



ALLEN COUNTY

**SPCA**

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR SHELTER. YOUR PETS.

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## 10 Facts About the Allen County SPCA

At the Allen County SPCA we place hundreds of stray and surrendered cats and dogs in loving homes throughout our community. Our organization has been helping Northeast Indiana's homeless dogs and cats since 1950 strictly on the generosity of those who love animals.

We are not-for-profit and receive no government funding of any kind nor are we supported in any way by the national organization. Our work ensures that animals in our care are healthy and nurtured until they are placed in loving families to spend the remainder of their lives. Please consider a donation to our organization to help us care for the homeless cats and dogs we serve.

- Incorporated in 1950 as a not-for-profit
- Set up according to guidelines of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)
- Not affiliated with Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control or American SPCA (ASPCA)
- Always has been dedicated to the health and well-being of companion animals in this community
- Supported by memberships, donations, fundraising events, adoption fees, grants & bequests
- Houses approximately 30 dogs and 75 cats at any one time and have cats available at PetSmart
- Provides donated pet food to cat and dog owners in the community who are in need from our weekly Pet Food Bank
- Sustained by members and a small staff
- Cost for adoption: Cats \$10, Dogs \$85, Puppies \$100 (includes all shots, spay or neuter, bag of food, microchip, and more)
- The Allen County SPCA is a limited admission shelter. If there is a vacancy at the shelter, we only take in cats and dogs deemed adoptable based on our health and behavioral assessment guidelines.

## Post Spay/Neuter Instructions

Your new pet has undergone major surgery and anesthesia. Listed below are a few helpful tips to make your pet's recovery easier for both of you.

1. Keep your pet isolated for 7-14 days following surgery.
2. Discourage exercise for the next 7-14 days, especially with dogs. Normal exercise should be encouraged following this time period.
3. **DO NOT** allow your pet to lick, scratch, or chew its incision. If you see your pet doing this, use an Elizabethan Collar (e-collar) for 10-14 days as necessary. Collars are available at most pet stores and your vet clinic.
4. The surgery incision is either glued or has internal sutures. No sutures will need to be removed unless informed otherwise.
5. Check the incision site twice daily. EXPECT SWELLING AND/OR BRUISING or a hard lump at the incision site. This is a normal reaction to the absorbable suture material. Swelling should disappear in 2 weeks.

If any bleeding or discharge from the incision occurs, please call your vet clinic or the ACSPCA for instructions.

6. Keep the incision dry for 2 weeks after surgery. NO BATHING OR W+SWIMMING. DO NOT use alcohol or peroxide to clean the incision.
7. Yesterday's News cat litter or shredded paper is recommended by veterinarians following surgery. Yesterday's News or a brand similar can be found at most stores and your vet clinic.
8. **DO NOT** give your pet aspirin or Tylenol. It can be toxic or fatal. Pain medication is available, if needed, by prescription only at your vet.
9. Some coughing may occur up to three days post-op due to intubation (the process of inserting a tube into the mouth and then into the airway).
10. If these instructions are not followed, the incision might open up which requires further treatment.

\*If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your veterinarian or the ACSPCA. **THE ACSPCA IS NOT A 24 HOUR CARE FACILITY, NOR IS IT A VETERINARY CLINIC OR HAVE A LICENSED VETERINARIAN ON STAFF.**

**\*The ACSPCA will not be responsible for any medical care and/or expenses once the Adoption Contract and Release has been signed and the pet is sent home with the new owners.**

## Kennel Cough

In a shelter, the animals are all exposed to one another. Some of them haven't received proper health care before or are already carrying infectious diseases when they come in. Canine kennel cough is the dog equivalent of a human cold or flu infection. It is species specific so it can't affect humans. Kennel cough is normally a mild disease that can be easily treated. However, if left untreated, it's debilitating and can lead to fatal pneumonia.

Signs that your new dog or puppy may have kennel cough may include a hacking or honking cough, which is sometimes followed by gagging, or just a runny nose. If you notice your new dog showing these symptoms, seek veterinary care as soon as possible, especially for puppies or adult pets that stop eating.

To help your pet get well fast, follow your veterinarian's instructions closely. Use any medications exactly as prescribed, even if you think your pet it is getting better. Have your pet rest as much as possible in a quiet space. Gently wipe any discharge from your pet's eyes and nose with a warm, damp towel.

This is not a good time to introduce your new pet to family members and other pets. Give your pet lots of love and be patient. Your new companion will be able to integrate into your family once they're feeling better.

## Rabies Vaccinations

### Indiana State Board of Animal Health

345IAC 1-5-1 Rabies vaccines  
Authority IC 15-17-3-21  
Affected IC 115-17-3:IC15-17-6  
345AC 1-5-2 Required rabies vaccination of dogs, cats, and ferrets.

#### Section 2

All dogs, cats, and ferrets three (3) months of age and older must be vaccinated against rabies. The rabies vaccination of a dog, cat, and ferret shall be maintained by ongoing revaccination of the animal as follows:

1. Ferrets shall be revaccinated within twelve (12) months of the prior vaccination.
2. Dogs and cats that are vaccinated with a rabies vaccine whose label recommends annual boosters shall be revaccinated within twelve (12) months of the prior vaccination.
3. Dogs and cats that are vaccinated with a rabies vaccine whose label recommends a booster one (1) year later and triennially thereafter shall be revaccinated within twelve (12) months of the first vaccination and shall be revaccinated within thirty-six (36) months of each vaccination thereafter. The owner of the animal is responsible for procuring the vaccinations required by this section.

