them food they are used to eating. You might be able to find that out from the person you got the dog from, or the shelter where you adopted. The dog may not want to eat at first until they feel relaxed in their new surroundings. If you give the dog a new food that they are not used to it may cause them to have an upset stomach. They may even get diarrhea until their body adjusts to the food.

- If you have more than one dog, feed them in separate areas until you know how they will act around each other when eating. If the new dog has been abused, they may be more aggressive when eating. After you see how the dogs will act together, and they are getting along, it will be fine to feed them in the same area.
- If you have children make sure they are calm and quiet when introducing them to the new dog. Have them sit down and let the dog come to them. Always supervise the introductions with your children. The dog may become nervous and try to snap at the children. Make sure the children do not bother the dog while it is eating. Children need to know how to act around the dog. They need to know it is not all right to pull the dog's ears or tail. They need to be taught to be gentle with the dog.
- Make a schedule and stick to it. Feed, walk, and play with your new dog at regular times. This will help your new dog feel more relaxed. They will soon learn what to expect and when to expect it.
- It is a good idea to have a crate for your new dog or puppy. Dogs like to have a place of their own. Crates can be a wonderful way of training your dog when used properly. The crate can give the dog a place to go and feel safe. It can also protect them from danger when you are not around to supervise.

By giving your dog time to adjust to his new family and surroundings, you will be creating a lasting relationship. Adding a pet to the family

really is a big change. You now have to take into consideration their needs and well-being.



Chapter 3 – Housebreaking

One of the biggest problems dog owners face is housebreaking. Many dogs are taken to animal shelters because their owners did not know how to housebreak them correctly. There are a few factors to remember when housebreaking a dog.

- Time- It takes time to housebreak your new dog.
- Consistency- This is the biggest factor when housebreaking a dog. You have to stick with it.
- Patience- Along with consistency and time go patience. You need to remember housebreaking is something new to your dog.

You will need to begin housebreaking training as soon as you bring your new dog or puppy home. If the dog is under twelve weeks, they will not be able to hold it until you can take them outside. Their bladder muscles are not completely formed yet. You will need to watch for the dogs signs that they need to go out to the bathroom. Some signs to watch for include the following.

- Sniffing
- Turning around in circles
- Whining
- Going to the door

When you see the dog exhibiting one of these signs, take them outdoors to use the bathroom. It is also a good idea to have an area

with newspapers or puppy pads in case you do not notice the signs. You can also use a crate for times you are not home. We will discuss crate training later on. Make sure you are taking your puppy outside at regular times. They need to go out right after they eat. Soon the dog will learn when you are going to take them out and they will hold it until that time. Remember dogs under twelve weeks cannot hold it.

When your dog has an accident, it is extremely important to correct them then. If you wait until later, they will not understand why you are mad at them. They will continue to have accidents because they will not realize what they have done wrong. If you find a mess just clean it up and pay more attention to the signs the dogs is giving you.

If you catch the dog or puppy about to make a mess, or you catch them in the process of making a mess, tell them “No” in a firm, loud voice. Do not hit the dog. This will not stop the accidents. Hitting the dog can make them have a nervous problem and have more accidents. Just tell them no and immediately take the dog outside. Never rub the dogs face in the mess. That will make the dog be afraid of you. It will also make any further training much harder.

You have to be consistent when housebreaking a dog or puppy. A dog cannot be expected to wait for extended periods. They need let outdoors on a regular schedule. If you cannot be there to let your dog out, consider having a friend or neighbor let the dog out for you.

Some people choose to paper train their dog first. They select an area in the house and place papers down for the dog to use. Every time the

dog starts showing signs of having to go, they place the dog on the papers. Eventually the dog goes to the papers by their self. Then the owner moves the papers a little closer to the door. Once the papers are at the door, the owner then moves them outside. The dog will go to the door when they need to use the bathroom. After a few times of the dog going outside on the papers the owner can then remove the papers completely. By using the papers outdoors, it gets the dog used to their own scent. They soon recognize where they are expected to use the bathroom.

Again, it is very important to stick with your schedule of housebreaking. If you slip and allow the dog to mess inside they will continue doing so. Once the scent is in the house, the dog will keep returning to the same spot.

Here are a few tips to remember when housebreaking your dog.

