



Making life less stressful for you and your dog

THE DOG DORK DIGEST

NEWS FROM POSITIVE INTERACTIONS DOG BEHAVIOR AND TRAINING

23Q3 Newsletter Volume 1

✧ Highlights ✧

Cat and Dog Introductions

If you are considering a multi-species home, specifically with cats and dogs, peaceful cohabitation is possible! I recently worked with a family with two senior cats that had ruled the roost together for more than ten years. The family's domestic peace was shattered when Major came into the picture. Major, a young dog full of energy, had way too much fun chasing the cats. Fortunately, the family reached out for help soon after witnessing the cats' stress whenever Major entered the room.

After meeting with the family, we began to implement a behavior modification plan that involved preventing interactions between Major and the cats, unless they were carefully setup and supervised. After several weeks of daily controlled exposures to each other, in addition to teaching Major to move away from the cats when asked, the cats and Major formed positive associations when in each other's company.

The behavior plan required commitment, which Major's caregivers willingly did. And the result is a home where their pets coexist peacefully.



Out and About: Setting Your Dog Up For Success

A successful outing with your dog is one that's safe and enjoyable for both of you. As natural and easy as that sounds, it often doesn't happen unless you prepare for and practice it. Here are some tips for making the most of your time with your favorite companion.

1. Preparation is half the battle. Before you go anywhere, think about the challenges you're likely to encounter: bins full of goodies in a pet store, other dogs, people who want to pet your dog, people walking by you at an outdoor café, kids running around in a park, trash on the ground. Decide how you will handle each challenge. Will you move away to create distance? Use treats to keep your dog's attention on you? Use commands your dog is well practiced at (settle, watch, leave-it) to help guide his behavior?

2. Be on the lookout. Actively scan the environment so you can respond proactively to challenges rather than reacting when the distraction is already too close.

3. Work at your dog's level. Is your dog ready to settle comfortably for the full duration of a café lunch or should you start with a shorter visit like a trip for coffee? Has your dog noticed the chew bones in a lower bin at the pet store? A leave-it, let's go, or watch from several feet away is more likely to work than when he has his nose in the bin.

4. Set your dog up for success. If your outing was not as enjoyable as you would like, spend some time at home working on the behaviors your dog struggled

with. Then pick an easier outing, such as the park during the morning lull instead of the afternoon rush. Bring tastier treats and go before your dog's mealtime, not after.



How Dog Blood Groups Work?

- Dogs have 10–13 blood groups (the number differs by country), categorized by the Dog Erythrocyte Antigen (DEA), a number, and a designation of positive or negative.
- All dogs belong to more than one group and many belong to more than two.
- DEA 1.1 positive dogs—about 40% of the dog population—are what's known as universal recipients (they can receive blood of any type without experiencing a life-threatening reaction).
- DEA 1.1 negative dogs are considered universal donors (but can't tolerate DEA 1.1. positive blood).
- Just to be safe, it's best to have your dog blood typed—that way, you know what to tell the vet in an emergency.

Judy Desmond

“A dog is the only thing that can mend a crack in your broken heart.”



OUR SERVICES

All services use reward-based training techniques that are supported by up-to-date scientific research. After agreeing upon what your goals are for you and your dog, a behavior change plan will be developed and recommended based on how best to work to achieve those goals.

AGGRESSION AND REACTIVITY - Behavior modification and training for: intra-household dog aggression; human directed aggression; resource guarding; aggression when handled for grooming, vet exams, putting on harness, collar, or leash; leash reactivity directed at humans, dogs, kids, cars, bike.

BASIC MANNERS TRAINING - Training for adolescent and adult dogs addressing common problem behaviors such as jumping up, nipping, chewing, over-arousal, in addition to teaching good manners: sit, down, wait, come when called, trade, leash walking skills, and others.

PUPPY TRAINING - Teaching your puppy skills for: house training; crate training; mouthing and chewing; jumping up; stealing objects. Introduction of important foundational skills you can implement with your pup now and build from as they mature: learning how to relax; appropriate socialization to novel experiences. Introduction of basic manners: sit, down, wait, come when called, trade, and others.



Colleen Campbell
Souderton, PA, 18964
215-272-5932



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Positive Interactions Dog Behavior and Training

309 Pleasant Valley Drive, Souderton
United States of America

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