

# SoCal Dog Training Tips & Tricks



## FREE SOLUTIONS:

This article reflects years of research from thousands of books, internet articles, and training sessions. Although these practices can help you with your dog issues, they do not all reflect the training practices of SoCal Dog Training's proprietary methods. Please visit our training philosophy page to discover our method of training.

## PERSONALIZED TRAINING:

With so many training programs out there, it can become more and more difficult to get a solution that is tailored for your situation. We offer personalized training for whatever situation you might be facing with your puppy. The tips and tricks provided in the article are for general use, if you are looking for more specific help, please contact us today!



Here are some basic tips to help you with some of the most common issues facing dog owners.

## Training Tools 101

- 🐾 **Attention** - You can't teach a dog if you do not have his attention. Get his attention first before you give a command.
- 🐾 **Reinforcement** - Never give a command that you can't reinforce.
- 🐾 **Mom Says it ONCE!** - Give a command once, then correct if the dog does not obey. If you repeat a command more than once, you will teach your dog that the command has no meaning.
- 🐾 **Jobs** - If you don't give your dog a job to perform at, he will eventually find one himself and you won't like what he chooses!
- 🐾 **Calm and Assertive** - Do not yell and scream at your dog when he is behaving badly.
- 🐾 **Down/Stay** - Do a 30 minute down/stay exercise twice a day. This will reinforce your role as the Alpha leader.
- 🐾 **Walking** - Don't let your dog walk ahead of you. If he is ahead of you on a walk, he will walk all over you in all other areas of your relationship!
- 🐾 **Loose Leash** - Always walk your dog on a loose leash. Tension on a leash can cause frustration which may be taken out on other dogs or moving objects.
- 🐾 **Supervise** - Supervise your dog at all times. You must witness a problem in order to correct it and prevent it from reoccurring.
- 🐾 **A Tired Dog is a Good Dog** - Fulfill your dog's needs both mentally and physically. A 15 - 20-minute run, twice a day will serve your dogs' physical needs. 30 minutes of obedience training will have a therapeutically profound effect on your dog and will serve your dogs' mental needs.

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- 🐾 **Behaving Badly** - Dogs behave badly because they know they can and they don't understand it is wrong.
- 🐾 **Arriving Guests** - Before your guests arrive, crate your dog or put him in "place." No one enjoys being greeted by an out of control dog!
- 🐾 **Eating and Entering** - Eat and enter all passageways before your dog does. Alpha's always eat first and enter all areas first.
- 🐾 **Attachment** - Don't let your dog follow you around all day. This behavior can lead to separation anxiety.
- 🐾 **Love & Discipline** - Always balance love with discipline and structure. If love was all that was needed, business' like ours would not be thriving.
- 🐾 **Tonality** - Tone of voice is extremely important. A high pitch tone is a sign of approval and a low tone is a sign of disapproval. Your dog will clearly understand this.
- 🐾 **Praise** - Praise your dog for doing something right. Praise does not always mean you have to shower your dog with affection. It means you need to say "Good boy / girl" in a high pitch tone of voice.
- 🐾 **Elevating Status** - Don't allow your dog on the furniture or on your bed. If you allow your dog to be on the same level as you, you are elevating his status and lowering yours. This is clearly not the way to establish yourself as the Alpha Leader.
- 🐾 **Ignoring Problems** - Ignoring problem behavior will not make it go away. Ignoring is condoning and condoning is approval in your dogs' mind.
- 🐾 **Corrections** - Correcting your dog must have meaning. If your correction is not strong enough it won't have meaning for your dog. If it doesn't have meaning, there is no motivation for your dog to stop the bad behavior.