## DogTrainingClassroom.com

# Dog Training Mini Handbook:

Essential Tips, Common Mistakes And Frequently Asked Questions

By James Lee

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### INTRODUCTION

Thank You for downloading this special report. May the information within be useful and help become a catalyst in transforming your dog behavior and your love for dogs.

Here's why this report was written...

I've often received tremendous amount of feedbacks asking for a quick way to train dogs, and one of the best ways to start learning for dog owners and lovers alike is through tips, other people's mistakes and asking questions.

So what you'll find here is a series of dog training tips, common dog training mistakes and frequently asked questions by fellow dog owners around the globe.

I call this the "Dog Training Mini Handbook" to give you a remarkably effective and (amazingly simple) guide to training your dog.

The beauty is in its quick, easy and simple tips you can apply immediately.

This mini booklet is divided into 3 parts:

- Essential Dog Training Tips
- Common Dog Training Mistakes
- Frequently Asked Questions

These are the basic knowledge to your dog training success.

So let us begin...

James Lee

http://www.DogTrainingClassroom.com

### DOG TRAINING TIPS

#### **#1 - Start Training Early:**

Puppies start to learn the moment they open their eyes and are most open to new experiences during the first four months.

Start training your puppy the moment it is bought home. Good early habits endure and will result in a well behaved dog in the future.

#### #2 - Early Socialization:

Help ensure your puppy meet and socialize with as many people as possible during the first four months. Going on outdoor trips, visiting friends who own pets, and walking along busy streets should all be part of your puppy's education.

These positive experiences will allow your puppy to be comfortable with humans and reduce the likelihood of any future behavior problems. Limited contact with humans or other species can lead to development of certain characteristics such as shyness or fearful of strangers.

#### **#3 - Mental And Physical Stimulation:**

Every puppy thrives on both mental and physical stimulation. Exposing your puppy to new environments and experiences early can greatly enhance your dog's interest in learning new things.

Puppy walks or games are great ways to stimulate your pet both mentally and physically. If actively stimulated, your puppy will become healthier and adept at learning new trainings faster. This will also help strengthen the bond between the both of you at the same time.

#### #4 - Hand Feed Your Puppy:

Whenever possible, hand feed your puppy. This teaches him/her to like human contact, even when your puppy is feeding from his food bowl. Not feeding from hand can lead your puppy to turn aggressive in the future to whomever that tries to get near him/her while feeding.

#### #5 - Biting And Chewing:

Your puppy will certainly bite and chew while they play and investigate new things around them. If your puppy is teething; direct, encourage and reward your puppy to bite the right object (toy). Discourage and discipline by simply saying a firm "NO" and replace the object with the correct toy or training equipment.

#### #6 - Training Environments:

Always begin your dog training inside the home where your dog stays. Your dog will learn faster when he/she is in a familiar environment.

Outdoor training should only be attempted when your dog reliably obeys commands in your home. After each training sessions, make sure you play with your dog to help associate training as positive and fun.

#### #7 - Step-by-Step Training:

Always work on one new exercise, command or trick per training session. This will allow your puppy to learn, understand and familiarize each training better and faster.

Trying to introducing multiple items at one session can confuse your dog and lead to a slower learning curve. Instead, having patience with your dog will set up your dog training to be successful.

#### #8 - Words And Commands:

Make sure you always use and repeat the same word or command for each particular training. Attempting to be creative will confuse your dog and prolong the training session.

#### #9 - Best Time To Train:

The best time to train your dog is before each of its meal or feeding period. Your dog is hungry and will respond very well to food treats. This is especially useful if you are just starting out to train your dog or you have certain difficulty with a particular command or trick. Do balance your rewards with praises.

#### #10 - Housetraining:

Housebreak your puppy early by supervising and recognizing your puppy's body language such as circling or sniffing the floor.

Take your puppy out every 45 minutes after eating or drinking as they tend to "let go" around this time. When it eliminates at the right location, praise and rewards your puppy so that it will associate eliminating outdoors as a positive experience.