A veterinarian that vaccinates a dog, cat, or ferret shall furnish to the owner or custodian of the animal a rabies vaccination tag that contains the following:

- A. The veterinarian's or clinic's name and phone number.
- B. A unique identification number.
- C. The owner or custodian of an animal vaccinated for rabies shall keep a copy of the certificate and tag required to be issued under subsection (b) until such time as the animal must be revaccinated under section 2 of this rule. The board recommends that the owner or custodian of a dog affix the rabies vaccination tag to the collar or harness of the dog and that it be worn at all times. Nothing in this rule shall prevent a local unit of government from requiring that rabies vaccination tag shall be worn at all times. Animals that have been vaccinated for rabies are subject to all quarantine provisions that may be imposed by state or local regulations. The final determination of an animal's rabies vaccination shall be made by the state veterinarian.



## Your New Dog

Congratulations! We are very happy and thankful that you have decided to adopt a new dog from our shelter. We want to help make this transition as easy as possible so that you and your new dog can spend the rest of your lives together. You can always contact the Allen County SPCA for questions, or consult this book which has many tips and suggestions to help you get started.

### The First Day Home

Now that you have committed to a new furry family member, you need to remember that this can be a stressful and exciting time for everyone involved, including your dog. Your dog has probably been through a lot and will need some time to adjust. The first day home should be spent allowing your dog to get used to their new home. It could take days or even months for them to get used to you and your home. Let them go at their own pace. Establishing a routine will ensure no surprises and help your dog adjust quickly. Give them some time before you take the dog to new places. Taking your pet to the vet after being adopted is highly encouraged. This can be a stressful event for your already scared dog, so try to make it positive by bringing along treats.

If you have other pets at home, take your time introducing your new dog to them. It is always a good idea to bring your resident dog(s) into the shelter for a dog visit before adopting to make sure they will get along with your new dog.

### Supplies You'll Need

Food, Water, Bed, Toys, Leash and collar

## Enrichment in Your Dog's Life

Taking care of your dog's physical and mental enrichment is part of being a pet owner. Enrichment is an addition to your dog's life that makes it more interesting. Dogs that get enough mental and physical exercise are happier and healthier. Happier and healthier dogs are less likely to have behavioral issues.

### Physical Enrichment

Examples of good physical enrichment include:

- Walking, running, and hiking. Let your dog stop to sniff. Letting your dog use their nose can help with mental enrichment, as well!
- Fetch and tug for just a few minutes per day is usually enough for your dog. Give them breaks as needed.
- Swimming is a great way for dogs to get tired out, and it's easy on their joints. Make sure your dog is safe and use a lifejacket!
- Daycare can be a good option for dogs who are often left alone and can't get exercise. However, it doesn't work for every owner OR every dog. Some dogs find daycare to be stressful and the cost can be too much for some owners.
- Dog sports, such as scentwork or nosework, urban herding, rally obedience, flyball, Barkour, Doggie Dancing, dock diving, or agility can be something to consider.

### Mental Enrichment

Engaging your dog's brain is another great way to tire them out and help them exercise their brain. Training and walking with time to sniff can double as both physical and mental enrichment. Some other examples of mental enrichment include:

- Puzzle toys that make a dog use their brain in order to get their dinner. It can also help with a bit of physical exercise.
- Search or Find-It Games, such as hiding treats around your house or tossing them into tall grass is a great way to engage your dog's sense of smell.
- Training your dog at home for five minutes per day or taking them to a group class can help to enrich your dog both mentally and physically.

## Training

Training your dog should begin early, no matter how old your new dog is. Socializing dogs is crucial to their development and will help you to have a well-rounded pet. Talking to, playing, and touching your dog can help them to become more socialized. Clicker training is a great form of positive-reinforcement that can help teach your dog manners and even relieve a dog's stress.

## Nothing in Life is Free

One way of trying to create a positive relationship between you and your dog is the "Nothing in life is free" method.

### How to Practice "Nothing in Life is Free"

Start by using positive reinforcement methods to teach your dog some behaviors and/or tricks, such as sit, down, stay, shake, speak, or roll over. Once your dog has learned some of these things, you can begin to practice "Nothing in life is free." Before giving your dog anything (food, treats, a walk, or a pat on the head) they must perform one of the behaviors they have learned when you ask. Once you've given the cue, wait until your dog does what you want before you reward them. If your dog refuses to perform the desired behavior, walk away and try again in a couple minutes. If your dog still won't do it, be patient and know that eventually your dog will do it. Don't always ask for the same behavior. Make it vary so your dog is waiting for the cue and is focused on you.

### Benefits of this Technique

This technique works well with affectionate, "pushy" dogs who try to get what they want when they want it through nonaggressive means. As a dog succeeds in learning new behaviors, they become more confident and less stressed. It encourages good behaviors with guidance that your dog needs, and it's a gentle way to build healthy communication between you and your dog. It is also a good idea to have children use this technique with your dog since dogs often consider children to be their playmates.

## Training Resources for your Adopted Pet

### All About The Dog

www.allaboutthedog.us  
Janis Crary · (260) 433-2212

### Green Dog Goods

www.greendoggoods.com  
(260) 483-1267

### Canine Companion

www.caninecompanion.us  
(260) 436-5556

### My Best Friend Dog Training (in-home, classes)

www.mybestfrienddogtraining.com  
Judy · (260) 238-3073  
Or Marjorie · (260) 456-5255

### Fort Wayne Obedience Training Club

www.fwotc.com  
(260) 637-2121

### PetSmart

1760 Apple Glen Blvd  
(260) 436-7323

10260 Maysville Rd  
(260) 486-6151

10035 Lima Rd  
(260) 489-0870

### St. Joe Center Pet Behavior Counseling and Training

(Phone Consultations)  
Rebecca · (260) 485-1602

## Separation Anxiety

Dogs with separation anxiety exhibit problems when they are left alone. Usually, their anxiety response will occur within 20-45 minutes after their owners leave. The most common behaviors are: digging/ chewing/ scratching at doors and windows, howling/ barking/ crying, and urination and defecation (even with housetrained dogs).

