



CANINE BEHAVIOR, DEVELOPMENT STAGES,  
TRAINING AND OVERCOMING BEHAVIORAL ISSUES

# SIT



Holding one finger pointed up is a great way to teach a dog to sit. While working on this trick, make sure to bring your arm from its natural position limp at your side up and *into* this position to signify the command.

Once task is completed give a treat and or praise to reinforce positive behavior.

# Down/ Lay



Use the word "down" for encouraging your pup to lie down and "off," and accompany this word with a palm flat and facing the ground. If he's still not getting it from this signal alone, move your palm down toward the floor to show him where to go.

Once task is completed give a treat and or praise to reinforce positive behavior.

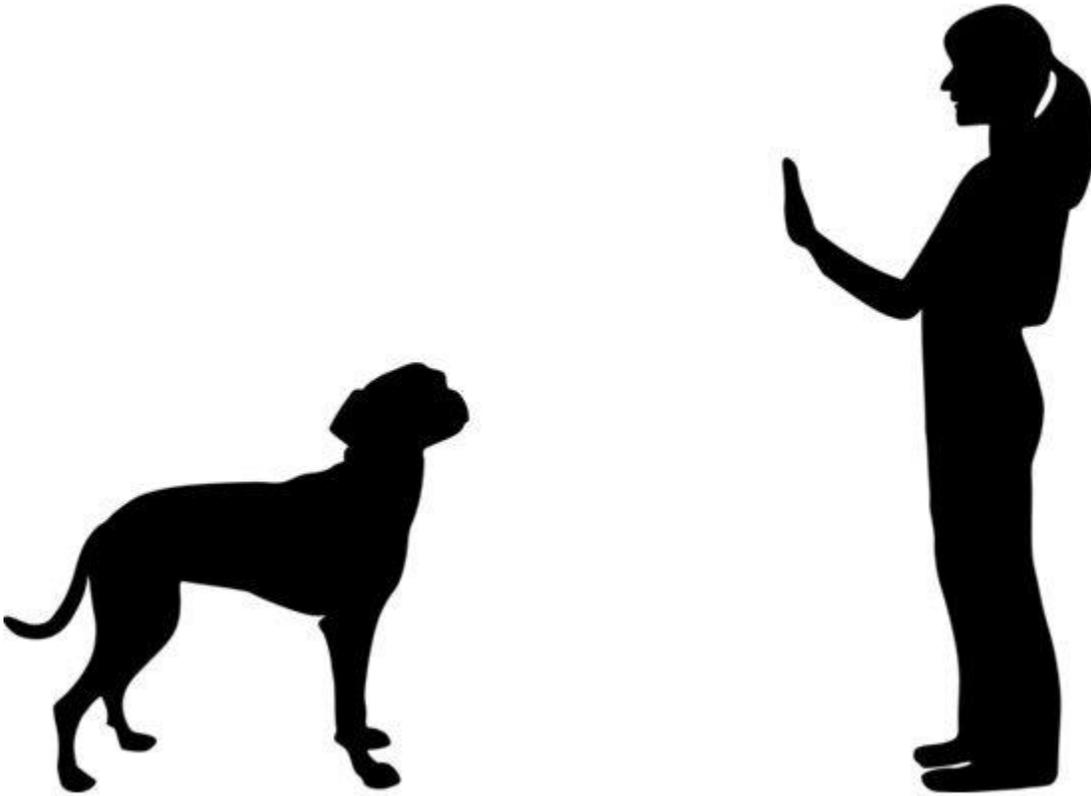
# Come



C'mere! The natural curling of a finger used to encourage kids to come is the same way to call a dog. While you can surely use several fingers in this motion, it can get distracting for a dog who's learning other signals that involve the whole hand. Stick with using the pointer finger to gesture him over.

Once task is completed give a treat and or praise to reinforce positive behavior.

