



Newsletter

July 2010

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TrainingTips

- Keep your verbal cues simple and consistent.
- A cue should only have one meaning.
- Make sure your verbal cues don't sound similar.

Health Tip

Don't medicate your dog without consulting your veterinarian. At times, my vet has suggested that I use over the counter meds for my dog. While it's ok to take your vet's advice, don't try to play doctor on your own. The dog's weight, condition and history need to be considered by a qualified veterinarian when using drugs.

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Greetings!

Thanks for subscribing to my monthly newsletter! Tell your friends about upcoming dog friendly events by forwarding this email using the link at the bottom of this newsletter.

Are You the Parent of a Spoiled Brat?



Not amused

Are you giving in to your dog like an exhausted parent giving candy to their child that is throwing a temper tantrum in the checkout line? At times, my client's stories are eerily similar to the entitled children in episodes of Supernanny.

If you find yourself at the mercy of your dog's bad behavior, there are strategies that can help you bring out the well mannered dog within your spoiled beast. To begin, your dog must be rewarded for good behavior. Take the time to notice and catch your dog in the act of doing something good - then reward it. Part two of the program is to promise yourself that you will not reward your dog for bad

behavior. You must stop giving your dog attention when it is barking if you don't want the dog to bark. Same for stealing, begging, whining... Here are some tips to keep you on the right track.

1. Manage your environment. Use tools like baby gates, crates and leashes to prevent undesirable behavior. These tools will allow you to be ready and able to reward good behavior and give consequences for bad behavior.

2. Train good behavior. There's not to many bad things your dog can do while holding a down stay on his bed. If barking is a problem, a trainer can help you teach a dog to SHHH.

3. Have a plan and the resources necessary to carry out the plan. Enlist the help of friends or family if needed. If your dog barks for attention when you are watching tv after work, make a plan. Plan on giving the dog attention and exercise with a walk or a game in the yard when you arrive home. When you are watching tv later, have treats available for when your dog is quietly laying on the floor. If your dog begins a barking episode, leave the room and watch tv in the bedroom alone. A professional trainer can help you with the details of planning for dealing with behaviors, both good and bad, depending on your dog's motivation and habits.

Spoil your dog by providing quality, holistic food, play, mental stimulation, exercise, attention and love.

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Tips for July 4th with Your Dog

Noise phobic dogs can really suffer during fireworks displays over the holidays. Avoiding public events may not necessarily be enough to prevent your dog from becoming stressed when neighbors set off fireworks in their yards.



Fireworks can be
Traumatic for Dogs

There are some things you can do to help your dog.

Look for homeopathic remedies or for severe cases, consult your veterinarian for a prescription.

Give your dog a safe place to hunker down where he can't escape.

Distract your dog with food and games.

Don't leave your dog alone if he is destructive to your home or himself.

[More tips are on page 2 of link](#)

Your dog will love you for keeping him safe and relaxed on noisy holidays.

Upcoming Events

July 8 Bark for Life: American Cancer Society is having a pet-friendly event to support their Relay for Life program. An entrance donation of \$20 will be expected and enters your name in a drawing for a basket of pet products worth \$100. There will be fun pet activities and pet vendors including OH BEHAVE at this event. America's Backyard is at 100 S.W. Third Ave., Fort Lauderdale. [more event details](#)

Upcoming Classes at Oh Behave

Puppy Kindergarten - Arfington Pet Resort - Tuesday Evenings 6pm
Our positive, reward based program is a great bonding experience for you and your pup. Arfington™ Pet Resort is a safe, clean, and fun facility. We incorporate games, play, and naptime into our class. The American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior (AVSAB) believes that it should be the standard of care that puppies should receive socialization before they are fully vaccinated. This introductory class covers housetraining, mouthing and play biting, social skills, handling, and an introduction to basic commands. Join us on Tuesday evenings for more fun than humans should be allowed! Pre-registration is required. [More info...](#)

Next Basic Obedience at Plantation Heritage Park is September 11. [Click here for required registration forms and information.](#)

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