

Genius Dog Newsletter

GENIUS DOG TRAINING

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

Holiday Safety Tips

By Carmela Lutz, CPDT-KA

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The holiday season is upon us. It can be a very hectic time for everyone...including your dog.

Dogs can be very sensitive to changes in their environment and routines. During the holidays adults take time off from work, children are out of school, house guests come to stay, or visitors stop by. Try to stick to your normal routine (meal schedules, play sessions, walks, etc.) as much as possible.

If your dog tends to dash out the door whenever it's open or jumps up on guests, now would be a good time to practice some basic cues like sit and stay.

It's best to keep your dog in his crate or another room, if he's prone to fearfulness, anxiety, or over-excitement when company is around...especially children.

Christmas trees and holiday decorations can be beautiful to

look at, but a potential hazard to your dog. Tinsel, garland, ornaments, ribbons, and other decorations can cause serious internal injuries if ingested or lead to choking or strangulation. If you have a natural tree the water at the base can contain anti-freeze, other preservatives, and potentially harmful bacteria that can be deadly to your dog.

Although many snow globes are still made of glass, others can be found in chewable plastic with plastic bases. Chewed plastic shards from broken globes can be life-threatening. Many globes also add an anti-freeze like substance to the water inside to slow the movement of the snow inside, so be especially cautious!

Scented candles can be attractive because of their smell, taste, and texture. Make

sure they are placed on high shelves out of your dog's reach.

Suggestion: Keep decorations out of reach and try encircling your Christmas tree and gifts with an exercise pen.

Many of the plants we have in our homes during the holidays can be poisonous to pets. If ingested, holly (leaves and berries) causes stomach upset and can be potentially fatal to both dogs and cats. Mistletoe upsets stomachs and can cause heart collapse. Poinsettias have an irritating sap that can cause blistering in the mouth and stomach upset. Place these plants well out of your pet's reach, or use imitation holiday plants.

*"Wishing you and your family
a safe and happy
holiday season!"*

American Kennel Club (AKC) Programs

We now offer AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC), AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy, and AKC Canine Partners.

The AKC's CGC Program is designed to recognize both purebred and mixed breed dogs that have good manners at home and in the community.

Your puppy is eligible to enroll

in the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program once you and your puppy (up to 1 year old) complete one of our 6-week training classes.

By enrolling in AKC Canine Partners, your mixed breed dog will be eligible to compete in AKC Rally®, Agility and Obedience trials.

For more information on these programs, visit our website at www.GeniusDogTraining.com and go to the "Services" page or visit the AKC website at <http://www.akc.org>.



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We're on the Web!

www.GeniusDogTraining.com

Follow us on Facebook...

****Upcoming Classes**** – Get off on the right paw and sign up for one of our group training classes for only \$139!

Puppy Class (10 wks. – 5 mos.)

Beginner Class (6 mos. & older)

For a list of available classes, visit our website at www.GeniusDogTraining.com and go to the "Service Request" page.

Important Information:

- Training Location – California Pets, 200 E. Via Rancho Parkway #363, Escondido, CA 92025.
- Due to limited seating, pre-registration is required.
- All puppies and dogs must be current on their vaccinations.
- Classes are six (6) weeks, one (1) hour each week.

Genius Dog Training is independently owned and operated.



Wylie's Corner

As the CEO of Genius Dog Training, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended our first "Ask a Trainer Day" on Sunday, November 14, 2010.



I had a pawsitively good time and hope you did too. I hope you enjoyed seeing all the things your dog can learn. At our next "Ask a Trainer Day" you'll get to see how it's done, from improving your dog's recall (coming when called) to learning how to shake a paw (hand for you humans).



You'll also receive a free sample of dog treats (yummy!) or dog shampoo just for stopping by (while supplies last).

So mark your calendars, our next "Ask a Trainer Day" will be on Saturday, December 11, 2010 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the California Pets store located in the Westfield North County Shopping Mall. -- Wylie



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