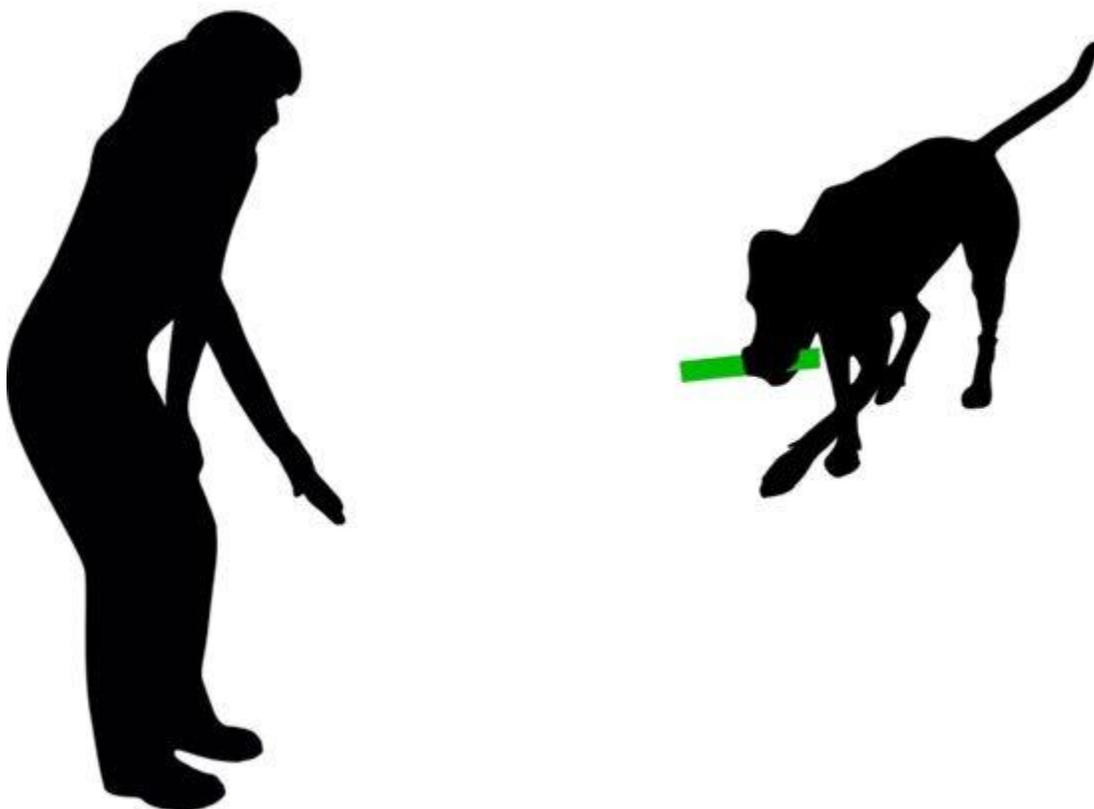
# Stay



Like a crossing guard would show at intersections, holding a hand with the palm facing out and forward means stop or "stay." Try alternating this signal with the "come" gesture for an impromptu red light/green light training game.

Once task is completed give a treat and or praise to reinforce positive behavior.

# Bring It



This is a key command to any game of fetch — unless you want to be doing all the retrieving yourself. In addition to giving the verbal command, place your hand at doggie eye level with palm facing the pooch, which gives you the perfect placement to then receive the item as he learns to let it go right in your hand.

Remember: to teach a dog these hand signals, begin by using the word and the gesture, and then alternate training until the pooch can do as you desire without you even opening your mouth!

Once task is completed give a treat and or praise to reinforce positive behavior.

# How to Make Successful Behavior Change Possible

Behavior change is a process that takes time and life style change. Think of it as trying to lose a significant amount of weight. Your doctor says if you don't lose 50 lbs you will be at risk for a heart attack. You try a diet and hit the gym for 2 weeks and lose some weight, but then slip back into old habits of twinkies and ho-hos and those 5 lbs you lost come right back and then some. To really lose the weight, and save your health, you need to make significant life style change and commitment to your long-term health. 50 lbs won't come off in 2 weeks, it won't even come off in 2 months; it's a process that may take you a year of consistent work, forethought and effort and then, to keep the weight off, keeping up those new behavior practices for a life time. Behavior change with your dog is the same. It's a process that may take years, if not the life of your dog, and it takes owner commitment and forethought to set your dog up for success and make lasting change possible.