- Always go to the same area. They will smell their own scent and be more prone to go.
- Do not play when taking the dog out to use the bathroom. They will then be confused and think all bathroom trips are for play instead of the intended purpose.
- Do not distract the dog. Let them sniff around and do their business.
- Do not go indoors until the dog has used the bathroom.
- Always reward the dog each time they use the bathroom in the proper place. This can be with verbal praise, or dog treats. The treat or reward should be given on the spot. This will help the dog understand why he is being rewarded.

- Keep the dog's water bowl picked up after a certain time at night. This will help the puppy avoid accidents through the nighttime.
- Keep your puppy away from hidden areas. Puppies will usually hide when they are making a mess in the house. Keep doors closed to bedrooms and rooms that are out of eyesight.

Dogs and puppies need to have regular scheduled times for using the bathroom. A puppy twelve weeks and under will need to be let outdoors eight to ten times a day. They need out after they have eaten, slept, played, etc. From age six to eleven months the dog will need out four to six times a day. They especially need out after meals and sleep. Adult dogs are able to go longer between bathroom breaks. They need out three or four times a day. Except in the summer when they drink more water. Elderly dogs that have lost control over their bladder will need out more frequently.

If your dog starts suddenly having accidents in the house, take them to a Veterinarian. There could be a medical condition causing them to have the accidents.

Chapter 4 – Crate Training

A dog crate can be a great tool to use when training your dog. Some people choose not to use a crate. They think it is cruel. Think of it this way. The crate is not causing any harm when used properly. It can actually keep the dog from harm. Dogs can be curious and get into things they should not.

When choosing a crate for your dog, find one that is big enough to allow the dog to lie on its side and stretch out comfortably. They will also need to be able to sit up without hitting their head on top of the cage.

If you are buying a crate for a puppy, it needs to be big enough for the puppy to stretch out. However, you do not want the cage too big. This is especially true if you are using the cage to house train the puppy. Dogs do not like to lie in a soiled area. If the cage is too big it will allow them to mess, and still have plenty of room to spare.

If the dog is going to be large and you do not want to buy two different size crates, you can section off part of the crate for now. Then later on when the puppy has matured, you can open the whole crate to them.

Most people buy a crate made from wire. They usually collapse for easy storage. They are lightweight and easy to move around. They also offer plenty of ventilation for your dog. There are also wooden, metal, and plastic crates available. They do not offer much ventilation and do not allow the dog to look out. They are also heavier to move.

When deciding on a place to put the crate, you will want an area where the dog will not feel left out. If the dog feels left out or lonely they will come to resent being put in the crate. This is not the desired effect you want. The crate can be placed in a family are of the house such as the family room or kitchen. Place the crate against the wall or in a corner. This will still allow the dog to feel a sense of privacy without being left out. You can also place a blanket over one or two sides of the crate.

Crates can be purchased at any of the larger pet stores. They can also be found at places like Wal-mart and Target in the pet supply section. The cost will depend on the size of the crate. It will also depend on what type of material the crate is made of. You do not have to get the most expensive crate. A less expensive one will work for most dogs. If you have a larger dog, you will need to make sure the crate can support it.

The cost of the crate will be well worth the saved headaches. Finding your furniture or carpet in shreds can be very overwhelming. By using a crate, you will be protecting both your house and the dog from danger.

If you are going to use a crate to train your dog, start right away, from when they are a puppy. It is easier to get the dog in the crate when they are little. They might whimper and fuss for a while but they will get used to the idea. Older dogs may give you more of a struggle. They may feel trapped at first. Keep using the crate and they will come to

see it is all right. Place a shirt that has not yet been washed inside with them. It will have your scent on it and help them to relax.

While the dog is in the crate, they should have some type of bedding. This can be a dog bed or a blanket or rug. They also should have some type of chew toy to occupy their time. Food or water should not be left in the crate. The dog will just knock them over. If it is hot out you can attach a water bottle similar to the type a hamster or rabbit would use, to the side of the crate.

Here are some of the reasons people typically use crates when training their dogs.

- To keep the dog from chewing up things while the owner is away, or at night. Dogs can be curious and get into things they should not. They might get into something that could be harmful to them. Crates will not solve all of these problems. The owner should go around the house and make sure dangerous things are out of reach for the dog.
- To house train the dog. Dogs usually will not have an accident where they are going to be laying. Having the dog in the crate can prevent accidents during the night, or when the owner is away at work.
- Keep the dog out of the way. This can be useful when repairmen are at the house, or you are having a family gathering. This way the dog can still be included in the activities without worrying he will get into mischief.