#### #11 - Offering Rewards:

Whenever your dog obeys or performs to a certain command, praise and reward your dog immediately. Do not delay in giving rewards as you might be accidentally rewarding for the wrong behaviors. If in doubt, repeat the command again and reward accordingly. Once your dog is familiar with a particular command or training, start to give out your rewards randomly. This will allow your dog to continue to respond well to the same command or behavior as it won't know when is the next reward coming or even in the absence of any rewards.

#### **#12 - Reprimands And Punishment:**

Never use any physical corrections or harsh yelling when you dog misbehave as this can cause fear and promote future aggressive behavior in your dog. Reprimand your dog by using a stern voice instead and only when you actually caught it misbehaving.

#### #13 - Training Sessions:

Train you dog in short, frequent sessions. Dogs have a short attention span and will get easily distracted or bored. Train your dog for ten minutes each session and then play with him/her with its favorite toy to stimulate your dog's learning process. End the training with a positive note or with your dog wanting more. This will allow your dog to look forward to the next training session.

Dog Obedience Training - STOP Your Dog's Behavior Problems!

Click here to find out more...

### DOG TRAINING MISTAKES

#### #1. Not being consistent within the family

Everyone in the family wants to be involved in the dog training process. Each and everyone come out with its own commands and methods. While this is understandable, this kind of training will confuse your dog.

Proper planning such as specific routine, methods, responsibilities and rules should be discuss among your family members before the dog or puppy arrives home. In this way, everyone will understand their own role and the importance of consistency.

#### #2. Training too much, too fast

Are you ever guilty of introducing too many new commands or tricks to your dog in one to two training session?

Unfortunately, this is happening frequently among many dog owners and will usually cause your dog to be more confuse.

Instead, you need to work on one new training exercise or command per training session. Dogs have a shorter attention span. Train your dog 15 minutes per session each, twice per day.

Having patience will also set up your dog to comprehend each command better and be more successful in the training process.

#### #3. Not praising or rewarding immediately

If your dog has performed a desire action and you delay giving out immediate rewards, you will find it tough training your dog well. A dog will fail to understand what it is doing right unless you associate it with praise or food immediately after each action.

Rewarding immediately also ensure you are rewarding the correct behavior. You should only withhold rewarding in the event when your timing is late so that you won't unintentionally reward the wrong behaviors.

#### #4. Unintentional Approval

Your dog jumps up on you enthusiastically every time on your homecoming or you see your dog cower into a corner from the sound of thunder, have you ever reach out by petting it? Then you are telling your pet you approve of its behavior.

Though it may seem harmless, these kind of unintentional approvals may lead to more serious behavior problems when they figure out that it results in increased direct attention from you.

Once a dog has learned a bad behavior or developed a phobia, more time and effort will be needed to correct and retrain your pet again. Therefore, always be mindful of your actions and plan ahead on how you want to train your dog.

#### **#5. Giving Commands With Unpleasant Actions**

Never give out a command or call your dog's name, only to be disciplined by you. Once it perceive any command or recall with an unpleasant experience, it will start to ignore and run away from you whenever you use that particular command. Always greet your dog positively for each command and action. Do not yell but use a stern voice when you catch him make mistakes.

#### #6. Training your dog when you are in a bad mood

If you are having a bad day, do not train your dog. Your tone of voice will be different and you are most likely to get frustrated and display anger more easily. Neither should you continue to train if either you or your dogs are finding it difficult to concentrate. Your dog is less likely to have problems and enjoy the training if he/she can experience more things positively.

#### **#7. Giving Too Much Attention And Affection**

Many dog owners start showering too much physical affection the moment a puppy arrives to its new home. This constant attention can cause your dog unable to cope, causing him/her to whine and cry whenever you need to leave the house.

Help your dog to earn for your affection by not petting or praising him for no apparent reasons. Train him to relax alone by leaving him in a separate room with its favorite toy.

#### **#8. Not Playing With Your Dog**

A lot of dog owners forget to play with their dog after each training session. All dogs deserve a good game with you after each training.

Playing games with your dog will boost your dog's interest in learning and it will also allow your dog to look forward to its next training session with you.

At the same time, it can also alleviate boredom, burn out excessive energy and provide your dog with the much needed mental and physical stimulation.

