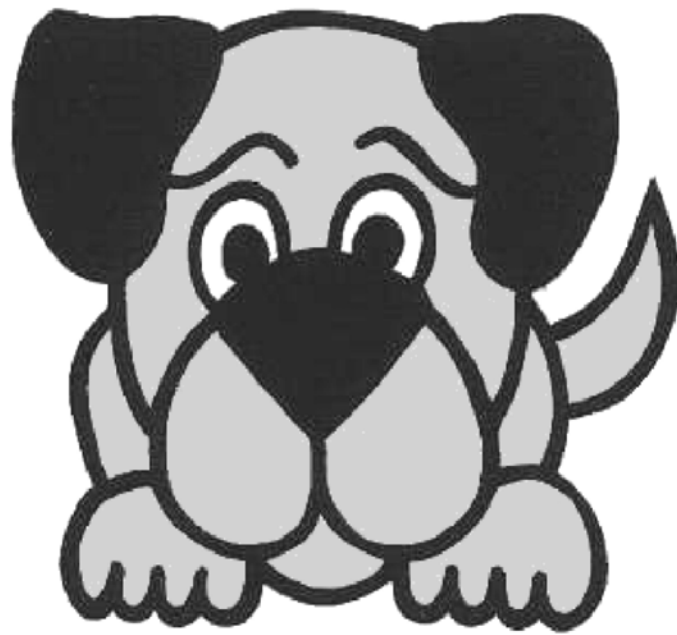




TARARUA ALLBREEDS DOG TRAINING CLUB INC



Welcome to Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club

Training takes place at 7.00pm on Tuesday nights, rain or shine. If for any reason you are unable to attend please contact your instructor _____ before 6pm please.

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Rules of Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club Inc

1. Dogs are at all times the responsibility of their owners / handlers. The Club accepts no liability for any damage and/or injuries caused by dogs.
2. Dogs must be on a lead at all times (including in the car park) except when confined in a vehicle or when carrying out a training exercise. This rule does not apply to instructors' dogs which may be required to be off-lead for demonstration purposes.
3. Dogs are not permitted in the clubrooms or in the area immediately adjacent to the Longburn Hall. They should be kept off private property in the area around the club grounds.
4. Any faeces deposited anywhere on or around the club grounds (including the car park and grassed area) must be removed by the owner/handler of the dog. Urine should be washed away if deposited on the paved area of the grounds, car park or on a building.
5. Dogs must be fully vaccinated. Sick dogs must not be brought to training sessions until clearance has been received from a veterinarian.
6. Bitches in season are not permitted on the club grounds or car park. They should be left at home.
7. Owners/handlers will be asked to remove their dog from a class if it is judged by the instructor to be a danger to the instructor, other handlers or other dogs. This step will not be taken without discussion with the owner/handler and alternative arrangements will be discussed.
8. When there is a legitimate reason for a dog being withdrawn from a class, training fees may be refunded at the discretion of the committee. Application must be made in writing to the committee.
9. Smoking is not permitted in the clubrooms or during classes.
10. For safety reasons children are not allowed in the training area during classes. They must remain in the clubrooms or on the terrace area outside. Children are at all times the responsibility of the adult(s) who brought them to training.

Objectives of Courses

Basic Obedience

For many dogs (and first time owners/handlers) this class offers their first introduction to dog training and the first step in their ongoing journey of learning.

This eight week course is open to dogs of all ages including puppies once they have completed their vaccinations.

- Walk on lead at left hand side without pulling
- Sit on command
- Lie down on command
- Remain tied to a fence without barking or pulling
- Down stay (on lead) for 30 seconds
- Temperament test (allow instructor to handle while tethered)
- Recall – dog to come when called
- Handling of the dog by the handler and the class instructor (feet, ears etc)
- Dog waiting to be fed
- Dog giving up its toy on command
- Dog to ignore passing dogs



Intermediate Course

This is a eight week course open to handlers and dogs that have already passed the Basic course. This class is the precursor to the Advanced class

- Walk on a loose lead
- Recall
- Down Stay for two minutes.
- Ignore people/dogs
- Temperament test
- Stop on command
- Handling of the dog by a stranger
- Walking with somebody other than the handler (handlers to swap dogs)
- Vehicle manners (waiting to get in and out, suitable restraint)
- Behaving while a person is eating
- Controlled behaviour through a gate
- Controlled behaviour on steps



Advanced Class

This course covers the NZ Kennel Club's nationally recognised qualification Canine Good Citizen (CGC) to promote good dog ownership as well as an introduction to tricks, heelwork to music and Rally obedience.

