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Can One Really Trust Having Shock Collars For Dogs?

By Claire Quaty

Some people say that, like any device for animal training, a shock collar should be used in

moderation and should strive to be both effective and humane. Shock collars used for dogs really do the job but some people believe that their excessive use borders on animal cruelty. Many activists are opposed to its use because of this.

The Association of Pet Behavior Counselors has a statement opposing the widespread application of the shock collar for most dogs. They don't go so far as recommending the banning of the product entirely, but feel the use of the product needs to be done in a controlled fashion. When used moderately during the training process, the shock collar can generate great results without being cruel to the dog. Excessive use should be avoided.

The primary purpose of shock collars is to deter negative behavior a dog or other animal is doing. They are primarily used during the training of the animal and are not often needed afterward. The device works by delivering a small electric shock to the animal's neck in order to shape the behavior of the animal during the training process. Behaviorist Psychology is behind this particular approach to training.

Unfortunately, the Association of Pet Behavior Counselors believe that owners can unintentionally misuse the shock collar and harm their animal during the process. Because the owner himself isn't well trained in using the collar, he can cause great pain or discomfort in his pet. Using the shock collar can also be a source of considerable distress in the animal - even when the owner thinks he is using it properly.

In a nutshell, it's just too easy to use a shock collar excessively and use it during times in which it is inappropriate to use such a device. The animal will associate the shock with whatever it was doing when the shock was delivered and can easily become confused about what behaviors are appropriate and what behaviors are not. It's too simple to accidentally shock your animal when you didn't mean to.

An inappropriately used shock collar for your dog can result in the inaccurate association of pain with normal things - like the owner, certain foods or an inanimate object. This is a serious problem that can

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lead to unintended and dangerous consequences. The animal can become afraid of almost everything that has become associated with pain. The dog can become aggressive and fearful around people, children, or food - perceiving a threat that actually isn't real.

Such a collar can go awry and cause problems if not used properly on the animal. It is imperative that users of shock collars take the time to understand the device and learn how to properly train an animal while using one. As an effective animal trainer, it's important that you train yourself first.

Read more from Claire Quaty at:

<http://www.pets-mag.com>

Tips For Buying A Dog Collar

By Bob Backstrom

Dog collars are very fashionable and a must for your dog outdoors. A dog collar could help your dog come back home if you have the identification ticket around the neck. It's also a way for your dog to show to the world that he is stylish.

If you own a dog it is normal that you would have a dog collar but many people have at least half a dozen dog collars at home. It is trendy to have different types of dog collars. Dogs too like a change and love to wear different collars. There are different types and designs of dog collars available in the markets. Most dog owners buy dog collars of different colors and while they take their dog out, they try to match their dress with the dogs collar. Celebrities always try to out beat the normal people and always bring their dogs with some unique and fabulous-looking collars. For ages dog collars have been used by dog owners to make the dog look more fashionable and fabulous.

Given below are a few tips that need to be kept in mind while buying a dog collar:

The first point to keep in mind while buying a dog collar is to make sure that the dog collar is comfortable and fits the dog's neck. If the dog's collar does not fit the dog's neck it would lead to soreness. At the same time if it is loose then the dog could slip out.

The dog collar and leash should not be heavy and irritate the dog's neck and throat. While buying a dog collar you should read the specifications of the dogs collar such as weight, suitable for which age, etc.

If you are a proud owner of a big and ferocious dog then make sure the dogs collar is a little heavier so that when the dog starts running you can handle it easily with the leash in your hand.

The buckles of the dog collars should be strong and made of leather, which won't fall apart.

You can buy a dog collar for anywhere from \$10 to more than \$100, but make sure the dog collar is comfortable for your dog.

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For other great information about dog collars please check out

<http://www.dogcollarlinks.info>

and

<http://www.dogcollaradvice.info>

. For other great updated news and notes about a wide variety of
general interest topics go to

<http://www.thezipcod.info>



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