## Why Behavior Change Takes So Long-

Your dog does the behavior we are trying to change because, in your dog's mind, the behavior works.

- ✓ Barking, lunging, growling at the person or dog makes the trigger go away
  - ✓ Peeing on the living room rug, makes the need to void disappear
  - ✓ Jumping on your friend as they come in the front door gets the person to pay attention to him
- Behaviors that work, generally work very effectively to give your dog the life or functional reward he desires
  - Behaviors that work, because they are so effective, are generally intermittently reinforced, or reinforced sometimes, which keeps the dog always hopeful that the behavior will work once again. Think of behaviors reinforced on a sometimes schedule like playing a slot machine. Sometimes you win and you are therefore always hopeful and willing to play again to see if you'll win once more
  - Behavior change asks your dog to put aside the behavior he know works very effectively, and chose alternate behaviors that initially the dog doesn't trust will work as well as the original behavior we want to change. This is a very difficult thing to ask any being to do, dog or human

## Behavior Change Involves-

Removing all possibility for the current behavior we want to change from being reinforced

- ✓ This often means significant life style changes for both you and your dog-
- ✓ Changing where or when you walk your dog to avoid triggers
- ✓ Covering or blocking your windows or chain link fence with a barrier so your dog can't watch out and react to people or other dogs walking by Setting up a safety system that is always implemented when people come to the door
- ✓ Consistently using a tether system and confinement area when trying to house break your dog
- ✓ Being hyper-aware and vigilant of your environment always scanning for triggers, and changing the situation before your dog reacts
- ✓ Only taking your dog out when you can be 100% committed to him and the behavior change process on Recognizing that every time your dog is intermittently allowed to practice the unwanted behavior, the behavior works, and the process is set back

# Developmental Stages of the Dog

When adding a new puppy or dog to your family it's important to know what to expect from your dog's behavior as he grows and develops. Dogs go through a number of critical developmental stages over the 1st 2-4 years of life that can significantly affect their ability to succeed in a home if that new home is not aware and prepared to properly enhance that young dog's life. It is also important to recognize that recent research states that an adult dog has a mental cognition of a 2-year-old human child. Knowing this important key fact can help you understand your new dog and set him up for long-term success.

## In the Whelping Box- Birth to age 7 weeks:

Critical Early Periods- Birth to age 20 days

- ✓ Neonatal- birth to age 14 days- puppies eyes & ears are closed & they rely solely on scent and touch to survive and find their nursing mother & littermates
  - a. Breeders may lightly stress puppies with Early Neurological Stimulation/The Super Puppy Program to enhance their ability to tolerate stress as adult dogs
- Transition- age 14 to 20 days- puppies eyes & ears open & they begin to assimilate sensory information through all senses
- ✓ Canine Socialization- age 21 to 49 days
  - Awareness of other littermates- age 21-28 days
  - Weaning to solid food ☑ Developing 'normal' interactions with other dogs & puppies
  - Begin to accept discipline from their mother
  - Bite inhibition- learning how to control their mouths & bite through play & interactions with littermates & mother
  - Elimination- begin to seek out places away from sleeping, playing & eating area to void, setting the foundation for house breaking
  - During this period, it is critical that puppies experience daily handling by people and begin to be positively exposed & socialized to various toys, surfaces, noises & sounds
  - During this period is the best time to expose puppies to safe, puppy-friendly cats