### Why Do Dogs Suffer from Separation Anxiety?

While it's not fully understood why some dogs have dramatic responses, these behaviors are not your dog's attempt to punish you for leaving them alone. It is simply a panic response.

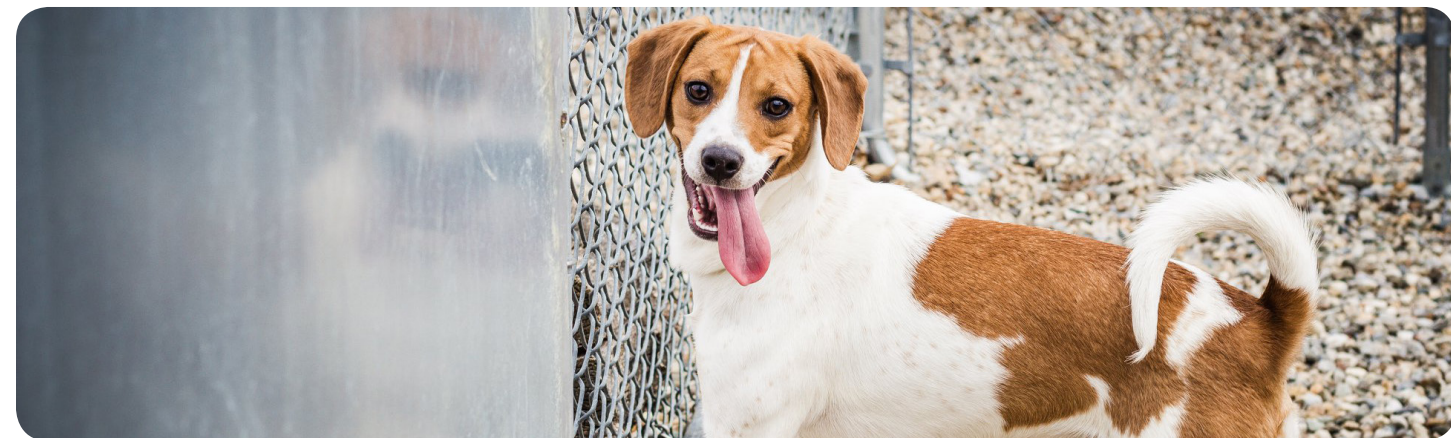
### Separation Anxiety sometimes occurs when:

- A dog has never or rarely been left alone
- The owner is away from the dog for an extended period, such as a vacation
- After a traumatic event, such as spending time at a shelter or boarding kennel
- There is a change in the family's routine or structure (change in work schedule, a child goes to college, moving to a new home, new pet or person in the house, etc.)

### What to Do

For a minor separation anxiety problem, the following techniques should be helpful. For more severe problems, these techniques should be used with the desensitization process described in the next section.

- Keep arrivals low key. You can try ignoring your dog at first and then petting them when they calm down.
- Give your dog an article of clothing that smells like you, such as an old shirt you slept in recently, for example)
- Establish a "safety cue" – a word/ action that you use every time you leave to let your dog know you'll be back. Dogs usually learn to associate certain cues with short absences of their owners. For example, when you take out the trash, your dog knows that you'll be right back and won't get anxious. Therefore, establishing a safety cue for practice departures and short-duration absences is helpful. Some examples of safety cues are: leaving a radio or television on, or a safe toy or bone. A bone may be a good choice for a dog that is destructive. Don't use the safety cue for an absence that will be longer than your dog can tolerate.



### Desensitization Techniques (For More Severe Separation Anxiety)

The primary treatment for more severe separation anxiety is a systematic process of getting your dog used to being alone. You must teach your dog to remain calm during practice departures and short absences. Here is a recommended procedure:

- Begin by engaging in your normal departure activities (getting your keys, putting on your coat, etc.), then sit back down. Repeat this step until your dog shows no distress.
- Next, engage in your normal departure routine, go to the door, open it, then sit back down.
- Then step outside the door, leaving it open, and then return.
- Finally, step outside, close the door, and immediately return. Slowly get your dog accustomed to being alone with the door closed for several seconds.
- Proceed very gradually from step to step, repeating each step until your dog shows no signs of distress. If your dog begins to show signs of anxiety, you have moved too quickly. Return to the previous step and repeat until your dog seems comfortable. Then continue to the next step.
- When your dog is tolerating being alone behind the door, begin short-duration absences. Give your dog a verbal cue ("I'll be back" for example), leave and then return within a minute. Your return should be low key: ignore your dog or greet them quietly. Repeat until your dog shows no signs of distress. Gradually increase the length of time you're gone. Practice as many absences as possible that last less than ten minutes. You can do multiple during one day if your dog calms down sufficiently between departures.
- Once your dog can handle short absences (30 – 90 minutes), they'll usually be able to handle longer intervals alone. The hard part is the beginning, but it gets easier as you go. However, you must go slowly in the beginning. How long this process takes depends on the severity of the problem.

### Interim Solutions

Because these treatments can take a while, these are some suggestions to help in the short term:

- Practicing the Sit-Stay and Down-Stay exercises with your dog. Gradually increase the distance you move away from your dog. Your goal is to move out of your dog's sight while they remain in the "stay" position, and teaching your dog to remain calm when you move to another place. As you progress, you can practice this during normal daily activities. For example, if you want to get up from the couch for a snack, tell your dog to stay. When you come back, praise them and give them a treat.
- Talk to your vet about anti-anxiety medications.
- Take your dog to a dog day care facility or boarding kennel.
- Leave your dog with a friend, family member, or neighbor.
- Take your dog to work with you, even for a half day, if possible.