Canine Good Citizen is divided into four levels of increasing difficulty:-

- Canine Good Citizen
- Canine Good Citizen Bronze
- Canine Good Citizen Silver
- Canine Good Citizen Gold

Each level includes components of: -

- **Home Manners** includes good behaviour at feeding time and while playing with toys; a prolonged down stay; and remaining quietly alone when necessary.
- **Street Manners** includes advanced lead walking, including ignoring distractions (both human and canine); acceptance of a friendly stranger; the recall; and the stop on command at a distance (both essential for relaxed off-lead walking).
- **Travel Manners** includes waiting to get in and out of the vehicle and travelling quietly – no barking at passing cars and dogs and being restrained appropriately within the vehicle.
- **Veterinary/Grooming Manners** includes a simple examination of the dog by the assessor. The dog must also permit conventional grooming by the handler and assessor.
- **Responsibility and Care** – throughout the course matters of dog responsibility and care are discussed. During assessment questions will be given in relation to dog care and handler responsibility.

The course is self-paced as not all dog/handler teams progress at the same rate. Experienced instructors are on hand to assist with all parts of the course.

CGC must be assessed on one day by one certified NZKC CGC Assessor and a separate assessment fee is paid to the NZKC whether the dog passes or fails. Each level must be passed before moving on to the next level. Assessment cannot commence until the dog is 12 months old.

All dogs should complete the Canine Good Citizen qualification including those undergoing Competitive Obedience training or intending to compete in Agility, as it concentrates on control.

Rally Obedience is a fun dog obedience sport, open to ALL dogs, purebred or mixed breed, pets or titled champions.

Rally goes beyond basic heeling by interspersing over 40 obedience movements with the sits, turns and paces of traditional heeling, where dog and handler use directional signs to run through a numbered course within an allotted time.

It requires a brisk pace, positive attitude and happy demeanour. Rally is for those who desire an effortless activity that is fun and games. It is not simple or easy, but challenges you and your dog in a partnership that improves heeling and teamwork.

People and dogs: A Social Relationship

Dogs and humans have been friends for centuries – from the time when humans learned to value the dog's skills as a hunter and guardian, to the present day when the companionship of a dog is recognised as a source of deep pleasure and satisfaction to millions of people.

The original relationship between dogs and people was a working relationship. Dogs herded sheep and cattle, pulled sleds or carts, protected people and their food supply against predators and retrieved the game shot by hunters. Whilst many dogs are no longer used for the work for which they were originally called on to do, they still retain the behaviour their ancestors were bred for.

Even if you have a mixed breed dog you can often make a good guess at its ancestry by watching the way it behaves. Many of these behavioural patterns can be useful clues when choosing the kind of dog you want as a pet and the traits, characteristics and behaviours you can expect when training your dog.

In order to assist you in better understanding your dog you should attempt the following homework assignment:

My breed of dog is: _____

What was the original purpose of this breed?

What characteristics can I expect my dog to display as a result of its ancestry?

Dog Behaviour

All dogs are descended from wolves – even little Fluffy down the street with a bow in her hair. Wolves live in packs and like them the dog likes to live as a cooperative member of a structured pack in which it knows its place. This is what makes dogs good to live with and easy to train. The actually want to cooperate – that is how they were designed.

The family makes an admirable substitute pack, whether it consists of just you and the dog or Grandma and Grandpa, fifteen kids, three dogs, a budgie, a cat and a goldfish. The dog wants to know where it comes in its pack – the answer is below all the humans (and possibly the cat) but above the budgie and goldfish.

You puppy won't know where it comes when it first moves in. Unless instructed otherwise, most dogs will assume top place – it's worth a try! You and all humans must act in a dominant manner to ensure they don't succeed with the takeover bid. This does not mean beating your dog up – this will result in a cringing coward, a visit from the SPCA or possibly a severe bite.

