



PARKSIDE

CLIENT INFORMATION HANDOUT

PERSISTENT JUMPING UP

This problem is invariably due to the dog's excitement. It may occur at feeding times, during play or most commonly when greeting someone. Although not a very dramatic problem this can cause inconvenience and embarrassment to the owner and may actually pose a risk to others e.g. small children and the elderly. Always bear in mind that if your dog attempts to jump on a stranger they may think that they are being attacked.

Basic control of your dog is a **MUST** and bear in mind that if the dog is excited then it is important for you to remain calm and relaxed.

If the problem arises at feeding times then insist that the dog sits before you put the dish out for him. Initially this may take some time as he should be sitting during the entire food preparation. If at any time the dog gets up then immediately stop what you are doing and put the dog back into the sit. If you insist that the dog is sitting all of this time then he will soon realise that the more he jumps about then the longer it will take to get fed.

If your dog becomes overexuberant during play then introduce the 'down' command as part of the play. Let him play around with you for a few minutes then give a sharp 'down' and point to the ground. Give calm, quiet praise while he is down then initiate play again. It is useful to have a command to finish play, 'that's enough' is appropriate, and totally ignore the dog. When he realises that playtime is over give one gentle 'good boy/girl'. It is important to maintain your dominance that you are the one who initiates and finishes play. This comes in handy if your dog looks like he/she is about to jump on a stranger e.g. at the park. Give the 'down' command and go over to the dog and praise and then release him.

The most common time for the dog to jump up is when they are greeting their owner or other 'pack' member. In this case the first action is to raise your knee, not to hurt the dog by merely to deflect him. At the same time give a 'no' or 'off' command. This may have to be repeated several times to get the message across that this is undesirable behaviour. Some dogs may need more than this in which case enlist the help of another person who holds onto the dog's lead. As the dog jumps raise your knee and give the command as before but at the same time your helper should jerk the lead downwards. The command should come from you and **NOT** your helper. However if you are holding the lead when your dog attempts to jump on someone else then the lead jerk and the command should come from you.

Another method that works with some dogs is to gently but firmly hold on to the dog's forepaw when he jumps up. Keep hold of the paws until it becomes evident that the dog wants to get down. When you do release him/her he may be less inclined to jump again.

Some owners allow their dogs to jump up on them but you should have an appropriate command so that he realises when it is acceptable. You should be able to control this type of behaviour. This is most important when around small children, the elderly and people who don't like, or are afraid of dogs.

BE A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER – DON'T ALLOW YOUR DOG TO ANNOY OTHERS.

PARKSIDE – a lifetime of caring

DUNDEE
01382 810 777

BARNHILL
01382 739 634

BROUGHTY FERRY
01382 477 433