



PROBLEMS WITH YOUR PUP'S BEHAVIOUR?



Mouthing or biting? Nervous? Toileting problems? Disobedient? Over-sexed? Car problems? Pulls on lead? Objects to being handled? Aggressive? Demanding?

Don't expect these problems to "settle down" as your pup grows up! ACT NOW!
Make an appointment to see pet behaviourist David Higginson and get some expert help.

● HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- Initial Assessment (routine consultation) - £28.50 - £39.00 (12 -20 min.)
 - Halti training demonstration - £91.00 (30 - 40min)
 - Puppy mouthing/biting problems/Toileting problems (dogs & cats) / Pet calming / relaxation techniques - £91.00 (30 - 40min)
 - Pups with complicated behaviour problems may need a full assessment.
 - Full Behaviour consultation - £135.00 (50 - 60min.)
 - Further consultations - £91.00 (30 - 40min)
- Equipment and medication are not included

● **CLAIM IT ON INSURANCE** - Behaviour therapy is reclaimable on many pet health insurances. Check your policy.

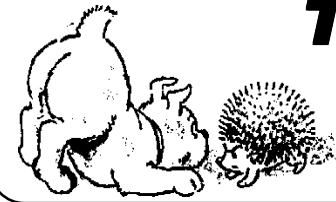
● **If you think behaviour therapy could help your pet - please phone 01254 53622 and discuss it with the vet.**



WHERE DOES DOG TRAINING FIT INTO ALL THIS?

- Socialize your pup thoroughly and act like a calm leader - training will be no problem. You and your family must do the training.*
- Get a good, up-to-date book or video that teaches dog training by rewarding good behaviour not by punishment.*
- Training classes? Useful but not an alternative to training by the owner. Details of local training classes are available from reception.*

Visit our website: www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk



Teach your puppy to be calm and obedient

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PUP MEETS A HUMAN FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME?

At 6wks old - the pup will run up to a person happily with curiosity and trust.

At 10wks old - the pup will approach cautiously after 20 - 30 min.

At 14wks old - the pup will show fear and hide away.

In the wild anything a pup has not experienced by 14wks of age will be treated as a threat, a danger, or an enemy.



If you want your pup to be calm, confident, happy and obedient you need to let him meet all the challenges of life before he reaches the age of 14 weeks. We call this process socialization.

DON'T LEAVE IT TOO LATE, ACT NOW!

See inside

HELP YOUR PUPPY LEARN ABOUT LIFE



Let your pup experience something new every day between 6 wks and 14 wks of age - then continue to reinforce these experiences throughout life

Until your pup's vaccination is complete: YOU MUST AVOID:

- Public parks, doggy walks and pavements in town.
- Contact with unknown dogs.

BUT YOU CAN (AND MUST!):

- Walk your pup in "clean" areas such as private gardens and enclosed areas where few dogs go,
- Walk in the country (out of town) where infection risks are much reduced.
- Encourage your pup to meet lots of dogs that you know are calm, healthy and vaccinated.
- Take your pup into town and into public parks carried in your arms (i.e. off the ground).

**Veterinary Health Centre, Daisy St. Blackburn. Phone 01254 53622
D. Higginson M.R.C.V.S. J. Davies M.R.C.V.S. S. Purcell M.R.C.V.S.**

Teach your puppy to be calm and obedient

PEOPLE TO MEET!

Introduce your pup to lots of different people. Reward calm behaviour with verbal praise and the occasional treat. Remain calm yourself whatever your pup does. Use a lead for gentle restraint.

Introduce your pup to children of all ages, mums with pushchairs, old people (with sticks), loud people, shy people, tipsy people, postman, milkman etc. etc.

Other dogs and cats in the home

Let them meet on neutral territory away from feeding areas. Allow them to sniff and explore each other. Cats may need high escape areas, adult dogs will appreciate you using a house crate for the pup (like a baby play pen). Remain calm, if your adult dog growls at the new pup don't tell him off. This is his way of teaching the pup that he is higher in rank. Normal well behaved adult dogs rarely injure a pup.



PLACES TO GO!

Countryside.

Sights and sounds of livestock large and small, farm machinery, walks in woods and quiet fields.

Towns and Cities.