This is easy if you know how a dominant dog behaves. It has first go at the food, the best sleeping position (warmest, most comfortable and at the centre of the pack), it goes through openings first, it walks where it likes (the others move out of the way). The dominant dog can take what it likes from other pack members and has a tendency to 'stand over' them often with its head over their neck and shoulders. Biting is reserved for severe subordination.

Suitable ways of asserting human dominance are therefore:

1. Feed the humans first – or if this is impossible separate feeding times by 30 minutes or more.
2. Don't let the dog sleep in the bed or even in the bedroom if the dog is 'pushy'.
3. Always go through gates and doors first – teach the dog to 'wait' on command.
4. Never walk around a dog sleeping or especially standing in your way, make it move (at least until it has earned this privilege through old age).
5. Some areas in the household should be 'no-go areas' for the dog – or at least it should wait for an invitation before entering. People, on the other hand, should be free to go anywhere, and this includes occasionally getting in the dog kennel or bed.
6. When you play with the dog, make sure you end up with the toy at the end of the game – especially if it is 'tug-of-war'. It may not be wise to play this way with a very dominant dog. You should be able to remove food, bones and toys from its mouth.
7. Don't allow the dog to stand over you in play.
8. Don't let the dog demand attention – it should have to earn it and it should be initiated by the human. Nothing is free.
9. Teaching basic obedience helps to assert your dominance.

This may seem like a formidable list, but it soon becomes second nature. Some of the items may seem petty to you but they won't be to your dog.

Never challenge a dog that is already physically dominant – if you try to push it out of the way or off the bed physically or remove it's food bowl or punish it physically you may get badly bitten. Start with something less challenging and work your way up slowly.

If you have several dogs, let them sort out their own relative dominance and then accept it and support the more dominant however unfair it may seem. If you support the underdog you will cause endless fights.

How to have a well-behaved dog

Dogs are pack animals, and are at their best when there is a well-defined hierarchy, with the humans at the top. Think Sergeant Major ie **you** are in charge. This does **not** mean physical dominance battles — rolling the dog over etc. Non-confrontational ways to establish your dominance include: —

1. Eat something immediately before the dog is fed - pack leaders always eat first. Preferably pretend you are eating from the dog's bowl.

If the dog is a picky eater, food should be left down for only 15 minutes and then not offered again until the next mealtime.

2. The dog must not go through doorways, gates etc before you do — pack leaders go first.

3. Ignore the dog for five minutes after a separation (eg first thing in the morning or when you come home from work). Wait until it has stopped being excited before you greet it.

If you don't want it to jump up on people, only greet it when it has all four paws on the ground – if it jumps up, ignore it. There is no need to hit it, knee it or shout at it — most dogs very quickly realise that if they stand or sit quietly, they will receive the attention they want.

4. Nothing is for free. Before pats, games, food etc the dog must do something — even if it's only a sit. As well, don't let the dog demand attention. Ignore it when it nudges for a pat or brings a toy. Later call it over, make it sit or down, and then pat or play.
5. When out walking, make the dog walk beside or behind you. If it is allowed to run ahead at any point, make sure it is because you have said it can, not because it has made the decision.

Don't let the dog ignore commands. If you are reasonably certain it isn't going to obey and you haven't got time to make it do so (or can't catch it!) don't give the command.

A tired dog is a good dog. Make sure your dog has sufficient exercise. How much is enough depends on breed and temperament. Size is not a good guide — the average Jack Russell terrier needs much more exercise than the average Great Dane.

Note: puppies that have not finished growing should not receive too much exercise — it can damage immature bones and joints. Consult the breeder or your vet. Don't exercise dogs in hot conditions.

Physical exercise is not enough for most dogs — they need mental exercise as well. Play games that use the dog's brain. Searching for things or people are good games. Training the dog will also give it mental exercise and help to tire it out.

When playing with toys, make sure that you are in charge. You should be able to take toys away from your dog when you want. Fetch games are good exercise and most dogs enjoy them. Tugging games should only be played if there are no dominance problems and no children in the household, and you must always end up in possession of the toy.