To get your dog used to going in the crate you can leave it sit out with the door open. Make sure the door could not shut and hurt or scare the dog. Then place some of the dogs favorite treats or toys inside. Let them go in and explore on their own. This will help them feel more relaxed when they have to be inside the crate. You can start out by placing some treats towards the front of the crate. Then each time move them back a little further until the dog is completely inside the crate. The dog will eventually see there is no danger from being inside the crate. They will learn that the crate offers them a safe place to get away. It is a good idea to crate your dog even when you are home for small periods. This way the dog will not associate you leaving with being put in the crate.

Safety Tips When Crate Training a Dog

- Always remove the dog's collar when putting them in the crate. The collar could become stuck in the wire of the crate causing injury to your pet.
- Do no crate a dog in extremely hot weather. During hot weather, dogs need extra water. This will mean extra bathroom breaks. Never leave a dog outside in a crate on a hot day. The crate may not allow enough ventilation. The wire crate can also attract the heat.
- Make sure you allow your dog enough time to use the bathroom when you have them out of the crate. If the dog did not have a chance to finish, they will be miserable in the crate waiting for their next time out.

- Never keep your dog in the crate for more than a few hours at a time. They need exercise and the ability to move around freely. Leaving them in the crate for extended periods will make the dog resent the crate. They will begin to fight you each time they have to be placed in the crate. This will also make any future training much harder.
- If your dog starts having accidents inside the crate it could be for several reasons. One reason is they have been left in the crate for too long without a bathroom break. Dogs can only hold it for so long. They need several scheduled breaks a day. Another reason could be that there is something wrong medically with your dog. If your dog had been doing well in the crate and then suddenly starts having accidents, it is time to see your veterinarian. The next reason for accidents inside the crate is they were not given enough time to use the bathroom. If you rush them when they are out using the bathroom, they may get nervous and not finish.

Puppies under nine weeks should not be left in a crate. They need to use the bathroom many times a day and do not have the ability to hold it yet. In addition, puppies that have been adopted from an animal shelter or bought at a pet shop may have a hard time being crate trained. They have been forced to live inside a cage or crate. They will have had to use the bathroom inside their cage. They will have a harder time learning not to use the bathroom inside of the crate.

Crates are an excellent training tool to use with your dog or puppy. However, there are limits to how long you should keep your dog inside the crate. Here is a guideline you should follow.

Nine to Ten Weeks

- Thirty to Sixty Minutes

Eleven to Fourteen Weeks

- One to Three Hours

Fifteen to Sixteen Weeks

- Three to Four Hours

Seventeen Weeks and Up

- Four Hours (No More than Six)

Never use the crate as a form of punishment for your dog. This will make the dog resent the crate and your time you have spent training will be wasted. It is very important to give your dog enough time for exercise each day. They need to be able to go for walks and run around. You should not take your dog for walks around the neighborhood until they have had their shots. You do not want to take a chance of having your dog catch something from another animal.

Reasons Not to use a Crate

- Your dog is under nine weeks old. They are not old enough to have control over their bodily functions yet.
- The weather is hot. Your dog could get sick or even die from being left in a crate in hot weather.
- Your dog is sick. If your dog is vomiting or has diarrhea do not place them in the crate.
- The dog did not finish using the bathroom. Give your dog more time to do their business before you crate them. If you do not they could have an accident inside the crate. This will make the training harder if they start using the bathroom in the crate.
- The dog has been in the crate more than the suggested time limit. Dogs need time to run and play. They also need social companionship. A crate is a great method for training your dog but it should not become their home. The dog will resent the cage and his good behavior will turn bad.
- Do not use a crate for discipline. Your dog will resent the crate and you will no longer be able to use it for training.

Dog Training 101: Tips and Tricks the Pros Use

By following these tips, you will be able to use the crate as a proper training tool for your dog.

Chapter 5 – Stop That Chewing

Anyone that has ever gotten a new puppy knows how much the puppy loves to chew. They will chew anything they can get their paws on. This could be your leather sofa or your brand new pair of shoes. It does not matter what it is as long as the puppy can sink his teeth in. Here are some tips to stop the chewing and save your house.