Busy main road, heavy lorries, dustbin wagons, motorbikes, speeding traffic, road works, quiet streets, pedestrian areas.

Public Places.

Pubs, cafes, shops, school yards, bus and railway stations, childrens play areas, football matches etc. Meet a wide variety of people, young, old, children, babies - allow gentle people to handle your pup and give him little treats if he is calm.

Car Travel.

Several short journeys every day right from the start, best on a blanket or in a dog crate in the

Be calm and relaxed yourself! Make it fun for you and for your pup!

back of the car (or behind a dog guard for your safety). If travel sickness is a problem we have a new travel sickness medicine that can help train a pup to car travel.

Boarding Kennels.

A short stay in kennels (2 - 3 days) early in life will help a pup to accept kenneling later.

Noises and Machinery.

Vacuum cleaner, electric drill, washing machine, lawn mower, bonfire, balloons popping, cap gun, door bell, music of all types, high winds, rain, snow, darkness, full moon etc. - make them fun, laugh, give treats.

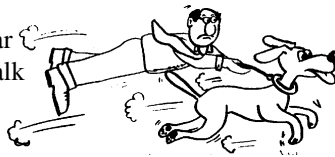
THINGS TO DO!

Walking

Get your pup used to a collar right away. Teach him to walk to heel. Start in the house and garden long before you walk him outside. Use a nylon collar and a nylon lead. Use a Halti Headcollar from four months of age for best control over pulling. Ideally arrange a Halti training session with us. Don't use a choke chain (too harsh) or a chain lead (too harsh on your hands!). We don't recommend using a harness - most harnesses give a dog more pulling power.

Grooming and handling your pup

Groom your pup daily to get him used to being handled all over his body. Try a Zoom Groom. Handle his feet, tail, ears, nose, open his mouth as if you were going to give him a tablet. Make it fun, use treats, and he will learn to enjoy grooming and accept being



handled. This will be useful on visits to the vet and if ever you need to give your pup first aid such as bandaging a bleeding foot. Imagine bandaging a foot on a struggling adult dog.

Feeding

Get your pup used to being near people when he is feeding. Handle his bowl as he feeds, add more food, take some food away. This will teach him not to guard his food bowl as if he owns it.

Being Alone

Your pup must learn from the start how to be happy on his own away from human company. Pups that are never left alone suffer separation anxieties later in life when they are left alone. Leave your pup alone for short periods with a couple of toys and a bed. Gradually increase the time alone as he gets used to it. A puppy crate (or pen) is ideal for this purpose and allows you to leave the pup alone (ignored) whilst you are in the same room. This is an ideal way to teach the pup that you are higher in rank. Ask for our leaflet on Puppy Crates.

Entertainment

Use toys wisely. Don't have 10 or 15 toys all over the house. Let your pup have just 2 or 3 toys at a time, and change them over frequently. Get a Kong Chew Toy and learn how to hide food treats in it. Your pup will play with it for hours and will be less likely to be destructive around the house. When your pup is a little older try feeding him using a Buster Cube or similar doggy puzzle toy that delivers food as the dog explores the toy. You can use a food toy to supply your dogs entire diet i.e. no food bowl at all!

When you bring your dog to the surgery please use a collar and basic nylon lead. Make sure the collar can't slip over the head. Please do not use a choke chain, a chain lead, an extending lead or a harness. All these things make it hard for the vet to examine the dog safely.

BASIC RULES for all the family

- **DON'T allow your puppy on the furniture, or upstairs, unless it is a special invitation from you.**
- **ALWAYS feed your puppy after everyone else has eaten.**
- **GREET your puppy AFTER you've greeted all the humans in the house. If your puppy becomes very excited when you return home, completely ignore him for the first 10 minutes, and then say hello when he is calm.**
- **DON'T let your puppy push in front of you when going through doorways. YOU should always lead the way.**
- **TOYS - Keep control over toys and treats - only give your pup a couple of toys at a time, and keep the rest under your control and out of reach!**
- **DON'T let your puppy start games with you. You must start all games, win all games and end all games.**

REMEMBER

You are the pack leader - don't let your pup lead you!



Don't respond to demanding behaviour

Teach your pup by rewarding good behaviour