Compliance Can Be Ruff
A Dog’s Approach

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Agenda

• Training Principles
• Types of Learners
• Keys to Success
Dog-gone Smart!
Lessons from a Dog Trainer

Key Principles:
• Be Respectful
• Be Responsible
• Use Positive incentives
• Have Patience
• Have Fun

Don’t Bark Orders!
Be Respectful

• Lead by example.
• Expect to be challenged.
• Don’t issue too many commands at one time.
• When asking a dog to do something, state it as a matter of fact.
• Your outlook and presentation allows for control, NOT the leash.
Don’t Bark Orders! Be Respectful

• Gain consensus – You should not force the dog to follow commands, the dog has to want to do it.
• If someone respects their trainer, they work as if their trainer is always there.
  • Do the right thing whether you’re being watched or not.

Don’t Go Barking Up the Wrong Tree! Be Responsible

• Dogs are not mind-readers. If you want them to do something, tell them.
• Leave no room for interpretation. The trainer is responsible for communicating expectations.
• While in training, monitor behaviors closely.
• Plan
  • Know what you want the end result to be before you start training. Don’t make it up as you go. This leads to confusion and inability to grasp the command.
Don’t Be A Hound!
Give Positive Incentives

• Give words of encouragement whenever the opportunity arises.
• Small accomplishments are still accomplishments – Reward them!
• You can’t teach what is right by only teaching what is wrong.
  • Don’t use no, no, no.
  • Follow a correction with a positive direction.
• Use a variety of techniques.
• Always end training sessions on a positive note.

PAWS! Have Patience

• Don’t throw too many commands at one time.
• Don’t always expect an immediate response.
• Stepping stones
  • Break a process down to smaller parts.
  • Everything a dog learns is a building block for something else.
• If a dog is not understanding, the problem is usually the direction.
  • Don’t repeat yourself over and over.
  • Find a different way.
It’s a Dog’s Life! Have Fun

• Be enthusiastic.
• Be passionate.
• Observe carefully for teaching moments and take advantage of them.

Types of Learners

Visual
Auditory
Kinesthetic
## Visual Learners

### Dogs
- Watch other dogs and learn from them.
- Are led by hand/treat movements.
- Learn commands with hand signals.

### People
- Combine PowerPoint slides with lectures.
- Show videos, movie clips, or online visual media.
- Write key words and draw images on a flipchart or whiteboard.
- Show and explain diagrams. Ask them to draw a picture.
- Include plenty of content in your handouts.
- Provide extra material to read after your session.

## Auditory Learners

### Dogs
- Verbal commands/sounds.
- Eventually all praise becomes verbal.

### People
- Enjoy lectures.
- Use lecture, question and answer segments, and discussions.
- Play a song to illustrate a point or use background music when appropriate.
- Enjoy having breakout groups to discuss the content and hear the perspectives of others.
- Allow time at the end of the session to summarize main points and allow for additional questions.
Kinesthetic Learners

Dogs
• Initially dogs are rewarded with treats.
• Play games to learn more complex commands (tug, retrieve).
• Frequent breaks and quick training sessions.

People
• Use creative activities that get people out of their chairs and doing something interesting.
• Put Play-Doh, pipe cleaners, stress balls, or other objects at their tables so they can do something with their hands.
• Hold standing discussion groups in the four corners of the room.
• Take frequent stretch breaks, even if you don’t leave the room.

Keys to Success
1. Know your audience
2. Plan well
3. Manage your “classroom”
   • Be Respectful
   • Be Responsible
   • Use Positive incentives
   • Have Patience
   • Have Fun
4. Inspire your students
5. Continue to improve
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