End the game when you want, before the dog has had enough, so that you remain in charge. As well as toys used in interactive games, dogs should have toys such as chew bones which they have free access to, to give them something to do when they're alone. You should still be able to take these away when you wish. Make sure these toys are indestructible!

Occasionally reward the dog when it is lying quietly being good. If it only gets attention (even if you think it is negative attention) when it's being naughty, there is no incentive to be good.



Introduction to Basic Obedience

By the end of the eight week course your dog should have learnt to:

- Walk on the lead without pulling
- Sit when it is told to
- Lie down when it is told to
- Remain tied to a fence without barking or pulling
- Down stay (on lead) for 30 seconds
- Come when called
- Allow itself to be handled by the handler and the class instructor (feet, ears etc)
- Wait to be fed
- Give up its toy on command
- Ignore passing dogs

It will be tested on these tasks during the eighth lesson and if its performance is satisfactory a certificate will be awarded.

Training also covers other aspects of obedience. There will also be exercises to help socialise your dog so it behaves well in the presence of other dogs and people. Advice will be given on dog behaviour and how to get the dog to fit in well with your family and lifestyle and suggestions will be made regarding useful training to do at home.

If you have any particular problems with your dog (for instance persistent barking or chewing or difficulties with housetraining) ask your instructor for ideas. If they can't help, they will probably be able to refer you to someone who can.

Do not feed your dog before training – a dog with a full tummy wants to sleep. Make sure it has relieved itself. Any deposits are your responsibility to remove. Exercise the dog moderately before classes. A tired dog won't learn but neither will an overactive one. Keep your dog on the lead at all times unless specifically instructed otherwise.



What will be learnt in Basic Obedience

Walking on the lead

This is not competition heelwork, which requires practise with the dog in a very precise position. This is taught later if desired. At this stage all we want is for the dog to walk reasonably close without pulling.

Your dog should walk on a loose lead at your left side, with some part of its body level with your left leg and no more than one dog-width between you and it.

One Method to achieve this, hold the lead in both hands and let it go slack. When your dog moves too far ahead, lags or strays to one side or the other, jerk it back into place while saying "Rover, heel". Then let the lead go slack again.

Do not pull on the lead, give it a quick tug. Do not keep the lead under tension – this will only encourage the dog to pull. Just repeat the jerk and release as often as necessary. This should be practised for at least 10 minutes a day and certainly at all times the dog is walking on the lead. Never let it pull.

Sit on command

This means on the first command. One method to achieve this is by letting go of the lead with the left hand and using this to push down on the dog's rump, pulling up on the lead with the right hand to keep the dog's front end up and saying 'Rover, Sit', all at the same time.

Initially the dog should be pushed into a sit every time the command is given. Do this until you can no longer move fast enough to touch the dog's rump before it is sitting.

Don't try to make the dog sit by giving repeated commands – this only teaches the dog to ignore your command. Never say 'sit down'. 'Sit' is one command, 'Down' is another.



Down on command

1. The first treat method (for those with patience, and a food-oriented dog). Hold a tasty treat in your hand and put the hand down on the ground. The dog will want the treat. It will sniff your hand and try to nose it open, paw at the hand (gloves are a good idea) and generally try everything it can to get the food. Eventually (and this may take ten minutes or more) it will lie down, either in frustration or to get a better angle at which to prise open your hand. Immediately open the hand and give it the treat. When the dog goes down as soon as the hand goes to the ground, introduce the "down" command at the same time as the hand movement. Then phase out the hand movement. Then repeat a zillion times. For dogs that prefer toys to food, use a toy that can be held under your hand.
2. The second treat method. With the dog standing, hold a treat right in front of its nose, then move the treat back and down towards the dog's chest and to the ground. It should move back and down so it can get the treat. When it does, pair the "down" command with the movement of the food. Repeat a zillion times.
3. The third treat method. Use the treat to encourage the dog to crawl under something (a coffee table, your leg, a park bench). Obviously the item chosen depends on how big the dog is! As it gets down to crawl, say "down". Repeat a zillion times.
4. The toy method – for those dogs that are toy crazy. Move the toy up and down in front of the dog so it jumps for it. Bring the hand with the toy down to ground level suddenly while saying "down". The dog should follow – you may need to give the rear half a little push. Give it the toy. Repeat a zillion times.
5. Sit dog at heel on left. Lift front right paw with right hand. With left hand to pull dog to you and downwards (it will be off balance because it has only got one front paw on the ground). Give the "down" command at the same time. Repeat a zillion times.
6. The leaning-over method. With the dog in a sit, lean over it and lift both front paws of the ground and ease it into a down while giving the command. Only to be done with dogs you know well because it tends to put your face close to the dog's. Repeat a zillion times.

