



Diann's Happy Tails Training Newsletter

<http://www.diannshappytails.com>

Below:

Coco stills needs a new home

Most common mistakes dog owners make

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Info on Coco

Dec. 2012

This is Coco. Still in search of her perfect new home with owners that are active. Coco loves to walk, play, LOVES the snow, so if you would like a sweat tempered 2 year old mid size dog that also loves to snuggle, Coco would be perfect for your family. Diann will ne happy to do a meet and greet with new owners if you'd like and offer any advice needed. She is up to date on all vaccanations, and is spayed.

As a bonus, any time from day one to 6 months after with her new owners, Diann will offer new owners half off a Basic Class, or half off a private lesson. Coco has had a puppy class, but every dog person knows, training should go on for the life of the dog. This is up to the new owners to contact Diann for info, registration, and class requirements.



**MOST COMMON MISTAKES OWNERS MAKE IN TRAINING THEIR
DOG:
BELOW: THEN BECOME AWARE OF WHAT YOU DO
AND DON'T DO.**



IN NO SPECIAL ORDER: PLEASE READ: YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED

1* Going off lead to soon: This is the # 1 problem. A dog off lead before they are ready is going to learn very bad habits: Running off: learning you have no control. Safety issues: getting hit by a car: getting lost: The safety of your dog should come first, no matter what your dog wants. Your dog should learn to obey, listen and know you are in charge. Gradually, with a long line, test your dog. At least you have the end of the line and control. If your dog doesn't listen with a line attached, you know he went off lead. Go slow and you will get much more dependable commands

2*Punishing on Recall; {when you call to come] This only tells your dog that when he obeys the recall, he is punished. You can bet the next recall won't be a good one.

3* Not training in new places. Your dog can learn everything perfect at home. Go out into the real world: what happens? Your dog is so distracted by new people, smells, he acts like he's never heard his name. Practice every command in as many new places as possible, always with a line on for safety at first. This is the only way your dog will be better behaved and polite is to practice everywhere, as well as home.

4* Neglecting Homework: Don't expect your dog to do a 6 week class and become the perfect dog. It is up to you to do your homework, The one I hear ALL the time, "No Time" possibly true. But, you have a responsibility to your dog. Do not expect the dog to be obedient when he hasn't been taught. Take 1 to 5 minutes, even 2-4 times a day and work on one thing. That is better anyway than training an hour each day. A dog can get burned out and tired too. One GOOD minute is better than an hour of FRUSTRATION.

5* Expoussure to all kinds of new things. Kids, kids on bikes & helment: construction workers, the vet, groomers, people in wheelchairs or crutches. A dog, mostly puppies have a very small window of time to get used to so many things. When that window close, called "The Critical" period, which is differant in each dog. By 5 to 6 months, your dog needs to be exposed to at least 100 new things. If not, fear can set in. Most dog bites happen from a fearful dog.

6* Owner must learn corret timing: If you need to correct your dog: do it the second the dog has done something wrong, not after the fact. Dog's live in the moment. Praise also needs to happen the second the dog does a good thing. Learn to read your dog's mind. When he is thinking of doing something; maybe grabing that meat off the counter?? Correct right then while the dog is tinking about getting that meat.

7* Failing to keep a loose lead. A tight restrained dog is not learning how to walk properly. He is being dragged or your being pulled. Praise, a few GOOD teats, loose lead will tach your dog to listen to you, your his leader, and will be much easier to control and teach a good heel.

8* Not using a release command: If you've gotten your dog to where he will sit, stay, down stay, heel, walk nice, not jump, whatever it is and where ever it is, there needs to be a RELEASE WORD that tells your dog he is done with that command. A dog cant always read your mind. If you say "Down Stay on your bed" The dog may do it, then get up in 2 seconds. Make a release word short, simple and have everyone use the same word. It can be anything: "Done" "Free" "ok" "Silly" "Goofie" as long as it means the dog is able to be done from the command. This is as critical as a good recall. When you tell your dog to STAY: if the situation is dangerous; cars or a busy road, or running off after something, you better hope your dog has a dependable STAY.

9* Giving commands you can't enforce. This is when some owners call their dog stubborn. He may be strong willed or determined, but most of all, your dog has learned From YOU, that you will give up. If you do give up one time, that is all it takes to teach your dog to hold out & maybe you'll give up again. The more you do, the more persistent the dog will be. If you are rushing & late for work or an apt. save the command for later, unless you know your dog will do it then.

10* Not preventing Bad behavior: You can not always be with your dog, or see him 24/7. But, especially puppies must be watched so close. Preventing bad behavior is the first step in teaching your dog that the opposite of the bad is good. That is up to you to distract your dog into doing something good, praise and even give a small treat. If a young dog needs tethered to something while your fixing dinner, do it. Always with supervision. Crates are great for this also. Prevention such as, not leaving food on the floor. Of course the dog will go get it. Leaving a dog outside while your gone. A perfect set up for annoying the neighbors with barking, digging out, or something getting in. Your dog does not know all the human rules. Remember a dog does not come already trained. Especially as a puppy.



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