#### #9. Not Seeking Professional Help

One of the big mistakes in dog training is dog owners not seeking professional help when required. Professional can save you from many hours of frustration. Do not assume that you have fail in your dog training just because you seek professional trainers. Just like a student asking the teacher for advice and help, seeking professional help on the other hand is the best sign of commitment to your dog.

Sick of having no control over your dog? The solution is in front of you! Click here to find out more...

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON DOG TRAINING

Q: We have a 3 month old Labrador and he loves playing with our children. However, lately one of our kids has gotten nip due to some rough play. We have begun some basic dog training but what can we do further to ensure our children's safety and prevent such future mishap?

**A:** While it is great to train your dog to behave, it would also be a good idea to teach your children early how to handle the dog properly too.

Young dogs especially puppies naturally nip and chew when they are excited. Instruct your children not to play any mouth games with the dog and closely supervise the play. Stop any games immediately if you feel they are doing it too roughly or getting out of control.

If possible, start any dog training exercises together with your children and teach by example on the correct training methods and commands. However your children should never be given the total care and responsibility for training the dog unless you feel they are old and sensible enough.

Like all dog training, this will require some time and effort but with proper encouragement and a responsible attitude to the puppy, you will see rapid improvements to your dog behavior without discouraging your dog love for the children.

# Q: When should I begin house training my 4 weeks old Yorkshire Terrier?

A: Dogs begin to use their senses to learn new things the moment they open their eyes. Therefore you should start house breaking your puppy the moment you bring it home.

Proper designation of the toilet, eating and sleeping areas are important in the housebreaking process of a puppy. These areas should remain consistent especially during the first month so that your puppy can familiarize itself to the environment and develop good habits quickly.

House training activities may take a month or less in order to ensure the routine.

#### Suggested Resources:

http://kingdomofpets.com/doghousetraining

# Q: When can I start leash training my 3 month old Chow Chow? And what is the best type of leash to be use for the training?

A: Leash training can begin once your Chow Chow knows his name and have started wearing a collar.

As for the best type of leash, choose the <a href="three-in-one leash">three-in-one leash</a> that is adjustable to suit your training needs.

# Q: Help! My dog has become extremely destructive recently and is going on a rampage around the house especially at night. What can I do to stop this destructive behavior?

A: Firstly, it seems that your dog is not together with you in the same room at night; thereby you cannot monitor and supervise your dog correctly.

For a change, you should not allow your dog the liberty to move around the house especially when you are asleep. Bring your dog together with you to your bedroom and close the door so you can watch over your dog and correct any misbehavior immediately.

For starters, try playing with your dog for 15 minutes before turning in so that you can work off some of the excessive energy in your dog. While playing, exert your leadership influence and teach your dog what is right and wrong. Remember to praise tour dog when it does something that pleases you.

Secondly, you might like to consider getting a <u>crate</u> to train your dog when to sleep and when to play. Crate training can teach your dog general behavior control and also provides your dog a place where it is comfortable and secure.

Please follow the suggested reading below:

Crate Training Your Dog Successfully

#### Q: Is it true that it's difficult to train an older dog?

A: Training an older dog is not difficult if you are able to find out more about your dogs' history, lifestyles, health and habits.

While it is simply wrong to say "you can't teach an old dog new tricks", an older dog is more likely to progress much slower to your training methods and commands. Older dogs also have shorter attention spans therefore more repetitions may be needed during training to reinforce the desired habits.

You will also discover that they tires more easily so the sessions should be carried out in even shorter chunks of time with lots of recovery periods in between.

The thing is an older dog requires your full dedication and consistency in the training process. If you pay attention to these aspects, then training older dogs would be a breeze.

Q: My Labrador is so friendly that he will always jump up to greet family members whenever one of us comes home. While this has never been a big issue in the past for us, we are concern that my mum who will be moving in with us might be knocked down. How can we teach him not to jump?

A: Start to discourage your dog by not acknowledging or patting him during any of the family members' homecoming. Your dog has been jumping previously mainly because it had resulted in increased attention from all of you.

Do learn to teach your dog the basic "Sit", "Stay" and "Down" command to address the problem.