## Transitioning to a New Home & Family- Age 7 weeks to 4 months:

- ✓ Human Socialization- age 7 to 12 weeks
  - Best time to go to a new home
  - Best time to begin 'formal' training & enrollment in a puppy kindergarten class that focus' on early positive socialization & exposures as well as self-control & basic obedience skills
  - Continue with bite inhibition & learning bite control with people
  - House breaking
- ✓ Critical Socialization Imprint Window- age 6 to 14 weeks
  - Period of largest neural brain growth
  - Stress daily early positive exposures to new & varying people, surfaces, smells, noises, sights, sounds & puppy-friendly animals ☑ Positive, safe out of the home exposures & socialization is critical
  - Enrichment experience- the 4 E's- Explore, Encounter, Examine, Experience
  - Critical for preventing long range fear-based aggression & behavior problems
- ✓ 1st Fear Impact Period- age 8 to 11 weeks
  - The 1st Fear Impact Period generally falls just as puppies are going to their new homes
  - During this period, your generally confident & happy puppy, suddenly becomes nervous or afraid of often times very usual situations they have previously had no negative response to
  - Fear impact events can last anywhere from a few hours to a few days to a week
  - When you notice this period has begun, create a positive association with the situation your puppy had a fear response to, then severely limit exposures until the fear period is over

- Situations that cause a fear response during this period of time often have life long lasting negative fear response consequences
- ✓ Seniority Classification- age 12 to 16 weeks
  - Age of “Cutting”- milk teeth begin to fall out as adult teeth surface & period of increased independence from owner
    - 1st teething stage begins at age 12 weeks and is complete at age 6 months when canine teeth emerge
- ✓ The Importance of Separation
  - Learning that being left alone for periods is not stressful or scary
  - Foundation for preventing separation anxiety
  - Builds confidence & sense of ‘self’

### **Adolescence- age 4 months to maturity**

- ✓ Flight instinct- between age 4 and 8 months, generally lasts approx. 2wks
  - 2nd Fear Imprint Stage- between age 6 and 14 months
  - 2nd Teething Stage- around age 8 to 10 months
    - This is generally when dogs will engage in serious destruction of property & can be very detrimental both to your dog’s health & your home
    - Recommended that you continue with crate training & confinement through age 18-24 months to maintain safety for your dog & home
  - Critical to continue with consistent early training to prevent behavior problems & encourage lasting appropriate behavior
  - Critical to continue with positive socialization & exposures to prevent fear based behavior & aggression problems

### **Maturity- between age 1 and 4 years**

- ✓ Increased level of protectiveness
- ✓ Often around age 18-24 months aggression may surface as dog reaches sexual & mental maturity
- ✓ Age 24 months growth plates close & physical growth & maturity is complete
  - It is unsafe & not recommended to do any hard exercise or running with dogs under the age 2 on hard surfaces such as pavement or concrete or on-leash
  - Safe exercise before the age of 2 can be done off-leash on soft surfaces such as grass, dirt or sand or in water
  - Testing- dog will often test limits & boundaries, important to be consistent with training throughout maturation
  - Training- it’s never too late to teach an old dog new tricks!

# How To Crate Train Your Dog

Crate training your dog may take some time and effort, but can be useful in a variety of situations. If you have a new dog or puppy, you can use the crate to limit his access to the house until he learns all the house rules - like what he can and can't chew on and where he can and can't eliminate.

A crate is also a safe way of transporting your dog in the car, as well as a way of taking him places where he may not be welcome to run freely. If you properly train your dog to use the crate, he'll think of it as his safe place and will be happy to spend time there when needed.

## Selecting a crate

Crates will be plastic, (often called flight kennels or Vari-Kennels) or collapsible, metal pens. They come in different sizes and can be purchased at most pet supply stores. Your dog's crate should be just large enough for him to stand up, lie down comfortably and turn around.

## The crate training process

Crate training can take days or weeks, depending on your dog's age, temperament and past experiences. It's important to keep two things in mind while crate training. The crate should always be associated with something pleasant, and training should take place in a series of small steps - don't go too fast.