### What Not to Do

- Punishment is not effective for dealing with separation anxiety. It can actually make things worse.
- Crating your dog will not stop your dog from feeling anxious. Your dog may even injure themselves by trying to escape.
- Obedience school. While obedience training is always a good idea, it won't fix a separation anxiety problem since it is a panic response.

## Children and Dogs

Living with a dog can be beneficial to children. The child will learn responsibility and empathy and dogs can enhance a child's self-esteem. Despite this, children and dogs may not always automatically get along. Parents must be willing to teach both the dog and their children acceptable behavior and limits.

### Choosing the Right Dog

#### Dogs Under 1 year old

- **Time & Energy:** Require a lot of time, training, patience, socialization, and supervision.
- **Safety:** Could get scared or hurt by a curious child
- **Rough Play:** Young dogs have sharp teeth and claws which may accidentally hurt a small child. To minimize the chance of your dog or child being injured, their interactions should be closely supervised.

#### Advantages of getting an adult dog

They require less time and attention once they've adjusted to the family and household routine. You can have a better understanding of how tolerant an older dog will be of a child's enthusiasm. You can also work with the shelter to pick a dog that has previously lived with children.

*As a general rule, if your child is under six years old, it's best to adopt a dog that's over two years old.*

#### What Breed is Best?

**Size:** Very small breeds, such as Chihuahuas, may not be good for a young child. Small dogs are fragile and could get hurt around curious children. They also tend to be more easily frightened by lots of activity and noise. Scared dogs may snap or bite to protect themselves. Larger or sturdier breeds can better tolerate activity, noise, and rough play with children.

**Breed Type:** Some sporting breeds, like Labradors and golden retrievers can be good with kids. Breeds that have been selected for protective behavior, such as Rottweilers, are not usually recommended. It can be difficult for this type of dog to comfortably tolerate the many comings and goings of children and their friends who could be considered intruders. Herding breeds, like border collies, are inclined to "herd" the kids by chasing and nipping at their heels.

**Temperament:** It is important to consider a dog's individual temperament. A dog's personality is shaped by both experiences and genetics.

#### Who will care for the dog?

It's unrealistic for a child, no matter their age, to have sole responsibility for caring for a dog. Dogs need food, water, and shelter, but they also need to play, exercise, and be trained on a consistent basis. This is a lot for a child and teenagers may not have enough time to dedicate to truly caring for the dog. As a parent, if you are adopting a dog for the kids, you must also be prepared and willing to be the dog's primary caretaker.

#### Below are some tips to help you and your child gain your new dog's trust:

##### Holding

Have your child sit down when they hold the puppy. Puppies squirm and may get hurt if they fall out of your child's arms. Puppies may also become frightened and snap if they are not held securely. Giving treats will also help puppies to associate good things with being held. For larger dogs, let them approach you and your child. If you sit with the child in your lap, you can ensure that your child is gentle and doesn't get hurt.

##### Petting

Children often want to hug dogs around the neck, but dogs can see this gesture as a threat. Teach your child to pet the dog under their chin rather than reaching over their head. You should also teach them to avoid staring at, or looking directly into your dog's eyes. For puppies, have your child offer the pup a chew while being petted. This way, the puppy will chew and teeth on the toy rather than your child's hands and arms.

##### Giving Treats

Have your child give treats in an open palm rather than using their fingers. Children can become scared when dogs try to take treats from their fingers, so this is a good way for your child to learn how to feed the dog. You can place your hand underneath your child's hand to guide them.

##### Supervising Play

Children running, jerky movements, and high-pitched voices can be very stimulating for a dog, which may lead them to chase or jump on your child. Encourage your child to play quietly around your new dog until they become more comfortable with each other. Your dog also needs to learn what behaviors are acceptable and which ones aren't. However, most kids under the age of 10 are not able to carry out these procedures, so it's helpful to teach your dog "leave it" for when play gets too rough. Obedience training classes can be helpful when learning basic commands. Don't punish your dog for bad behaviors around your child because they may associate bad things with being with children.

##### Possessions

Your dog won't know the difference between their toys and your child's toys until you teach them. Your child must take responsibility to keep their toys out of the dog's reach. If you catch your dog chewing on something they shouldn't, interrupt the behavior with a loud noise, then give them an acceptable chew toy and praise them when they take the toy in their mouth. Don't confuse your dog by giving them objects to play with that closely resemble things that are off limits. Dogs can also be possessive of their food, toys, and space. Although it's normal for a dog to growl or snap to protect these things, it's not acceptable. At the same time, children need to learn to respect their dog.

## Destructive Chewing

It is normal for dogs to chew, especially puppies who are teething. However, until you teach them what items are appropriate to chew on, you need to know how to manage your dog's attempts to chew on your personal items.

### Managing the Situation

Take responsibility for your own items and keep them out of your dog's reach. Don't confuse your dog by offering them things such as shoes or socks and then expect them to know the difference between shoes they can and can't chew. Dog toys should be obviously different from household items. Until they learn, confine your dog when you can't keep an eye on them. Have your dog go to obedience training to learn commands, such as "leave it". Classes may also help by burning off some of your dog's excess energy. If you actually catch your dog in the act of chewing on something they shouldn't be, interrupt the behavior with a loud noise and offer an acceptable chew toy. Be realistic with your expectations, as well. Chances are, your dog will, at some point, chew on something you care about. This is often a part of a dog's transition into a new home. Dogs will engage in destructive behavior for many reasons. To deal with this behavior, you must determine the reason why your dog is being destructive.