If persistent jumping occurs, you might want to raise one of your knees to block your dog and give a stern "Down" command. This will usually cause a reflex action from your dog to stop and back away.

It is very important to get every family member to do the same and be consistent, repeating the process and praising your dog when he no longer jumps.

Suggested Resources to Stop Your Dog Jumping http://www.kingdomofpets.com/dogobediencetraining/jumping

#### Q: Why does crate training work?

A:A <u>crate</u> may look like a cage, but it is actually a substitute for a den. It is the same way dogs like going under tables, sofas or beds for peace, privacy and protection.

If you have noticed, your dog will never eliminate at these areas and will do his best to keep it clean. The same will apply to his crate and he will try to relieve himself as far away from his crate/den.

#### Q: What is the best way to crate-train my dog?

A: Introduce your dog to its crate by playing with your dog near the crate. Entice your dog into the crate by placing its favorite snack or toy in the crate. When your dog enters the crate, be sure to reward it further with praise and gentle patting. This will help associate positive feelings towards the crate. Repeat the process for the next few days till it is accustom and uses the crate without any prompting.

The key to successful crate train a dog is to associate it with all things positive with the crate, even when it is alone in it. Never send your dog back to its crate as a form of punishment for any misbehavior. A dog's attitude to its crate must always be positive.

WOOF! <u>Discover</u> the closely guarded crate training secrets that professionals use.

Q: I recently adopted a 5 week old Shih Tzu. However my husband and I both work during the day and nobody is around to take care of him. We intend to crate train him however my concern is how long can I keep my dog in the crate without any negative impact on him mentally?

**A:**While the purpose of crate training your dog is to teach your dog to go into its crate on command for safety, obedience and general behavior control, the crate should never be use as a substitute for your companionship.

Since your dog is still a young puppy, use of the crate should not be more than six hours. It would be more responsible of you to isolate a room and leave the crate door open so that your Shih Tzu can still move around within the bigger confinement till he is properly housetrained.

Alternatively, you can also seek professional help by hiring a dog walker or place him over at a Dog Day Care to help take care of your dog while both of you are away at work.

Q: My Rottweiler is very aggressive to other dogs but doesn't behave like this with people. I have try calming him down by turning his head away but it is not working. How else can I go about solving this behavior?

A: One of biggest dog training mistakes people usually make is giving unintentional approval without realizing it. Reaching out to calm and pat your dog every time he growls and posture aggressively against other dogs is an indirect way of telling him that you approve of its behavior as it has always resulted in increased attention from you.

Change your correction methods by using only firm voice command to correct such misbehavior.

Do have your dog muzzled in crowded places if necessary and allowed for more frequent contact with other dogs for further training. This also helps to subdue dogs that have a tendency to bite and nip frequently.

Alternatively, you can try using distraction methods such as spraying water with a squirt gun instead. This works very well to disrupt its behavior and your dog will associate aggressiveness as an unpleasant experience.

#### Related Resources:

Correcting Your Dog Aggressive Behavior Problem

Q: Hello, my 1 year old Chihuahua loves me and my husband but hates every other people. He growls aggressively at anyone who comes over our house. When my friends try to go near him, he will snaps at them. How can my husband and I correct this 'unfriendly' problem?

A: This sounds like another training mistakes that you might have committed in the past. While not pointing finger at anyone, have you or your husband try to comfort your Chihuahua instead of giving a stern "Stop" command?

Most Chihuahua owners are overly protective of their dog and thus causing the dog to do the same to gain your affection. Start establishing yourself as the Alpha female and show him your dissatisfaction (not love or anger) whenever he exhibits this aggressive behavior by ignoring him or using the "Time Out" Method.

(The <u>"Time-Out"</u> is use to discourage dogs from undesirable behavior - when your dog displays poor behavior, call out a firm "No", walk out of the room and close the door for 30 seconds and this will help your dog understand your expectances.)

# Q: We have a 3 month old Border Collie that barks at everything that passes by our house. How can I curb this excessive barking behavior?

A: Dog barks as its way of communication to the world. Your dog may bark to seek attention from you or as a warning however excessive barking can irritate and cause both children and adults to shy away from your beloved canine.