Choose one method (and only one) and persist until you get a response. This may take some time – have patience! Don't forget the rewards – every time the dog goes down at first. We mean the "zillion times" bit. A few repetitions isn't enough. Practice lots (but stop before the dog gets bored or you lose your cool). Keep lessons short.

Down Stay

We require a thirty second down stay with the owner standing at least two steps away from the dog (but still holding the lead).

Make it a stay by holding the dog if necessary until you give the release command OK. Gradually get to the point where you can stand up. Step quickly away and back before praising the dog in the down position.

If the dog gets up, push it back into exactly the same place and cut back the time. Remember that a two second stay is progress that can be built on.



Temperament Test

The dog has to remain tied to the fence without pulling or barking. It must allow the instructor to handle it without growling or snapping.

Recall

Lots of practice is required to teach a reliable recall (your dog coming when called). Until the dog comes reliably every time it is called it should be rewarded when it comes. Food works best for most dogs. If you can't reward your dog – don't call it. Later rewards should still be given occasionally and a verbal praise given each time.

Don't allow the dog to fail. If you can't be certain that the dog will come when called, or you can't catch it, don't call it. The dog should never learn it has the option of not coming when it is called. For older dogs that have already learnt this, it may be necessary to keep them on a lead in open areas until you have perfected the recall. A long training lead allows control in most circumstances. (Don't leave your dog unsupervised wearing one it may get caught on things and choked.)

Never punish your dog when it comes to you. This covers the obvious forms of punishment but also things that your dog sees as unpleasant – like being put in the kennel, given a tablet or being bathed or put back on the lead after a free romp.

If you call your dog for any of these things give it a reward and a short game first so it doesn't associate coming when called with something unpleasant. It's a good idea when giving your dog a free run to occasionally call it for a titbit and then let it go again so it doesn't associate being called with the end of the fun.



In an emergency, especially with a young dog, run in the opposite direction – your dog will probably follow you. Don't bother chasing a dog in an open space. You almost certainly won't catch it and it will think it's a wonderful game to be played at every opportunity.

Handling

Dog to allow itself to be handled by the handler and the class instructor. The purpose of this exercise is to get dogs accustomed to examination, eg during their annual vet check. Also helpful if you think your dog may have injured its foot to be able to check the nails and pads.

Ears to be checked for cleanliness and any redness, teeth to be checked and a front and rear foot (including nails and pads) to be examined.



Toy Release

Dog to give up its toy on command, preferably one command. This is a handy skill to teach your dog, try 'trading' the toy for a piece of food each time and watch how fast the dog 'gives' the toy. If your dog is more toy focussed, bring two toys and when you ask for the toy, praise and reward with the second toy, then repeat swapping between toys.

Food Manners

Teaching your dog to wait for its food teaches self-control and is a good non-confrontational way to reinforce your leadership.

Dog to sit and wait as handler puts bowl on ground. Dog to wait to eat until released. Dog must not barge to get food or to eat before released.



Leave Weave

All dogs tested together either in a circle or a line. Dogs learn to ignore passing dogs and concentrate on their owner. Owner to reinforce the 'leave' command as a dog passes and rewards once the dog has passed.

This is a great exercise to build up your dog's focus on the handler.

Other

If you have any particular problems please ask your instructor for advice.

Note

It is at the discretion of Tararua Allbreeds Dog Training Club Inc. whether or not a certificate will be issued based on the performance of the dog and handler over the course of the training term.



Principles of reward and punishment

If a behaviour is **rewarded**, it is more likely to happen again.

This is very useful for training, but there are a few points to remember for rewards to be an effective training tool.

