

Ways To Help Prevent and Modify Jumping Up Behavior

Dogs jump for a variety of reasons all stemming from natural behaviors. Jumping up is instinctive for a dog. As a puppy they would jump up to greet their mother and ask for food. Touch is a very powerful reward for some dogs. The mere fact of putting their feet on you to greet you is a reward in itself. Therefore, it's important not to put your hands on the dog to push him off as that is only rewarding the dog for inappropriate behavior.

Add "SIT" to all of these commands. A sitting dog cannot jump up! Remember to always praise and reward your dog for a job well done.

- Teach the "SIT" command. This command will be your best friend!
- Say "OFF"
- Ask for a "WAIT"
- Ask for a "BACK UP"
- Ask for a "TOUCH" – ask for a sit and offer the back of your hand for his nose to touch once he has touched your hand reward
- Walk into the dog applying body language pressure and ask for a sit. As soon as he sits take away your body pressure by backing up a bit.
- Have a ball on hand, throw the ball a couple of times and ask for a sit each time so that the dog can regain self control
- Turn your back on the dog and take away your attention, ask for a sit before you turn back around.
- Step on the leash so the dog can't jump up. He only greets rewards and attention for sitting nicely. This works great if you can practice with two people. One person holding the dog and standing on the leash and another to walk towards the dog. If the dog happens to pop up from the sit position, the approaching person must turn around and walk away. Then start the game again. You can also tether your dog to something heavy and practice this your self.