

Genius Dog Newsletter

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

"Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole." Roger Caras

Training Tips for Humans

By Carmela Lutz, CPDT-KA

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Why don't dogs do what we tell them to?

Besides not being properly trained, in many cases I would argue the reason is that they simply don't understand what we are asking them to do.

Dogs don't understand human language. Training teaches them that a particular word (command, also known as a cue) means a specific behavior.

We can make the process of learning easier for our dogs by remembering a few simple rules that can help improve communication with our pets.

DO:

Be patient when teaching your dog a new behavior

– Some cues may be easier for your dog to learn than others and not all dogs learn at the same pace.

Be consistent

– Every member in your household should be "on the same page." For example it can be very confusing for your dog, if one person in the family whistles for the dog to come, another person claps and says "Over here!" and you say "Come."

Be aware of your gestures and body position

– Some dogs may

respond more to what they see, than to what they hear.

Keep training sessions brief

– If your sessions are too long, you run the risk of your dog (and you) becoming bored and/or frustrated. Make sure your training sessions are short, but do them throughout the day. A few minutes several times a day is usually more productive than a 30 minute session once a day.

End each of your training sessions on a positive note

– This will leave your dog wanting more and teach you to follow through.

Have fun with your dog

– Training helps develop the bond you have with your dog. If it's fun for you, it'll be fun for your dog as well.

DON'T:

Repeat cues – For example, it should be "Sit," NOT "Sit, Sit, Sit!" Constant repetition of a cue can cause your dog to habituate to that cue and not respond as well.

Use the same cue for more than one behavior

– Otherwise it could become very confusing for your dog. For example, most people say "Down" when they want their dog to lie down. If your dog is standing on your bed and you want him or her to get off the bed and say "Down" your dog might just lie down on your bed instead of jumping down onto the floor.

Use verbal cues and hand signals simultaneously

– The problem in doing this stems from not knowing if your dog is responding to the verbal cue or the hand signal. A good way to determine this is to use each separately and see if your dog responds equally to both.

Rush the training process

– Fade out the reward only when you are sure your dog understands the cue.

Get frustrated and give up

– Without realizing it, YOU might be teaching your dog to be stubborn. You'll be amazed at what your dog can learn; just give them the opportunity.

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

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We're on the Web!

www.GeniusDogTraining.com



Summer Training Special

As a way of saying "Thank You!" to all our former clients, during the months of July and August all former clients can get a one (1) hour private, in-store training session for only \$69; that's a savings of \$20 per hour!

- Former client is defined as anyone attending any of the following Genius Dog Training programs: New Puppy/Dog Orientation, Training Workshop, Fast Track Class, or Private Training.
- Maximum number of hours at this special rate is two (2).
- Discount cannot be applied to training already purchased or combined with any other offers.
- Training must be completed by August 31, 2016.

To take advantage of this offer, email info@geniusdogtraining.com and type Summer Training Special in the Subject line.

Genius Dog Training is independently owned and operated since 2008.

Wylie's Corner



Date & Time: Jun 11, 2016
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Town Center
Community Park East 550 Park
Center Drive Santee, CA 92071

Event Details: Please join the City of Santee and Petco for the inaugural Fido Fest, a furry four-legged friendly event. This will be the first large-scale dog event in East San Diego County.

A Wide Variety of Exhibitors, Great Giveaways & Fun for both the Two-Legged and Four-Legged, and SO MUCH MORE!

<http://www.sandiegopetsmagazine.com/event/fido-fest-2016/>



Date & Time: Jun 18, 2016 -
Jun 19, 2016
Saturday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday 10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Location: Walnut Grove Park
1950 Sycamore Drive
San Marcos, CA 92078

Event Details: Paws with Friends K-9 Expo, is a fundraising event benefiting "Friends of San Marcos Parks & Recreation." A two day extravaganza featuring dog sports, vendors, great food, activities for kids, and more! Wild and furry dog sports and tournaments include Dock Diving, Course a Lure, Disc Dogs and a Flyball Tournament.

For a small fee, the public can participate with their dogs in, Dock Diving, Course a Lure, and Disc Dog Toss & Catch.

<http://pawswithfriends.org/>

I'm always looking for fun activities that you can do with your four-legged family members.

Have fun and enjoy!



*"The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed in this article are my own and do not necessarily reflect that of **Genius Dog Training**." – Wylie, CEO*