1. Rewards are anything the dog likes. This includes food, a game, pats, or verbal praise. Initially however, verbal praise must be paired with one of the others to make it desirable to the dog.
2. The reward must occur within about three seconds of the behaviour to be effective.
3. Make sure you are really rewarding the behaviour you want, not something else. An example of this is where the dog sits on command but you are a bit slow with the "good dog" and it has stood up again before you get it out. You may think you are rewarding the sit — your dog will think you are rewarding the standing up.
4. Make sure the dog isn't rewarded for things you don't want it to do. Remember, for most dogs, any attention is better than none. If you shout at your dog for barking, he may bark again just to get some interaction with you. Where possible, try to ignore bad behaviour and reward good behaviour.

If a behaviour is **punished**, it is less likely to happen again.

In general punishment is less effective than reward as a training tool because it tells the dog only that one action is wrong — it still has no idea of what the correct action might be. However, in certain situations it can be useful for stopping an undesirable behaviour.

Again there are things to remember.

1. Punishments are anything the dog doesn't like. They don't need to be physical — time out works well for most dogs because they are very social animals.
2. Like rewards, punishments have to occur within about three seconds of the behaviour to be effective. Punishing the dog after the event is a waste of time — it won't know what the punishment is for (even if you "show" it the crime) and will just think you are being a bully.
3. Try to make the naughty behaviour do the punishing rather than you. For instance, if your dog raids the rubbish tin, booby-trap it with an upside down mousetrap.
4. Be careful of unintentional punishment. For example, if you always put the lead on and take the dog home when you call it at the park, it may stop responding to your calls because it sees being taken home as a punishment. Call it, give it a treat, and let it go again several times during each walk so that rewarded recalls outnumber "punished" ones.

Don't make the mistake of attributing human feelings to your dog. Dogs are not capable of doing things to be nasty, and they don't feel guilt. If they chew your best shoes, it is because they're bored and the shoes smell good, not because you left them alone for an hour and they're "paying you back".

And that look on their face when you discover the chewed shoe isn't guilt, it's fear at your reaction. If you must dole out punishment, punish the one at fault — whoever left the shoes in reach!

Choosing words to be used as commands

It is very important that the commands used in training are consistent (same action required, same word/s used) and clear. Once chosen, everybody working with the dog should use the same command. **It is your job, in the next week, to choose these commands.**



Your dog doesn't speak English, so any word can be chosen for any action – including other languages or even made-up words. Remember however: -

- The command chosen should be short and clear
- It should be distinct from other commands and from the dog's name
- Other people (family, friends, the vet, boarding kennels) have to use it – don't be too clever
- You may need to use it urgently, so make it a word that comes quickly to mind
- Some phrases, like "OK", are used frequently in human conversations

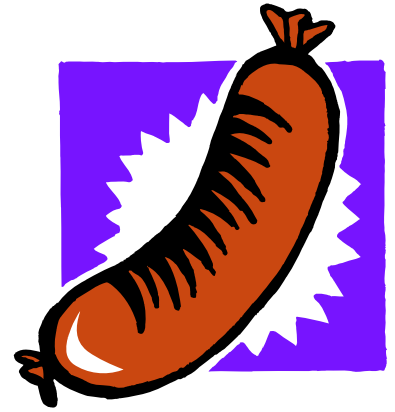
Some suggested commands are given in the table.

Action	Suggestions	Your choice
Walking at handlers side	Heel Walk With me Let's go
Sitting	Sit Hup
Lying down	Down Drop Mat Flat
Stay (until handler returns)	Stay
Wait (until told to something else)	Wait
Recall	Come Here
Release	OK Free Away Go

Suggested Dog Treats

Suggested treats

- Commercially available treats – dried liver/meat, Schmackos etc
- Saveloys or cooked sausages chopped up
- Pieces of dog sausage (Superior Chunky works well)
- Pieces of cheese
- Raw mince (this will work where all others fail!)
- Cat biscuits
- Pieces of leftover cooked meat
- Pieces of raw vegetable (if you are very lucky)
- Homemade liver cake (recipe below)



Note that only a very small piece is needed – a half centimetre cube is plenty.

