



PARKSIDE

CLIENT INFORMATION HANDOUT

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HOW TO GET AND KEEP STATUS IN THE EYES OF YOU PET DOG!...

To promote and maintain the status of all humans over dogs is all about controlling the relationship. However, this is not about fear or domination it is about subtly getting the status by controlling every area in the dog's life.

Dogs are simple creatures they only value four things in life. Each individual will value these four items in different order depending on what they "live or die for".

FOOD

- Most owners control food at mealtimes but how many dogs ask or demand to be fed. The dog must be made to **SIT** and **WAIT** for their dinner. Once the dinner is down the dog should be commanded '**EAT**' or '**GO ON**' just as he goes to eat. If you repeat this at every meal you will soon find that the dog recognises the command and waits for it. Food is a great motivator. In some cases this will mean giving a fraction of the diet in the bowl the rest being used to get the dog to interact. In other words the dog will have to **EARN** it from you.

TOYS

- Toys should be divided in to toys the dog plays with on their own, which can be left out and toys the dog plays with you which are only brought out when you want to play. At the end of the game they are put away. Putting toys away does increase the value to the dog and is a great signal to the dog that you are about to play with him.

OUTSIDE

- This is going for walks and being let out in the garden. The dog must be asked to **SIT** and **WAIT** before it is let out. Any attempt by the dog to get you to open the door should be ignored. Once the dog is quiet call the dog. You can **COMMAND** the **SIT/WAIT** and then open the door. Again you can add a command to the dog going through the door if you wish. Getting the dog to **SIT/WAIT** should be used before the dog has the lead put on or is let out to go to the car. If the dog gets very excited go and sit back down and wait until the dog quietens down. Be prepared in the short term to take some time to go out. The reward of going out is given for the dog being quiet.

ATTENTION

- People forget this resource. To the dog, who is a sociable animal, attention from the people it lives with is often the thing it values above all others. All attempts by the dog to seek your attention must be ignored. Remember the attention can be got by touching you, vocalising at you or simply looking at you. Remember those big brown eyes looking at you! Your response to attempts at getting your attention is to IGNORE the DOG. **By ignoring = NO PHYSICAL, VERBAL OR EYE CONTACT.**

It is important that you remember to interact frequently during the day with your dog. After all the idea of the programme is not to decrease your dog's relationship with you it is to get the dog to realise that you control the relationship.

In the short term you may find the dog seeks your attention more. This is to be expected after all these behaviours have developed over time and the result of them will be expected by the dog. When behaviour produces a different result the dog will repeat the behaviour more frequently. This is a similar reaction we have to turning a light on with no response, invariably we switch in on and off several times before giving up.

It may be that you feel not all parts of this programme are applicable to your pet. Use the parts you want but remember it is vital that all family members follow the programme.

Think of the programme as teaching your dog to say **PLEASE**. The please can be any command but an easy one is SIT followed by WAIT even for as little as 3 seconds. **DOGS** are pack animals and one of the most important social message you need as a pack animal is a clear message from your pack members about where you are in relation you everyone else. Often as people we inadvertently give our pet dogs mixed signals and this can lead to confusion.

IN SUMMARY:

CONTROL THE FOUR AREAS IN THE DOGS LIFE – FOOD, TOYS, ACCESS TO OUTSIDE AND ATTENTION.

INSTIGATE INTERACTION FREQUENTLY WITH THE DOG.

ALL INTERACTIONS WITH THE DOG ARE PRECEDED BY THE DOG SAYING "PLEASE".

THE DOG GETS NOTHING FOR NOTHING.

ALL FAMILY MEMBERS TO FOLLOW THE PROGRAMME.

PARKSIDE – a lifetime of caring

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