### Play, Boredom, and/or Social Isolation

Normal playing for dogs can result in destruction since it may involve, digging, chewing, shredding, and/or shaking toy-like objects.

#### Your dog may be chewing for entertainment if:

- They are left alone for long periods of time without interaction.
- Their environment is barren without playmates or toys.
- You have a puppy or young dog under 3 years of age and they don't have other outlets for their energy.
- You have a very active type of dog who needs an active lifestyle to be happy.

### Solutions

- Play with your dog daily.
- Go on walks. These walks should be longer than just allowing your dog to go to the bathroom.
- Increase your dog's opportunities to be mentally stimulated. Teach them new commands and tricks.
- Provide many toys. Rotate out the toys so your dog doesn't lose interest. Try different types of toys, but make sure to watch your dog so they won't tear it up and eat the pieces. You can also try toys that can be stuffed with food so that your dog focusses on these toys instead of unacceptable objects.
- Make your dog's favorite unacceptable objects unattractive by covering them with heavy plastic, aluminum foil, hot pepper sauce, or a commercial "anti-chew" product.
- Consider a doggie daycare program for a few days a week to work out some of your dog's excess energy.

### Separation Anxiety & Fears/Phobias

Sometimes dogs will chew as a result of separation anxiety. If a dog is suddenly left alone more, for example, they may deal with their stress by chewing. See Page **08** for more information.

Some dogs may have phobias of loud noises so they will chew during a thunderstorm or when they hear construction sounds. If the primary damage is to doors, doorframes, window coverings, screens, or walls, then your dog may be chewing out of fear. To solve this problem, you can work on your dog's fear and reduce their stress.

### Attention-Seeking Behavior

We often pay more attention to our dogs when they are misbehaving. From a dog's perspective, negative attention is better than no attention at all. So, to get your attention, sometimes dogs will chew on unacceptable objects.

### Solutions

- Make sure your dog receives plenty of positive attention every day. This includes playing, walking, grooming, or just petting.
- Ignore bad behavior (as much as possible) and reward only good behavior. Remember to praise your dog when they play with appropriate toys.
- Make your dog's favorite off-limits chew objects unavailable or unattractive.
- Teach your dog a "drop it" command so when they pick up an off-limits object, you can instead praise them for dropping it after you say the command. The best way to teach this type of command is to offer food and exchange it for their toy.
- Practice "Nothing in Life is Free" with your dog. This gets your dog in the habit of listening to your commands and this also ensures your dog gets lots of positive attention for doing the right things.
- Increase your dog's opportunities to be mentally stimulated. Teach them new commands and tricks.

### What Not to Do

Never punish your dog after they have already finished chewing on something they shouldn't have. Your dog will not understand why they are being punished, and instead, will become fearful of you.



## Re-Housetraining Your Adult Dog

Adult dogs in shelters were probably housetrained by their previous owners, but while at the shelter, many not have had enough opportunities to go outside so they may have soiled their kennel areas. This can weaken housetraining habits. Your new dog must learn to adjust to you and your routine. You must also try to work with your dog to learn their “bathroom” signal so you know when to let them out.

Therefore, for the first few weeks you should assume that your new dog has not been housetrained and start at the beginning. If your dog was previously housetrained, this process should go quickly. It will also go much smoother if you take steps to prevent accidents and remind your dog where they are supposed to eliminate.

### Establish a Routine

Take your dog out at the same times every day. For example, when your dog first wakes up in the morning, when you get home from work, and before going to bed. Praise your dog when they eliminate outside. You can even give them a treat. However, this must be done immediately so your dog knows what they are being praised for. Choose a location not too far from the door for the bathroom spot. Take your dog, on leash, to the bathroom spot immediately. Play and walk with your dog only after they eliminate. If you clean up an accident in the house, leave the soiled rags or paper towels in the bathroom spot so your dog will recognize the smell as a place where they should go. While your dog is eliminating, use a word/phrase like “go potty” that you can eventually use before they go outside to remind them of what they should be doing. Feeding your dog on a set schedule, once or twice a day, can help with regular eliminations.

### Supervision and Confinement

Don't give your dog an opportunity to soil in the house. You should watch your dog at all times when they are indoors. You can use a leash or baby gates to keep them near you. Watch for signs that they need to eliminate, such as sniffing around or circling. If you see these signs, take them outside to the bathroom spot. If your dog eliminates, praise them!

When you're unable to watch your dog closely, they should be confined to an area small enough that they won't want to eliminate there. It should be just big enough for them to comfortably stand, lie down, and turn around. This could be a bathroom or laundry room blocked off with a gate. A crate could also be an option. If your dog has spent several hours in confinement, when you let them out, take them directly to the bathroom spot and praise them when they eliminate.

### Accidents

Most dogs, at some point, will have an accident in the house. This should be expected, as it can be a normal part of your dog adjusting to their new home. If you catch your dog in the act of going inside the house, make a noise to interrupt them (be careful not to scare your dog). Immediately take them to the bathroom spot outside and then praise them as they finish eliminating there. Do not punish your dog for eliminating in the house. Punishment after the fact will only make things worse. Simply clean up the mess.

### Other Types of House Soiling Problems

If you have consistently worked with your dog with these housetraining procedures and it doesn't work, there are many other reasons why your dog could be eliminating inside.

**Medical Problems:** House soiling can be caused by physical problems. See your vet to rule out possibilities of illness.

**Fearful/ Excitement Urination:** Some dogs, especially young ones, can lose control of their bladders when they feel threatened or get excited. This usually happens during greetings, intense play, or when they are about to be punished. Dogs with phobias can also lose control of their bowels as a result of dealing with something that scares them.