- Give the puppy plenty of chew toys. If the puppy has things to chew on he will leave your stuff alone. Puppies need to chew just the same as babies do when they are teething. Do not give your puppy too many toys though or they may get confused as to which things are his and which are yours.
- Keep things out of the puppies reach. Put shoes and slippers away in the closet for now. If the puppy enjoys chewing on your expensive throw rugs pick them up. Make sure all cords and wires are out of the reach of the puppy.
- Make sure heavy objects are secured or removed from where the puppy could knock them over and get hurt.
- Use a crate for your puppy if you are not able to supervise him. Puppies are curious; they will get into everything they can. Putting them in a crate when you cannot supervise will ensure your puppy stays safe. Never use the crate for punishment after your puppy has already chewed on something.
- Do not discipline the dog after they have chewed on something. For example, let us say you came home from running an errand and you find your favorite shoes all chewed up. You scold the dog and he goes and hides. The next time you come home

there are newspapers torn up everywhere. You scold the puppy again. By the time you come home, the dog has forgotten about chewing up the items. You have to catch the dog in the act and discipline them right away. A firm No will do the trick. They will then learn what they are doing that made you angry with them.

- Give your puppy plenty of time to exercise outdoors. Let him play with his toys and gets his energy worn off outside. This will help stop the chewing episodes inside.
- Give your puppy a friend. Puppies and dogs get bored easily. When they are bored, they look for things to do and this can lead to chewing. Consider getting another puppy so he has someone to help occupy his time.
- Use a bitter apple spray on the wood and furniture in your house. The taste of the spray will keep the puppy from chewing on the item. This can be found at any pet store.

If you keep at it, you will break your puppy from the chewing habit. Consistency and patience are the keys to remember. Pick up anything that the dog could get their teeth on. Only discipline when you catch the puppy in the act of chewing. Provide your puppy with a sturdy chewing toy.

Recommended Chewing Toys

Puppies need to have toys to chew on when they are cutting their teeth. Giving your puppy chew toys will help eliminate them chewing

on your items. There are some things to look for when choosing chew toys for your puppy.

- **Safety**- the toy must be safe for your puppy. You do not want the toy to have small parts that could come apart and your puppy could swallow the pieces. The toy also has to be strong enough to withstand the puppies chewing. You do not want a toy that can be chewed apart easily.
- **Durability**- you will want a toy that will last your dog a long time. It will need to hold up to the puppies constant chewing.
- **Entertaining**- the toy will need to be fun for your puppy or they will not be interested in playing with it. Boredom is one of the main reasons a dog with begin chewing.
- **Able to be cleaned**- the toy will need to be able to be cleaned. A toy that can be washed in hot water would be the best.

Some examples of good chewing toys include hard rubber balls, tennis balls, and the Kong toy. These toys will be able to withstand your puppies chewing. They should not come apart easily. It is not a good idea to give your puppy socks or old shoes to chew on. This will confuse the puppy as to what he is allowed to chew on. The puppy would not understand if they chewed on a good shoe and you scolded them when you allow them to chew on old ones.



Chapter 6- Leash Training Your Dog or Puppy

Training your dog or puppy to walk on a leash is very important. Dogs need lots of exercise and going for walks is a great way of getting some. If your dog is not leash trained the walks will not be enjoyable for either of you. Your dog will be dragging you down the street or sidewalk. He could run into the road and put him and you in danger of being hit by a car.

The first step to leash training will be to get your dog or puppy a collar. You will want one that fits properly. You should be able to get no more than two fingers in between the collar and the dog's fur. If the collar is too loose, the dog could get free and run away.

If the dog has not had a collar before they will need to get used to having the collar on. This can be done by placing the collar on the dog for short periods. Each time increasing the length the collar is left on. Once the dog does not object to the collar being on you will be ready to continue leash training.

When leash training your dog you will need to choose a leash. There are a few different choices available. You can get a regular short leash, or one that has a retractable feed. To begin you will do better with a short leash. The dog needs to learn how to walk properly on the leash before having the freedom to wander more. A leash that is four to six feet is best when starting out.

To get your dog used to having the leash on hook it to their collar while they are eating for a couple days. This will let the dog get used to the weight of the leash. Next, you can hold the leash and follow your dog around the house. Extend the time each day.