### Step 1: Introducing your dog to the crate

Put the crate in an area of your house where the family spends a lot of time, such as the family room. Put a soft blanket or towel in the crate. Bring your dog over to the crate and talk to him in a happy tone of voice. Make sure the crate door is securely fastened open, so it won't hit your dog and frighten him.

To encourage your dog to enter the crate, drop some small food treats near it, then just inside the door, and finally, all the way inside the crate. If he refuses to go all the way in at first, that's okay - don't force him to enter. Continue tossing treats into the crate until your dog will walk calmly all the way into the crate to get the food. If he isn't interested in treats, try tossing a favorite toy in the crate. This step may take a few minutes or as long as several days.

### Step 2: Feeding your dog his meals in the crate

After introducing your dog to the crate, begin feeding him his regular meals near the crate. This will create a pleasant association with the crate. If your dog is readily entering the crate when you begin Step 2, put the food dish all the way at the back of the crate. If your dog is still reluctant to enter the crate, put the dish only as far inside as he will readily go without becoming fearful or anxious. Each time you feed him, place the dish a little further back in the crate.

Once your dog is standing comfortably in the crate to eat his meal, you can close the door while he's eating. At first, open the door as soon as he finishes his meal. With each successive feeding, leave the door closed a few minutes longer, until he's staying in the crate for 10 minutes or so after eating. If he begins to whine to be let out, you may have increased the length of time too quickly. Next time, try leaving him in the crate for a shorter time period. If he does whine or cry in the crate, it's imperative that you not let him out until he stops. Otherwise, he'll learn that the way to get out of the crate is to whine, so he'll keep doing it.

### Step 3: Conditioning your dog to the crate for longer time periods

After your dog is eating his regular meals in the crate with no sign of fear or anxiety, you can confine him there for short time periods while you're home. Call him over to the crate and give him a treat. Give him a command to enter such as, "kennel up." Encourage him by pointing to the inside of the crate with a treat in your hand. After your dog enters the crate, praise him, give him the treat and close the door.

Sit quietly near the crate for five to 10 minutes and then go into another room for a few minutes. Return, sit quietly again for a short time, then let him out of the crate. Repeat this process several times a day. With each repetition, gradually increase the length of time you leave him in the crate and the length of time you're out of his sight. Once your dog will stay quietly in the crate for about 30 minutes with you out of sight the majority of the time, you can begin leaving him crated when you're gone for short time periods and/or letting him sleep there at night. This may take several days or several weeks.

## Step 4:

### **Part A: Crating your dog when left alone**

After your dog is spending about 30 minutes in the crate without becoming anxious or afraid, you can begin leaving him crated for short periods when you leave the house. Put him in the crate using your regular command and a treat. You might also want to leave him with a few safe toys in the crate.

You'll want to vary at what point in your "getting ready to leave" routine you put your dog in the crate. Although he shouldn't be crated for a long time before you leave, you can crate him anywhere from five to 20 minutes prior to leaving. Don't make your departures emotional and prolonged, but matter-of-fact. Praise your dog briefly, give him a treat for entering the crate and then leave quietly.

When you return home, don't reward your dog for excited behavior by responding to him in an excited, enthusiastic way. Keep arrivals low key. Continue to crate your dog for short periods from time to time when you're home so he doesn't associate crating with being left alone. Your dog should not be left alone in the crate for more than four to five hours at a time during the day.

### **Part B: Crating your dog at night**

Put your dog in the crate using your regular command and a treat. Initially, it may be a good idea to put the crate in your bedroom or nearby in a hallway, especially if you have a puppy. Puppies often need to go outside to eliminate during the night, and you'll want to be able to hear your puppy when he whines to be let outside. Older dogs, too, should initially be kept nearby so that crating doesn't become associated with social isolation. Once your dog is sleeping comfortably through the night with his crate near you, you can begin to gradually move it to the location you prefer.

