

# Dog Park Etiquette

## Rules to Help Dogs Get Along

### You Wouldn't Want Kids To:

You wouldn't want one or more unfamiliar people rushing up to you.



Its not right to let kids steal toys.



Its not right to harass others into letting you play.



Sometimes kids can play too roughly.



You wouldn't want others to interfere with your play.



You wouldn't want your kid to get into everyone's personal space.



You wouldn't ignore your kid at the park.



### You Wouldn't Want Dogs To:

Dogs don't like groups or individual dogs rushing up.



Stealing toys is also improper at the dog park.



Dogs get irritated with this pushy behavior too.



And so can dogs.



Some dogs like to have their own space when playing too.



So you shouldn't let your dog jump on or body slam people at the park.



You shouldn't ignore your dog either.



### What Your Dog Should Do:

Train your dog to focus on and interact in games with you instead of getting into trouble with dogs or people at the park.



Train your pooch to come when called so you can call him before he gets into problem situations.



Once your dog is with you, keep him engaged with you, then release him to play again



Your dog should learn that it's fun to focus on you and play with you instead of needing to always play with other dogs. But it is also ok to play with other dogs, as long as both dogs are relaxed and having fun.



©2012 Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS

Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS  
The Art and Science of Animal Behavior

For additional free educational resources and more dog behavior books and products, visit [www.dr.sophiayin.com](http://www.dr.sophiayin.com).