The next step is letting your dog go outside with the leash on. Let them drag the leash around for a while. You can hold the leash every now and then walking around with them. This will continue to get the dog used to being on a leash.

Using a treat, you can call to your dog and get them to walk at your side. Reward them with verbal praise and a treat each time they listen. They will learn that they only get the reward when they are at your side.

You will want to work on leash training in an area with no distractions. Your back yard would probably be best. In addition, if your dog is excited you will not get far with the training. Wait until they are more settled and relaxed.

Now you are ready to move on with the leash training. When you are ready to go for a walk, your dog may become very excited. He may jump and bark at you. You will want to wait until the dog is calm before continuing. Give your dog the “sit” command and wait until he does before attaching his leash. If your dog does not know the “sit” command, refer to the section in this book about basic commands.

Once your dog has calmed down and followed the “sit” command you can proceed. You want your dog to learn he has to be calm before you will take him for a walk. If he starts out excited, he will be harder to get under control during your walk.

Once you begin your walk, you want your dog to stay at your side. He should not be pulling or dragging you. If the dog begins to pull, give the leash a quick jerk. Also, use the “stop” command. He will soon learn he cannot pull you. If he does, the walk will stop. It may take several times of jerking the leash and giving the “stop” command before your dog listens. After he has stopped, give him the “sit” command. Reward your dog for listening. Never hit your dog when they pull you. Your dog will become afraid and resent you. You must remember to use patience when leash training your dog. It may take several attempts before he gets the hang of it. Keep trying and soon your dog will understand you are the one walking him, not the other way around.

Begin leash training as soon as you get your dog. The sooner they learn the better for both of you. It is a good idea to have an ID tag on your dog’s collar. This will help your dog be returned should they get off their leash.

Chapter 7 – Teaching Basic Commands

Dogs need to be taught some basic commands. This will help keep them under control at all times. Teaching your dog some basic commands is not hard to do. It will take some time and patience on your part.

When teaching your dog basic commands you will want to work with them in short sessions. Sessions of about fifteen to twenty minutes will be best. Dogs get bored easily and they will lose interest in you. It helps to have the sessions before you feed the dog. This will give them positive association with food and training. They will know that after they are done training they get to eat. It is like a reward to them.

Here are some basic commands for you to teach your dog.

“Sit”

Sit is one of the easier commands to teach a dog. To teach your dog to sit raise one hand high in the air and hold a treat in it. While you are doing that say in a clear, firm voice, “Sit”. At the same time use your other hand and push down gently on the dogs behind. When the dog is sitting give them verbal praise and the reward. It will probably take several times before the dog understands what you are trying to get him to do. If the dog jumps up trying to get the treat, repeat the “Sit” command again. The dog will learn that he gets a treat when he sits so you will not have to do anything more than give the “Sit” command.

“Stay”

It is easier to teach your dog to stay if they already know how to sit. Give your dog the “Sit” command. Once he is sitting, give him a reward. Hold up your hand in front of the dog and firmly say, “Stay”. While holding up your hand towards the dog slowly back up while repeating, “Stay. Move a short distance the first time. Then each time move further away from the dog. If the dog stays, give him another reward. If the dog does not stay, tell him “No” in a firm voice and start the process over. Again, keep in mind each training session should only last fifteen to twenty minutes.

“Come”

Once you have taught your dog to stay, you can move on to the “Come” command. Have your dog stay. Once you have backed up several feet tell the dog to “Come” in a firm voice. When he comes to you give him a treat. The “Come” command is one of the easier commands to teach. Your dog will eventually learn to stay until you tell him to come to you. Make sure to offer your dog plenty of verbal praise each time he follows through with a command.

“Down”

Teaching your dog the “Down” command can be harder than the other basic commands. To do this, get the dog to sit. While the dog is sitting,

show him the treat you have in your hand. Place the hand with the treat on the ground and say in a firm voice the “Down” command. If your dog lies down give him the treat. If he does not lie down begin the command again. This command can take a lot of practice. If you get frustrated, your dog will be able to sense that. Try not to show frustration when training your dog. Just stop and continue working with them later.