## Potential problems

### Too much time in the crate

A crate isn't a magical solution. If not used correctly, a dog can feel trapped and frustrated. For example, if your dog is crated all day while you're at work and then crated again all night, he's spending too much time in too small a space. Other arrangements should be made to accommodate his physical and emotional needs. Also remember that puppies under six months of age shouldn't stay in a crate for more than three or four hours at a time. They can't control their bladders and bowels for longer periods.

### Whining

If your dog whines or cries while in the crate at night, it may be difficult to decide whether he's whining to be let out of the crate, or whether he needs to be let outside to eliminate. If you followed the training procedures outlined above, your dog hasn't been rewarded for whining in the past by being released from his crate. Try to ignore the whining. If your dog is just testing you, he'll probably stop whining soon. Yelling at him or pounding on the crate will only make things worse.

If the whining continues after you've ignored him for several minutes, use the phrase he associates with going outside to eliminate. If he responds and becomes excited, take him outside. This should be a trip with a purpose, not play time. If you're convinced that your dog doesn't need to eliminate, the best response is to ignore him until he stops whining. Don't give in, otherwise you'll teach your dog to whine loudly to get what he wants.

If you've progressed gradually through the training steps and haven't done too much too fast, you'll be less likely to encounter this problem. If the problem becomes unmanageable, you may need to start the crate training process over again.

# Separation anxiety

Attempting to use the crate as a remedy for separation anxiety won't solve the problem. A crate may prevent your dog from being destructive, but he may injure himself in an attempt to escape from the crate. Separation anxiety problems can only be resolved with counter-conditioning and desensitization procedures. You may want to [consult a professional animal behaviorist](#) for help.

## Training a Shy or Dog with Anxiety

*Poor socialization is one of the most frequent causes of shy or anxious behavior in dogs, so it is important to expose your dog at an early age to other animals and people of different sizes, shapes and colors.*

Training a shy or anxious dog is important not only for the happiness and health of the animal, but also for safety. Shy or anxious dogs are more likely to bite or show other signs of aggression, so it is important to train a shy or anxious dog as soon as possible.

Here are some tips about how to train a shy or anxious dog with socialization training techniques and relaxation.

### **Dog Training and Socialization**

Early socialization is important to training a dog and preventing aggressive or shy displays of behavior. Poor socialization is one of the most frequent causes of shy or anxious behavior in dogs, so it is important to expose your dog at an early age to other animals and people of different sizes, shapes and colors. Some dogs that are aggressive toward children may behave this way because they were never socialized with children. Similarly, dogs that chase or even kill cats or other small dogs may feel threatened by these animals and feel the need to act out their instinctual territorial behavior if they are not accustomed to these other types of animals.

Here are some quick tips for how to socialize your puppy:

- Take your dog on daily walks.
- Socialize your dog within the first 3 to 12 weeks of life by introducing your puppy to new people and animals. Puppies are more likely to accept new and different people, animals, places and objects during this time.
- Frequently take your puppy to a dog park so that the puppy can interact with other dogs and people, and walk your puppy often.
- Consider further study of obedience training for your dog to further ingrain the socialization training.
- Make socialization experiences positive for your puppy by giving your puppy lots of attention, praise, and the occasional treat. Socialization only works if the dog has a good experience with the new people, places or things, and it is possible to instill negative socialization in a puppy or dog, as you may see in dogs that have been abused or neglected. These types of dogs may need more intense socialization training to reverse any negative socialization habits they may have developed from past experiences.
- Adult dogs older than 1 year who have not been socialized develop caution, shyness or fear about new experiences.