Do not use raisins, sultanas, grapes, chocolate. These are poisonous to dogs.

Try a few different treats and find what your dog likes best. Remember, some are very salty or high in calories and some dogs get upset tummies from some treats.

Do not use your dog's regular food – you need something special. Sometimes a "good" treat will work at home but an "extra good" one is needed for the additional distractions of training nights, or for new exercises.

Liver Cake Recipe

1. Put together in a food processor:
 - 500gms liver
 - 1 cup wheat germ
 - 1 cup any kind of flour (although maize or rye is tasty)
 - 4 eggs
 - A heap of garlic
2. Process until 'sloppy'.
3. Put on baking paper on tray or meat dish.
4. Cook at 180 degrees for 20 minutes.
5. Leave to cool and cut.

This food **MUST** be out of dog reach – they (dogs) are absolutely shameless in the lengths that they will go to sample this delicious food!!!

Freezes well but will go mouldy if not refrigerated.

This is an ideal training treat as it is eaten easily and quickly – and doesn't make hands or pockets messy.

How to make sure your dog is a 'good canine citizen'

There are three major complaints made about dogs:

1. Fouling
2. Barking
3. Roaming



Fouling of streets and Public places

This is probably the most complained about problem and the easiest to avoid. It is quite simple – **don't let your dog defecate or urinate on the street or where people walk, sit or play sport. If an accident does happen, clean it up.**

Train your dog to 'go' on command (it's quite easy) and then make sure it does before you leave home, after you come back or in an appropriate place where it won't be a nuisance.

Carry a plastic bag to collect solid offerings left in the wrong place.

Don't let your dog (or bitch) sign every tree, patch of grass or streetlamp it passes. It's unnecessary (whatever your dog would have you believe it won't burst), it smells and it kills plants.

Dogs which foul the streets not only get their owners a well-deserved bad image but they don't help the image of other dog owners. You are also liable for a hefty fine.

Barking

This one is harder to avoid or cure but just as necessary. Do not fall into the trap of thinking that a dog that barks a lot is a good 'guard dog'. It isn't – it's a yapping nuisance. Good guard dogs don't bark at everyone passing on the street, because another dog is barking or because the leaves are falling off the tree. They bark when it's necessary and when the threat is over or if they are told to, they stop.

Teach the dog right from the start only to bark for a good reason and to stop when told to. Remember – if your barking dog annoys the neighbours, it is you that has the problem not the neighbours. Do something about it.

Roaming

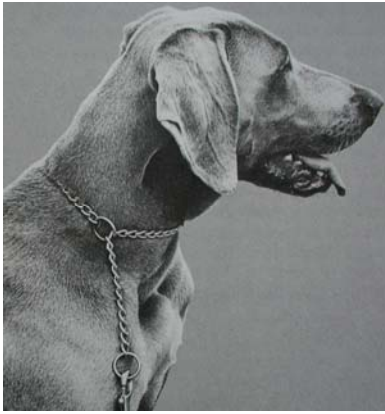
Again this is easy to avoid. Don't let it happen. **Either keep your dog behind a secure fence or keep it shut up except when you are actively supervising it.**

Remember that it's against the law not to allow the dog sufficient exercise. As well as on-lead and off-lead (under control) walking exercise can also be chasing a ball or swimming.

With fences, try to make them dog proof from the start. Once a dog has been able to escape once it will keep trying. If it has never escaped, chances are it won't realise it can and will not try.

Spaying bitches and neutering dogs makes them much less likely to wander.

How to use a check chain correctly



X WRONG

The lead is continually tight on the dog's neck.



✓ RIGHT

The lead easily loosens.

Remember – When tying your dog to a solid object always attach the leash clip to both rings on the check chain.

Training Tips

Obedience is more than just 'cute tricks'. It teaches your dog to listen to your command, to obey when the command is given and then to wait for the next command.

As a responsible dog owner or handler you are expected to practise at home what you have learned in class.

The keys to good dog training are:

- Consistency
- Persistency
- Short lessons
- Planning
- Start happy – finish happy
- Work within the dogs ability
- Praise or correct immediately

Learn to play with your dog so that your dog associates being with you as fun.

Enjoy your training.