“Heel”

The “Heel” command is very useful when walking your dog. You do not want your dog to be running off pulling you behind. To teach your dog the “Heel” command, have him on his leash. Start walking keeping him close to your side. If he begins to pull or run ahead, gently pull on the leash and in a firm voice say “Heel”. This will take some practice but eventually the dog will learn to stay by your side when walking on a leash.

Once you have taught your dog these basic tricks, you can move on to some more difficult ones.

“Shake”

To teach your dog to shake hands or paws with you get him to sit first. Once he is sitting, hold one of his paws in your hand and say in a firm voice “Shake”. Do not grab or pull his paw or he will become afraid. Give him a reward and verbal praise. Repeat this several times. The

dog will get the idea and begin to put his paw in your hand as soon as you hold it out. If he does not, hold his paw gently and repeat, "Shake". He will catch on.

"Fetch"

For this command, it is a good idea to have your dog on a leash. Fetch is a fun command to teach your dog. This command can be used when playing with your dog. To teach your dog to "Fetch" you will need a toy he enjoys playing with. Get your dog's attention by calling his name and waiving the toy around. Get him excited about the toy then toss it away from you. At the same time in a firm voice, give the "Fetch" command to your dog. He will most likely take off towards the toy.

Once your dog has picked up the toy, wait for him to bring it to you. If he begins to wander away, gently pull on his leash. When he returns to you do not take the toy out of his mouth. Instead, wait for him to drop it in front of you. If he does this, give him a reward. If he does not drop the toy, you can try giving him a treat. Once he drops the toy start all over. He will learn to bring the toy right back to you because you will throw it for him again.

When teaching your dog any type of commands, always make sure you have his attention before you begin. To get your dog's attention say his name in a firm voice. Look directly at your dog when talking to him. Never let your dog see you are getting frustrated when you are training him. Stop the training session and resume later on. Also, never call a dog to come to you for discipline. He will associate the "Come" command with punishment. Always remember to praise your dog when he does a command correctly. He will love the praise and be more willing to work with you.

Chapter 8 – Training Your Dog to Stay Off the Furniture

Some people choose to allow their dog to be on the furniture. Others do not. It is a personal choice. Allowing your dog on the furniture can cause extra wear on the furniture. The furniture could be covered in dog hair and smell like your dog. Most dogs like to be on the comfortable furniture instead of the floor. You can train them to stay off the furniture.

To train your dog to keep off the furniture you will use the “Off” command. To use the “Off” command when your dog is on the furniture speak in a firm voice and tell the dog “Off. While doing that help your dog off the furniture. When he is on the floor, give him praise and a treat. He will learn that he is not allowed on the furniture.

You can help keep your dog off the furniture by providing him with a comfortable spot to sleep. This could be a blanket or a dog bed. If your dog has his own spot, he will be less likely to get on your furniture.

It is important for everyone in the family to be on the same page. If one member of the family is letting the dog on the furniture, he will become confused when someone else is telling him to get off. Make sure everyone is aware of the rules.

If the dog already has the habit of getting on the furniture do not worry, you can still train him to stay on the floor. Start by using the “Off” command any time you see him on the furniture. Give him somewhere

else comfortable he can lay. If he gets on furniture in a bedroom, close the door and keep the dog out of the room.

Another way of keeping dogs off the furniture is to place something on the furniture that deters the dogs. Some people have used aluminum foil. Animals do not like the sound or feel of the foil. You can also put a plastic floor runner on the furniture. Turn it upside down, so that the points are facing up. When the dog jumped on the furniture, the points would feel uncomfortable and they would get down.

Be consistent and you will successfully keep your dog off the furniture. Remember to have patience when teaching your dog a new behavior. It takes time for your dog to learn something different.

Chapter 9 – Training Your Dog to Stop Digging

Dogs have a natural instinct to dig. There are many reasons a dog will dig besides an instinct. Dogs that dig can ruin a beautiful yard. They can also dig a deep enough hole to escape from a fenced yard. You can teach your dog to stop digging if you understand why the dog is digging to begin with.

Reasons Dogs Dig

- The first reason for a dog to dig is instinct. Some dogs have more of an instinct than others depending on their breed.
- Boredom- if a dog is left by itself for long periods of time it becomes bored. A bored dog looks for ways to occupy its time. Digging can be one of those ways.
- Anxiety- if a dog has been outside for a long time they may get anxious. They think if they dig, they can back to you.
- Heat- if the weather is warm a dog may dig to expose the cool soil for them to lie in.
- Unneutered or unsprayed- a dog that is not fixed might try to dig their way out of the yard to mate.
- To find a bone they have buried previously- dogs are smart. They remember where they hid a bone or treat.