You can try ignoring your dog when he goes into a barking fit for no apparent reason as any attention will reinforce the behavior. Praise and reward your dog when he becomes quiet.

Another successful method is to place your hand on his muzzle and give a "Quiet" command. This is a method employed by mother dog which places her muzzle over her puppies' muzzle to quiet them down.

Anti bark collar can also be extremely useful for further training whenever you are not around.

# Q: I would like to correct my dog barking behavior by spraying with water. I heard it work wonders but I have not seen it being use today. Is this method still effective?

A: Spraying your dog with water from water bottles or squirt guns is still very much actively used today. In fact some Vets and trainers still recommend it as it is a relatively cheap solution to train your dog and it also doesn't hurt your dog in any way.

The way to go about using this method successfully is to surprise your dog and not to let him see in coming when you spray the water otherwise it will not have any effect on the correction.

Q: Hi, I have just got a 10 week old Beagle puppy. He is very attached to me, following me around everywhere, even if it just going to the kitchen where it is visible from the hall. Though I like it and sometimes find it amusing, I have a problem leaving my house without him whining and crying. Is this separation anxiety and what can I do about it?

**A:** You probably gave him too much attention when you just acquired him by over-nurturing with constant physical contact. As dogs are intensely social, your constant attention has made him unable to cope to being separated from you.

To solve the problem, start to limit your physical contact by making him earn for your attention. This means that you should not pet or praise him unnecessary unless he does something that pleases you.

Tie him somewhere around the house where he can still see you to train him to relax alone. Keep him busy with his favorite toy. He will whine but you will have to be firm to break this behavior. You can help by playing some music in the background to calm him down.

Q: I have a 6 month old Border Terrier that has a peeing problem that I would like to get some help with. She is crate trained but whenever she gets excited, she will pee all over the floor where she is standing. How can I get her to stop? Any advice would be greatly appreciated.

A: This sounds like an excitement peeing behavior problem which is common among puppies usually. The important thing is not to treat it as a bad behavior and punish your dog.

The solution to your problem is to prevent her from getting excited in the first place. Don't greet her in an excited tone inside the house during your homecoming. Greet your Terrier

calmly by getting down to her level to help her feel relax. Praise her for the desired behavior. Repeat the steps everyday and most dogs will grow out of it.

#### Q: How often should I be using food treats in training?

**A:** When you first begin your dog training, food treats are very effective rewards to be use to encourage your dog to repeat desired behaviors.

However you should start giving treats randomly once he has mastered certain behaviors as you would not want to associate every correct behavior with a reward. By giving out treats randomly, your dog will continue to perform the same desired task since he won't want to miss the next opportunity of a treat either.

Refrain from using too much food treats as rewards on older dogs though. They tend to gain weight more easily and slower to lose those pounds as compared with the younger dogs.

You can TRANSFORM your dog's behavior right now! Put an end to the stress from your disobedient dog! Click here...

### After Word

Woof! Woof! You made it to the end of this handbook.

I sincerely hope you've found this report useful and that you're ready to make full use of the tips and examples in your dog training process...

And if you want to take it even further, I urge you to take a look at 'SitStayFetch' for continuous and advance dog training.

I wish you great Success in your Dog Training always.

James Lee

http://www.DogTrainingClassroom.com

# Discover How To Slash Your Dog Training Time In Half by Using Techniques That Give You Immediate Results!

Daniel Stevens is the author of the hugely <u>popular</u>
"<u>SitStayFetch</u>: Dog Training To Stop Your Dog's Behavior
Problems!", and now he's revealed the <u>secrets</u> and techniques
that professional dog training experts use including:

- Powerful techniques to solve ANY dog problem such as house training, curbing your dog's aggressiveness, nuisance barking, digging, destructive chewing, fixing general disobedience, and much more...
- How to train your dog to  $\underline{\text{learn}}$  any command, with  $\underline{\text{over 100}}$   $\underline{\text{detailed photos}}$  included!
- How to make your dog understand you. Remove the frustration and rapidly increase the speed of your dog's learning.

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