



GOOD DOGGY!

obedience training & consultations

WALKING YOUR DOG THE GOOD DOGGY! WAY

Rules to a Successful Walk:

1. Do not adrenalize your dog by getting them all excited for their walk a head of time! They will be hyper and this will lead them into making bad choices. We want to set them up for success. Put the collar and leash on and always lead out the door first. Walk your dog before meal times. This encourages them to work for their food.

The How To

2. Walk your dog either beside you with 6 inches between your dog and your body or have the dog walk behind you. Walk tall and with purpose, leash in left hand. Carry some high value treats if required. Practice getting your dog to sit on command at each stop sign or at each intersection. Stay in tune with your surroundings but also watch your dog's body language. You can train a dog to walk on both sides of you, but the preference is the left side.

Equipment

3. If you own a flexi leash throw it out! Flexi leashes are dangerous and encourage negative behaviour in dogs. You cannot control a dog when they are 10 – 15 feet in front of you. Instead use a 6 foot leash (leather or nylon) or slip lead. You may use a Halti, prong or e collar when first training. When a collar is placed higher on the dog's neck, directly behind the ears it conveys a more direct line of communication between you and your dog. Know how to use all equipment first before using them.

Time Management

4. Walk your dog at least twice a day. Depending on your individual dog's energy level, and breed, gauge what is best. It is your responsibility as a dog owner to ensure your dog stays healthy in mind and body. If you have a hectic schedule then hire a dog walker. All dogs need to be walked daily. Keeping in mind that a German shepherd can go for two 1 hour walks a day, while a miniature poodle could be happy with two 20 min walks per day. Remember that playtime in the backyard can be a fun activity but it is not the same as a structured walk.

Take Control

5. Do not let your dog sniff all over the place when walking. Lead the walk! If you are out for a walk, and dog is behaving, half way through walk let the dog sniff a tree, bush or whatever. As long as you guided them and they did not pull you there. If not, then that privilege is revoked.

Back Home

6. Again when entering the home, make sure you lead the dog. Have dog sit and take off leash. Reward dog by giving them their meal and water.