How to Stop the Digging

- Do not let your dog go outside alone. Take your dog out to play and for bathroom breaks. Stay with the dog while it is outdoors.

If you have to leave it outdoors alone, only do so for a short period. This will prevent the dog from getting bored.

- If the weather is warm, make sure the dog has a cool place in the shade. Also, make sure there is fresh cool water available to the dog. This will stop the dog from digging to find a cooler place to lie.
- Have your dog Spayed or neutered. This will solve the problem of them trying to escape to mate. It will also stop other dogs on the outside of your yard from digging to get in to your dog.
- Do not give your dog bones outdoors. This will stop them from burying the bone in the yard.

Dogs can be broken of digging in the yard if you are consistent and pay attention to the reason they digging to begin with.

Chapter 10-Does Your Dog Need Obedience Classes

All dogs need to be trained to know what is expected of them. The dog's owner can do most of the training at home. However, sometimes the owner does not have the time or patience to train their dog. When this happens, they need to consider putting their dog in obedience classes.

Obedience classes will teach the dog what is expected of them. They will learn how to walk on a leash correctly. The dog will be taught basic commands such as sit, stay, down, and heel. They also have a chance to socialize with other dogs. The dog will be taught that their owner is in charge. If not they will truly act like an animal.

If a dog is not taught any type of obedience training, they will do whatever they want. This could be chewing up your shoes to jumping on the furniture. Many dogs are sent to animal shelters or new homes because their owner failed to train them. The owner either did not know how to train the dog or they just did not take the time to do so.

If you decide you want to send your dog to obedience school the next step will be choosing one. This is an important decision. There are many so-called obedience schools just in it for the money. They do not care if your dog actually learns anything or not. There are questions you should ask when considering an obedience class.

- What type of credentials does the instructor have? You want an instructor that knows how to work with dogs correctly. You also want to make sure the instructor has the same values as you do regarding discipline. You would not want an instructor that recommends hitting the dog for punishment.
- What type of training equipment is needed? This will include collars and leashes.
- How much does the class cost? You will want to know what is included in the cost of the class.

It is always best to observe a class or two. This will help you have a feel of what goes on at the classes. You will also see if the instructor truly likes the animals they are working with. If the instructor does not like dogs, they will not give your dog the training that is needed. You will also be able to observe the methods of training the instructor uses. You do not want an instructor that is overly aggressive with the dogs.

Watching the class should help you to make a decision. Always go with your gut instinct. If something about the class or the instructor does not sit right with you then keep looking. Also, remember you will get what you pay for. The most expensive will not always be a better choice, but the cheapest may not be the route to go either.

Another good idea when choosing an obedience class is to talk with other members who are already in the class. Find out if they have seen improvements in their dogs. See if they are happy with the progress. Obedience classes will not work unless you are willing to work with your dog at home. You will not get an immediate result from the

classes. Training a dog takes practice and time. A good instructor will show you how to train your dog at home. They will be able to offer answers to any concerns you may have.

The ultimate goal of obedience class is to train your dog to know what is expected of them. This will help in building a strong bond between your dog and yourself. If you find you are not satisfied with the class it is best to find another. You do not want a class that will cause stress to your dog. This could make training your dog harder than it needs to be. Contact your local animal shelter. They should be able to recommend a good obedience class for you. Often times they offer their own classes for a reduced rate.

Obedience classes are good for people that do not have the knowledge or time to train their dog. If you do have the time to work with your dog, you can teach them everything they would learn at a class. If you are worried about your dog socializing with other dogs you could set up a play date with a friend's dog. Never let your dog around another unless it has had all of its immunizations.

Chapter 11-Training Your Dog to Stop Begging

When a dog sees you eating, they want to share. They will beg and whine until you give in and share some with them. They try hard to make you feel guilty for eating in front of them. They will make sad puppy dog faces hoping you will fall for their act. Many people give in and share their food with the dog. Now they have a begging dog at every meal.

If you give in and share your dinner with the dog one time, they will expect the same at every meal. This can be ok if you want to share with your dog, but what happens when you have company over and they do not like the idea of sharing with the dog?