**Urine-Marking:** Dogs sometimes will eliminate to scent-mark. See Page 14 for more information.

**Separation Anxiety:** Dogs that get anxious when they are left alone may house soil as a result. See Page 08 for more information.

**Surface Preferences:** When a dog has been trained to eliminate on only one type of surface, such as newspapers, or has not been offered a variety of surfaces, such as being confined to one type of surface, a surface preference may develop. This behavior can be difficult to change but is often managed by ensuring the preference surface is offered both inside and outside.

## Marking Behavior

Urine-marking can occur when the dog is feeling anxious or there is instability in the dog's relationships. This is not a house soiling problem. Also, dogs don't mark because they are angry or jealous like people might expect. To solve this problem, you need to address the underlying reasons for your dog's need to mark.

### Your dog may be urine-marking if:

- The problem is primarily urination. Dogs rarely mark with feces.
- The amount of urine is small and found primarily on vertical surfaces. Leg-lifting and spraying are versions of urine-marking, but even if your dog is not making these postures, they may still be marking.
- A pet in your home is not spayed or neutered. Without these procedures, your dog is more likely to urine-mark. However, even spayed or neutered pets may mark in response to pets that aren't fixed.
- Your dog urinates on new objects with unfamiliar smells or have another animal's scent.
- Your dog is having conflicts with other animals in your home.
- Your dog has contact with other animals outside your home or sees animals through the window or door.
- Your dog marks frequently on neighborhood walks.

### What You Can Do

- Spay or neuter your pets as soon as possible. This may stop urine-marking altogether, but if this behavior has been established over a long period of time, it may take more than just fixing them.
- Resolve conflicts between animals in your home.
- Restrict your dog's access to doors and windows where they can see animals outside. If this isn't possible, discourage the presence of other animals near your house.
- Clean soiled areas thoroughly. Don't use strong smelling cleaners since your pet may try to “over-mark” the spot.
- Make previously soiled areas inaccessible or unappealing to your dog.
- Keep new objects that cause marking out of reach. New purchases, guests' belongings, etc. should be placed in a closet or cabinet.
- If your dog is marking in response to a new family member in the house, have the new resident make friend with your dog by feeding, grooming, and playing together. Make sure the dog creates a positive association with them.
- Watch your dog at all times when they are indoors for signs of urine-marking. When the dog begins to urinate, interrupt them by making a loud noise and take them outside. Then praise them and give a treat when they urinate outside. When you can't watch your dog, confine them to a crate or small room where they haven't marked.
- Practice “nothing in life is free” with your dog. Have them perform at least one behavior before you pet them, feed them, or throw a toy for them. This, along with clicker training, can help to build your dog's confidence and reduce anxiety.

### What Not to Do

Don't punish your dog after the fact. Your dog won't understand why they are being punished and can become fearful of you.

### Anxiety

Some dogs will urine-mark when they feel anxious or because of changes in their living situation, like a new baby for example. If you think your dog is feeling anxious, you could talk to your veterinarian about medication to reduce anxiety while you work on changing this marking behavior.



## Jumping Up

Rather than teaching your dog “not” to do something, we can teach them to do something else. You can use “sit” or another behavior as an alternative to jumping up on people.

### Teaching Your Dog New Behaviors:

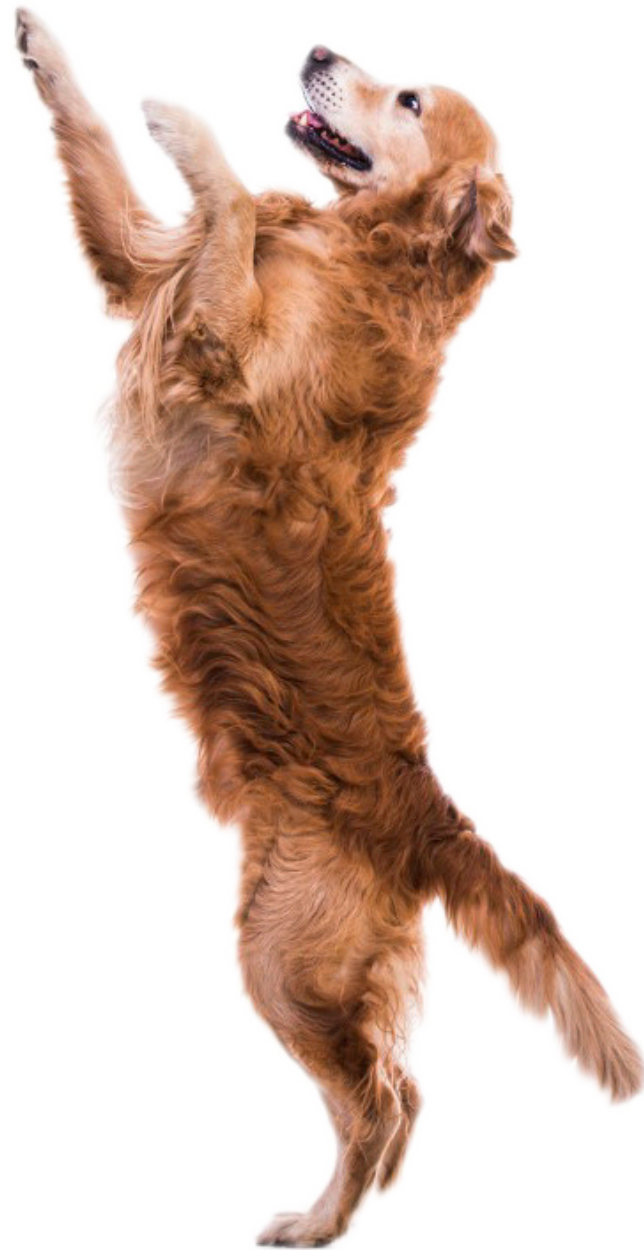
When your dog starts to jump, use your alternate behavior, such as sit or touch, and give the cue. If the dog jumps and doesn't sit, stand still and wait. Don't repeat the command, just wait for them to sit. Give your dog a treat if they listen to your command.

