

Do's and Don'ts of Dog Training:

DO'S

- Do be nice to your dog every time it comes to you.
- Do get into the habit of using only **One Command (hand sign) per instruction**. If your dog doesn't respond to a command, you have taught him/her, reinforce the command. Be consistent and persist.
- Do use your dog's name to get it's attention and then tell him what you want it to do.
- Do eliminate the word "**no**" from your training vocabulary except when or if the dog is biting.
- Do use a normal tone of voice when you give a command. (Normal voice 1st time, add tone second time, remember do not use anger.)
- Remember your dog's hearing is quite acute.
- Do be consistent in your actions and expectations.
- Do provide an outlet for your dog's energies.
- Do keep your dog mentally stimulated by training it.
- Do understand that your dog is a social animal. Train it so that he/she can be part of the family.
- Do socialize your dog with people and other dogs.
- Do become your dog's pack leader!
- Do make learning fun for your dog.
- Do reward the **Behaviours you want**.
- Do spend plenty of time with your dog and give it lots of exercise.
- Do keep trying, and your dog will reward you by getting the message.
- Do get professional help when you get stuck.
- Do stay calm and level, it will help to keep your dog calm.
- Do become a responsible pet owner.

DON'TS

- Don't do anything your dog perceives as unpleasant when it comes to you.
- **Don't nag** your dog by **repeating commands over and over like sit, sit, sit**. - it teaches your dog to ignore you.
- Don't use your dog's name and not follow it up with a command and then expect it to read your mind as to what you want.
- Don't expect your dog to know what the exercise "no" means!
- Don't **yell** at your dog, it is not deaf. (And if it is deaf it serves no purpose.)
- Don't confuse your dog with unrealistic expectations.
- Don't try to suppress behaviours that need an outlet.
- Don't let your dog stagnate.
- Don't lock your dog up or put it out because you haven't trained it to behave.
- Don't isolate your dog.

- Don't expect your dog to obey if you aren't it's leader
- Don't get too serious in your training, If you are not having fun your dog will not be either.
- **Don't reward undesirable behaviours.**
- Don't make your dog neurotic by neglecting it.
- Don't give up when the going gets tough, keep trying.
- **Don't blame your dog! You are it's teacher!!!!**