Dogs need to be taught not to beg while someone is eating. This can be done in a few ways. One of those ways is to feed your dog their dinner at the same time the family is enjoying theirs. This will keep the dog busy instead of sitting under your feet begging.

Another way of stopping your dog from begging is to ignore them. This can be very hard to do. Your dog may whine and bark trying to get your attention. Stick to your guns and pay no attention no matter what the dog does, unless they are trying to jump on the table. Make sure everyone in the family knows that the dog is not to be fed from the table. One-person feeding the dog handouts will ruin everything you are doing.

If the dog still insists on begging, you can place them in their crate during meal times. After dinner let them out of the crate and feed them their dinner. The dog will learn that their begging will not work and they will give up. Dogs only do things that give them results. If they see they are not getting anywhere with the begging they will stop. It is very important to stick with it. Giving in to the begging one time can ruin all the progress you have made.

Chapter 12 - Help My Dog Will Not Stop Barking

Does that sound familiar to you? It will if you own a dog. Dogs were born to bark. Ever wonder what your dog was trying to tell you when they are barking their heads off. Here are some of the reasons dogs bark.

- They are excited. When a dog sees his owner, he may begin to bark. He is excited to see them and wants some attention.
- The dog senses danger. If your dog senses something is not right he will bark. This could be due to a stranger approaching, or a fire down the street. Dogs have a much stronger sense of hearing and smell. It could appear that they are barking at nothing, but the dog knows something is wrong.
- They are barking at another animal. This could be a dog or cat down the block. If another animal is close to their territory, they will bark to express ownership so to speak. Dogs do not like other dogs invading their space.
- Dogs will bark if they are bored. They use barking as a way to get attention. Sometimes the attention is from cranky neighbors that have been awoken in the middle of the night.
- Dogs that have been hurt or are sick may bark. They are expressing their problems the only way they can by barking.

There are many other reasons a dog barks. Now we will look at what to do to control the barking. The biggest mistake a person can make when dealing with a barking dog is to yell at them to stop. You are falling right into their trap. They bark you give them attention. The best

thing to do is find out why they are barking. Is there another animal around or a stranger walking by? If you can see why the dog is barking, you will better know how to stop it. Now let us say you cannot see anything. Has the dog been outside alone for a long time? If they have, the most likely cause for barking is they are lonely and bored. Do not rush to bring them indoors though. This will reward them for their barking and make the problem worse. Ignore the dogs barking. This may drive you crazy at first, but the dog will realize his barking is not getting the attention he had hoped for, and the barking will stop. After the barking has stopped, bring them indoors.

If the reason the dog is barking is that they see other animals or people, consider putting them in an area where there is less traffic. You could also consider putting a fence around the area where the dog is. This will cut down on the barking sessions. A barking dog can be a good thing to let you know when something is not right, but your neighbors may not agree. Try to train your dog to control their barking.

If you find your dog is barking at the mail carrier or other delivery person, he could be doing so because that person ignored him. Ask the person to speak to the dog the next time they are at your house. This will put an end to the barking. Some mail carriers carry treats with them to give dogs. This helps them establish a relationship with the dog so the dogs will not bark at them anymore.

Conclusion

After reading this book, you may think this is too much for you to handle. It really is not. Take it one-step at a time, and you and your dog will be on your way to building a great relationship. Dogs have to be taught what the right behavior is for them. They are not born knowing how to act just as children need guidance so does your pet.

It is your responsibility, as a pet owner to make sure your pet knows how to behave. You can do this yourself or you can place your dog in an obedience class. Whichever choice you make, know that you are doing the best thing for your pet. An untrained dog can have behaviors that are dangerous to them and you. As a member of your family, you will want what is best for them.

Remember the main factors we discussed in the book and you will be on your way to successfully training your dog. Have patience when you are working with your dog. Training a dog takes time. They will not learn every new behavior the first time you show it to them. They will need practice. Also, be consistent. If you want your dog to be housebroke stick to a schedule. Do not expect them to hold it until it is convenient for you to let them out. This is just setting yourself up for failure.

Another important piece of information to remember is what works for one dog may not work with the next. Dogs learn at different speeds. It may take ten times of showing a dog how to sit before they grasp the command. Do not give up.