### **Trauma in Dogs and Relaxation**

If a dog has received forceful training or has been mistreated in a negative way, the dog may become shy or fearful of humans and will require lots of patience and love to reverse the negative effects. To help your dog relax and reverse trauma of past experiences, you must build your dog's confidence by rewarding desired behaviors, giving verbal praise and the occasional treat. Here are some tips to help your dog relax:

- To stop unwanted behavior in a traumatized dog, either ignore the behavior or use a clear but gentle command, such as "No". Yelling at an already-traumatized dog will create more trauma and have a negative effect.
- Sit with your dog for 10 to 20 minutes per day in a relaxed and quiet environment, and reward your dog for relaxed, calm behavior. Gentle petting or massage during this time can help the dog relax even more and will strengthen the bond between yourself and the dog. After about a week of this routine, gradually begin adding small distractions such as quietly clapping your hands or snapping. This will help your dog establish a pattern of calm and controlled responses to these unexpected noises or events.
- Once your dog has established a pattern of relaxation, expose the dog to small amounts of whatever makes him fearful, such as strange people, animals or places, and accompany that exposure with a tasty treat, verbal praise and other gentle, positive reinforcement. For example, if your dog is afraid of loud noises but loves bacon, expose the dog to a loud noise at the same time you give the dog bacon. This creates a link so that the dog associates the negative experience of a loud noise with the positive experience of bacon.
- Praise your dog whenever an obstacle is overcome, no matter how small you think it may be.
 

Reversing trauma and counter-conditioning in dogs happens over time. If you are patient and loving, your dog can be trained to overcome shy or anxious behavior.

## Food Aggression

### Why do dogs resource-guard?

#### **It is perfectly normal for any animal (or human) to guard a valuable resource.**

It is perfectly normal for any animal (or human) to guard a valuable resource. Have you seen people fight over a parking spot around the holidays? That is a version of resource guarding in humans. Food is one of the things a dog can't live without. Before dogs were domesticated, when resources were scarce, the dog that fought for and won his dinner was the one that survived. Even now, when dogs don't ever miss a meal, food remains an important resource.

Resource guarding isn't limited to food. Sometimes dogs guard resources *they* deem important. The blue stuffie may not seem important from your perspective, but your dog may place that item at the very top of his priority list. In addition to food and toys, dogs guard space (the doorway, the couch, etc.), other animals (a dog or cat they live with, for instance), and even people.

Most resource guarding isn't appropriate, though. For example, I don't want Schooner to develop the habit of growling to move the cat (or other dogs, or people) away from his food bowl. The longer the resource guarding persists (and works), the harder it is to convince the dog that resource guarding isn't a good idea. It's important to recognize resource guarding so that you can intervene immediately and work on changing the dog's mind about guarding his things.

### What is Food Aggression?

Though the definition of food aggression is simple, dealing with the behavior certainly isn't. Food aggression in dogs is a behavior with which many pet parents must deal with on a daily basis. Some pet parents are successful in quieting or reducing the episodes of the behavior while others are not. The key to successful discouragement or elimination of the behavior lies not in disciplinary measures but in patient retraining of your canine family member. It is important to remember, that dogs will not attack without first giving a warning and recognizing the behaviors your dog may exhibit may prevent injury to people and other animals. Food aggression in dogs is simply aggressive behavior, such as growling, snapping or biting, in defense of their food bowls or tasty treats.

### What does food aggression look like?

**Symptoms of Food Aggression in Dogs** The symptoms of food aggression (also called food guarding) are pretty straightforward, ranging from warnings to actions, sometimes with only milliseconds between: Stiffening Gulping Growling Snarling and teeth showing Freezing Lunging Snaps or bites when feeding is interrupted.

The danger here is that the object of the aggression may be another dog or cat in the family or even a toddler or child who has wandered too close to the food bowl and who doesn't understand the warnings or why they are important.

Would you know resource guarding if you saw it? Dogs display resource guarding differently, but there are core signs to look for:

- Lowering the face/chin over whatever's being guarded
- Gulping rapidly in response to the appearance of a "threat" to the resource. The threat doesn't have to be a real threat; the threat can be the appearance of someone (or something, like my cat) that the *dog* deems as a threat.
- Standing still with only the eyes moving toward the perceived threat
- Stiffening all over the body—the dog may look very still, almost like a statue
- Curling lip, exposed teeth—the dog may or may not make any noise when snarling
- A low growl (that may escalate to a louder growl if the threat continues to approach)
- Air snapping—the dog snaps at the air toward the person or animal he deems a threat
- Lunging toward the threat, with a bark or growl, perhaps even chasing the threat for a distance
- Barking at the threat
- Biting the person or animal to drive them away from the food

