



# TIPS ON HANDLING BARKING DOGS

## Tips For You

- 1 Stay calm when trying to stop dog barking.
- 2 Be consistent so you don't confuse your dog.
- 3 Keep your training sessions positive and upbeat
- 4 Still having problems? Seek help from a qualified professional.

### Common Causes of Barking



#### Attention & Demand

Your dog may want to eat, go outside, or your undivided attention.



Making sure your dog has **plenty of food and fresh water** is a great first step!



#### Boredom & Loneliness

Dogs left alone for long periods, whether in the house or in the yard, can become bored, frustrated, or lonely. They will often bark because they are unhappy.



Make sure your dog is **getting sufficient physical and mental exercise every day**. Make it a family affair by turning your walks into a nightly routine with the whole family.



#### Fear

Your dog may be afraid of objects, people, places, other animals, or loud noises such as thunder and fireworks.

*Tip: Your dog's posture can tell you if he's barking out of fear. Typically his ears are back, and his tail is held low.*



Create a **safe space for your dog**. Some dogs need confined spaces to feel safe like a crate or gated room with limited noise.



#### Separation-Anxiety

Excessive barking due to separation anxiety occurs only when a dog's caretaker is gone or when the dog is left alone.



Invest in **toys and activities** that **keep your dog busy and distracted** while you are away.



#### Territoriality & Protectiveness

Your dog is barking in the presence of "intruders," which may include people and other dogs in adjacent yards.

*Tip: If your dog is being territorial, his posture appears threatening with his tail held high and his ears up and forward.*



Remove opportunities for dog to bark at those passing by. For example, **if your dog barks at people or animals passing by the living room window**, manage his behavior by **closing the curtains or putting your dog in another room**.

For additional resources, please check out:



[Akc.org/Content/Dog-Training](http://Akc.org/Content/Dog-Training)



[Aspca.org/Pet-Care/Dog-Care](http://Aspca.org/Pet-Care/Dog-Care)



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

[HumaneSociety.org/Animals/Dogs/Tips](http://HumaneSociety.org/Animals/Dogs/Tips)

Remember, dogs are part of each family. They need love and care just like we do.

For more info, please visit:

[RiversideCA.gov/Animals](http://RiversideCA.gov/Animals)