Practicing with other people: Use a leash or tether, but don't pull or put tension on the leash. Have someone approach your dog. When the person gets within your dog's range, say your command. If your dog listens, have the person give them a treat. If they don't listen, have the person stand still and wait. Don't repeat the command.

To ensure that your dog always follows the alternative behavior when approached by someone, you and your family must be consistent during the training process.

### Tips:

- When a dog jumps, they want attention. Even if you push them down, that is attention.
- When your dog realizes they will get no attention from you when jumping, but gets rewarded when they stop, they will begin to use the alternative behavior.
- If your dog jumps, just stand still and wait for them to offer the alternative behavior.
- Be patient, persistent, and consistent. It will take time for your dog to unlearn their jumping habit, and it will take the entire family's continued efforts to change your dog's behavior.
- Remember to reward your dog when they perform the alternative behavior.



## Barking

Barking can be the result of your dog being pre-genetically disposed to barking, like hounds. If you have a breed that's known to bark, then working on the “quiet” command and providing toys and outlets for their energy should help.

Anxiety-related barking, especially if it is a new behavior, may be the result of a medical issue, so you should take your dog to the vet. If the vet doesn't find anything medically wrong, you need to determine when your dog barks, for how long your dog barks, and what is causing them to bark. If your dog barks when you're not at home, you can ask your neighbors, try driving/walking around the block while watching and listening, or set up a camera when you leave. By observing your dog, you can hopefully discover the cause to your dog's barking.

### Social Isolation / Attention Seeking / Separation Anxiety

Your dog may be barking because of boredom or loneliness if:

- They are left alone for long periods of time without interaction.
- Their environment is barren without playmates or toys.
- You have a puppy or young dog under 3 years of age and they don't have other outlets for their energy.
- You have a particularly active dog (like herding or sporting breeds) who need a “job” to be satisfied.

### Recommendations

Walk your dog daily. Teach your dog new commands or to play fetch and practice them every day for 5 - 10 minutes. Take an obedience class. Provide toys to keep your dog busy when you aren't home. Rotating the toys helps to keep them interesting. Keep your dog inside when you can't supervise them. Take your dog with you to work sometimes, if possible. If your dog barks for attention, make sure you are spending enough time with them. Doggie daycare or having a friend/neighbor visit your dog can be good if you work long hours. Ignore your dog until they stop barking for at least three seconds and then reward them.

### Frustration / Learned Barking

Your dog may be barking due to frustration or as a learned behavior if:

- The barking occurs when strangers are seen through the window or fence, or when on a leash.
- Your dog's posture appears threatening while barking – tail held high and ears up and forward.
- You've encouraged your dog to be responsive to people and noises.

### Recommendations

When your dog begins to bark, interrupt them without calling their name or startling them. You can wait for them to take a breath. The moment they are quiet, reward them. Once they begin to understand this behavior, you can start using the “quiet” command. Avoid yelling “quiet” before your dog actually knows what it means. Teach your dog that strangers are friends and that good things happen when people are around. Limit your dog's access to seeing things that might cause them to bark when you aren't home. If your dog barks when you're home, redirect their attention by giving them a command like “sit” and give them a treat. Have your dog spayed/ neutered to decrease frustration.

### Fears and Phobias

Your dog may be barking out of fear if:

- The barking happens when there are loud noises, such as thunderstorms or firecrackers.
- Your dog's posture indicates fear – ears, back or tail held low.

### Recommendations

Identify the source of your dog's fear and desensitize them to it. You can also try muting the noise from outside by leaving your dog in a basement or windowless bathroom and leaving a fan, television, or radio on. Close curtains or doors to avoid your dog seeing something that frightens them, too.

### What Not to Do

Bark collars are not recommended, especially electric shock collars. These specially designed collars deliver an aversive to your dog when they bark. However, if your dog barks due to anxiety or fear, this collar will not solve the problem, but make it worse. These collars do not address the cause of your dog's barking, so your dog may become destructive or aggressive since they feel they can no longer bark.

## Crate Training

Crate training may take a lot of effort, but it can be very useful. A crate is a great way to limit your new dog's access to the house until they learn all the rules. It is also a great way to transport your dog in a car. If you properly train your dog to use a crate, they will think of it as a safe space and won't mind going inside if needed. Always provide water while your dog is in the crate. Spill proof bowls or bowls that attach to the kennel gate are the best.

### Selecting a Crate

There are many crates to choose from. There are plastic (often called "flight kennels") or collapsible, metal pens in varying sizes that can be bought at most pet supply stores. Your dog's crate should be large enough for them to stand up and turn around in. Collapsible fabric kennels are designed for when the owner is present and won't house the dog for long periods of time unsupervised.

### The Crate Training Process

Training can take days or weeks depending on your dog's age, temperament, and past experiences. This process should be positive and take place in a series of small steps.

#### Step 1: Introducing Your Dog to the Crate

Keep the crate in a place where you spend a lot of time, like the living room. Put a soft blanket/ towel inside. Bring your dog over and talk in a happy tone of voice. Make sure the crate door is securely opened so it won't hit and scare your dog as they investigate. Use treats to have them slowly go farther into the crate. If they won't do it right away, don't force them. Continue tossing treats in until your dog will calmly walk all the way inside. If treats don't work, use a toy.

#### Step 2: Feeding Your Dog Meals in the Crate

After the introduction to the crate, start feeding your dog their meals by the crate. This will create a positive association with the crate. If your dog will go inside the crate from step 1, try putting the bowl inside the crate, but don't force your dog if they aren't ready yet.