Types Food aggression or guarding could be typed into two categories:

- ✓ **Aggression toward humans** - This type of food aggression could be directed toward any human being who comes anywhere near the food bowl, kitchen where food is being prepared, the dinner table where the food is eaten or even near the leftovers. It could also be directed at only some of the human family members, with one or two being trusted to come near the canine when he is eating.
- ✓ **Aggression toward other animals** - This type could include other dogs, cats or any other animals who are courageous enough to venture near the food dish when your dog is eating or is otherwise near it.

### Causes of Food Aggression in Dogs

- ✓ The behavior is thought to be a throwback to the time when wild dogs had to hunt for their food and, when food resources were scarce, they had to protect what they had. This is the same type of aggression exhibited when protecting their mates and living areas for reasons of survival. But now they're tamed and no longer have to hunt for their food, so why does the behavior still persist?
- ✓ Competition for food with littermates is the major cause. Most pet parents feed litters in a communal bowl and it's literally a free for all at mealtime. Oftentimes, there may be one or two puppies who dominate the food bowl at mealtimes and utilize aggression to accomplish that. Any puppy who exhibits food guarding behavior before the age of 16 weeks should be seen by a veterinarian as this is an early sign of aggressive behavior development
- ✓ Once this behavior has been experienced by a young puppy, it can be hard for the pup to ignore the desire or need to guard his food as he makes his new home with his new family. This is especially so if your puppy was one of the "weaker" ones who kept being pushed away and had to battle to get his sustenance.

### Diagnosis of Food Aggression in Dogs

- ✓ To diagnose food aggression in dogs, you will likely need the services of not just your local veterinary professional but also those of an animal behaviorist. Your complete history will be vital to your vet and will need to consist of dietary regimen, complete with the frequency, amounts of food and types of food and treats being fed. Any history of the littermates as well as the history of the canine's interaction with other animals in the household should be noted, as well as interactions with humans in various activities. The behaviors of your canine family member should be well documented, giving your vet as much information as possible about how your pet reacts to humans and other animals at feeding time and virtually any other time he interacts with humans and animals.
- ✓ Your veterinary professional will do a physical examination and may order some tests if he suspects a systemic issue at the root of the problem. If he suspects a food aggression or guarding behavior, he may wish to utilize the services of an animal behaviorist to help diagnose and guide the treatment and retraining of your canine family member.

## Treatment of Food Aggression in Dogs

- ✓ Once your veterinary professional and the animal behaviorist have done their evaluations, an appropriate treatment plan will be developed and initiated. Your canine family member may require some specialized home retraining to eliminate or reduce the aggressive behavior. Since food aggression in dogs can range from mild growling to protect special treats or food to reacting to any human who comes close when he's eating to an all out biting, snapping attack, it is important to understand that not all food aggression needs to be treated.
- ✓ If the aggressive behavior being exhibited by your pet is such that there is risk of injury to humans (adults, children or toddlers) or to other household animals, a retraining program will be developed which is commensurate with the level of aggressive behavior being displayed. These training programs are generally multi-stage or multi-step processes which will gradually teach your pet that they need not fear the loss of food or other resources which they have traditionally protected.

## Recovery of Food Aggression in Dogs

- ✓ It is important for you to understand that the older the animal is when this training is developed, the harder it may be to retrain him. It may also require a longer training period to achieve reduction or elimination of the behavior. It is for this reason that we emphasize that aggressive behavior not be ignored or "blown off". Your canine family member needs help, love and patience to overcome these undesirable habits and behaviors but the result will be a safer and more loving environment for all parties involved.
- ✓ Of course, in the event that either no training is recommended or that the training is simply not successful, remember that you can always make adjustments at home at feeding time to isolate your pet. If this is the course that is chosen, it is important to remember that no food should be left down for your pet unless it is time for his meal.