

THE RUFF LIFE

Professional Dog Training

phone 250.550.0390 | monique@therufflife.ca | www.therufflife.ca

General Causes of Problem Behavior Are:

Lack of REAL Exercise & Lack of Leadership

REAL EXERCISE

- ★ Walking on Leash does NOT count
- ★ In North America 80% of dogs are over weight which leads to health problems
- ★ Most dogs need AT LEAST 1 hour of running or hard playing a day
- ★ Dogs were bred for working purposes...hunting, digging, herding, tracking....etc.
- ★ If you do not exercise your dog enough, they will find ways to disperse energy through negative outputs (examples: digging, biting, chewing, aggression, barking, etc.)
- ★ Swimming, fetch and playing with other dogs are excellent forms of exercise
- ★ The best way for exercise, is to play with another dog.

OBEDIENCE TRAINING

- ★ Obedience establishes you as the leader in the relationship
- ★ Socializes the dog
- ★ Conditions the dog
- ★ Excellent quality time for dog and owner
- ★ Gives mental and physical exercise / stimulation
- ★ Opens communication between dog and owner (You will understand each other better)
- ★ Gives the dog a job to do, since they are bred to work and just want to please us

SET-UPS

- ★ Setting the dog up for un-wanted behavior and correcting for it
- ★ Remote corrections (a correction the dog will not relate to you, therefore they wont do it when you are not there)

Emerson Method: The most amounts of set-ups in the shortest amount of time.

Equipment

PREPARATION FOR TRAINING

When training we advise you to use a “long lead”. If your dog isn't used to any type of collar, take it for a short walk in your house or yard on a regular leather or nylon collar. Keep your dogs interest by making your training fun that it wants to follow you. Try to avoid snapping the leash for the first few days. During this time leave the leash and collar on your dog as much as possible. Let the leash drag behind as your dog moves about your house or yard. Never let your dog chew on the leash. Snap and shout “No!” every time it does.

★ DONT FEED YOUR DOG BEFORE TRAINING

Avoid feeding your dog before training. The dog wont be interested in the dog treats used in the beginning of training. If your dog is a really slow learner, or has no food motivation, try skipping all regular feedings the day of a training session.

★ DONT EXERCISE YOUR DOG BEFORE TRAINING

Exercising right before training will tire your dog out, and it will not learn as quickly. Always train your dog when it is fresh and rested. Use training as part of your dogs daily exercise – a good training session should include several “play breaks” to keep it fun.

★ KEEP THE TRAINING FUN

Training should be fun. Do anything to keep your dog “up”, no matter how ridiculous you might look! Jump up and down, clap your hands, use a lively voice and give your dog lots of praise. Every few minutes take a break to go for a run, throw a ball or Frisbee, or just get down for a bit of gentle roughhousing.

★ BELIEVE YOUR DOG CAN DO IT!

Dogs react to our hopes and expectations. Push for results right from the very start of training. If you believe your dog can learn a new command quickly, it will. On the other hand, if you expect your dog to learn slowly, that's what you'll get. There are no “dumb” dogs.

Five Main Points That Apply To All Commands

★ ONE WORD, ONE TIME

Do not use your dogs name with a command. Never repeat a command – say it once and if your dog doesn't obey, quickly make a correction.

★ ALWAYS SAY “OKAY” TO RELEASE YOUR DOG

When your dog is in a command never let them move until you give the “okay”. You need to start moving, and shout a happy “Okay!” all at the same time.

★ KEEP THE BREAK OFF

The leash should always be loose. If your dog pulls you need to make a correction. Give the leash a quick pop and then release it immediately. This rule applies even when standing still.

★ HAND SIGNALS

Never give a command with out a hand signal. Voice Commands are always used together with hand signals. As training progresses, try using hand signals alone. If your dog doesn't respond, make a correction.

★ BE CAREFUL WITH THE WORD “NO”

Don't use the word “NO” when you are making a correction. Save the word “NO” for things you never want your dog to do (I.e. Biting, chewing, aggression and other bad habits)