Once your dog will stand inside and comfortably eat, you can try closing the door while they eat. At first, open the door as soon as they are done eating. After each meal, leave the door closed for a few minutes longer, until they are staying in the crate for about 10 minutes after eating. If your dog begins to whine to get out, you've increased the amount of time in the crate too quickly. After the next meal, leave them inside for a shorter period of time. If your dog does whine to get out, wait until they stop to let them out or else they will learn they can get out of the crate that way.

#### Step 3: Conditioning Your Dog to the Crate for Longer Periods of Time

Once your dog is eating their regular meals in the crate with no signs of fear or anxiety, you can confine them there for short periods of time while you're home. Call them over with a treat in your hand and give a command, such as "kennel up". After your dog enters, give them the treat and close the door. Sit quietly by the crate for 5-10 minutes and then go to another room for a few minutes. Return, sit quietly for a few more minutes, and then let them out. Repeat this process several times a day. With each repetition, gradually increase the length of time. Once your dog can stay quietly in the crate for about 30 minutes with you not there, you can begin leaving them crated for short periods of time and/or let them sleep there at night. This process may take several days or weeks.

#### Step 4: Crating Your Dog When Left Alone

When you think your dog will be comfortable to stay alone in the crate for a while, you can use your normal crate command and give them a treat to get them inside. You'll want to vary at what point in your "getting ready to leave" routine you put your dog in their crate. You can crate your dog anywhere from 5 – 20 minutes before leaving. Don't make your departures prolonged. Praise your dog, give them a treat, and leave quietly. You can also leave a few safe toys with your pet. When you return home, don't reward your dog for being excited by responding in an enthusiastic way. Keep arrivals low key so your dog doesn't associate the crate with being left alone.

### Crating Your Dog at Night

Put your dog in the crate using your regular command and a treat. It may be a good idea to have the crate in your bedroom or a nearby hallway, especially if you have a puppy. Puppies often have to go outside during the night and you'll want to be able to hear them. Older dogs should initially be kept nearby so crating doesn't become associated with social isolation. Once your dog is sleeping comfortably through the night in the crate nearby, you can gradually move the crate to a location you prefer. Healthy puppies can have their water taken from them a few hours before bed to help decrease the frequency of potty trips during the night.

### Potential Problems

#### Too Much Time in the Crate

A crate is not a magical solution to your problems. If not used correctly, your dog can get frustrated. For example, if your dog is in the crate while you're at work and then goes back into the crate for bed, they are spending too much time in the small space. Other arrangements should be made to avoid having your dog in their crate this much. Also, puppies under 6 months shouldn't stay in a crate from more than 3 – 4 hours at a time. They can't control their bowels or bladders for longer periods of time.

#### Whining

If your dog whines in the crate, it can be difficult to tell if they want to go outside or if they just want to be let out of the crate. Try ignoring the whining. If your dog is testing you, they will stop. If the whining continues after several minutes, use the phrase your dog associates with going outside. If your dog become excited, take them outside. Make sure the trip has a purpose and isn't play time. Do not give in to your dog if you believe they don't need to go outside or they will only whine louder to get what they want. Do not yell at your dog or pound on the crate. If the whining become unmanageable, you will have to start the crate process all over again.

#### Separation Anxiety

The crate is not a remedy for separation anxiety and destructive behavior. Your dog may injure themselves by trying to escape. See Page 08 for more details on separation anxiety and how to handle it.



## Wish List

We're always on the lookout for supplies to keep our dogs and cats healthy, safe and happy. From food to toys, we welcome items that will give our fur friends a comfortable lifestyle.

### Special Enrichment Items

- Training dog treats
- Soft dog treats
- Adaptil and Feliway in spray bottle
- Feliway plug-in diffuser with refills

### Housekeeping Needs

- Batteries
- Disinfectant spray such as Lysol
- Hand sanitizer
- Dish detergent
- 39 gal. or larger trash bags
- 13 gal. Tall kitchen trash bags
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Re-sealable plastic bags – quart or gallon
- 4" x 4" gauze pads
- First Aid (Bandages, Peroxide, etc.)

### Office Needs

- Postage stamps
- White & color copy paper
- Duct tape
- Packing tape
- Zip ties – medium/heavy duty

### Recyclables

- Aluminum cans, ink & toner cartridges

### For Our Community Pet Food Donation Program

- Any dog and cat food, dry or canned

### Cat & Dog Needs

- Box lids from copy paper cases
- Small boxes (that drinks are shipped in)
- Heavy weight paper bowls for medication
- Egg cartons
- Dog squeaky toys (plastic & stuffed)
- Martingale-style collars (medium & large)
- Made in the USA rawhide chews
- Kuranda dog beds
- Kuranda Vinyl cat perches
- Screw on cage food & water bowls
- Disposable cat scratchers
- Kitty condos
- Dog leashes
- Kitty Kongs
- Gift cards to PETCO, PetSmart, Pet Supplies Plus, & Green DogGoods

### Our Cat & Dog Food

We feed our dogs and cats the following food while in our care:

- Science Diet Sensitive Stomach & Skin
- Science Diet Puppy Healthy Growth
- Science Diet Kitten Food
- Science Diet canned kitten & adult cat food

\*We do not take comforters or pillows. (Some dogs like to chew the stuffing out of them.) We also do not need pill bottles or toilet paper rolls.

Donations may be dropped off during our regular business hours. **THANK YOU!**

Flap to place more pages if needed



**Adoption Hours**  
Tue – Fri: 11 am – 6 pm  
Sat – Sun: Noon – 4 pm  
Closed Mondays



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