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100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Help Fido and Fluffy Find Their Way Home!

By PetFriendly.ca

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Most devoted pet owners never intend to lose their beloved pets. Unfortunately, accidents happen and all pets need identification to help reunite them with their families. That includes indoor cats! Scared or excited pets can slip out the door before you can stop them.

Check with your city for any licensing or identification requirements for your pet. Here are your three main choices. Many pet owners opt to use a combination of them, just in case one form of ID fails.

1. LICENSE TAG.

Usually purchased from the city, your pet is assigned a number which is tracked in a computer database. Tags are attached to your pet's collar. If your pet is found, the animal control officer can check the tag number, pull up your address, and call you to let you know they have your pet.

Many pet stores also offer an option to print up a simple address tag -- your pet's name, address, and phone number are the most commonly displayed information.

The disadvantages of using a tag are: the tag can fall off and get lost; it might not be readable; your pet may not always be wearing its collar; your pet may slip out of or lose its collar.

__2. TATTOO.

Tattoos are commonly etched into one of your pet's ears during spay/neuter surgery (pets must be under anesthetic for this procedure). Tattoos are a visible and somewhat permanent method of identification.

Unlike tags, tattoos are not reliant on your pet wearing its collar. However tattoos usually fade over time, making them illegible. They can be retraced ... but since pets must be under anesthetic and there is always a risk with anesthetic, retracing a tattoo should be done at the same

time your pet is undergoing another procedure anyways.

__3. MICROCHIP.

A microchip is a small, electronic chip (approximately the size of a grain of rice) that is implanted just under your pet's skin. It is administered by a simple injection.

Microchips each have an identification number associated with them; along with this ID number, your name, address, and phone number are entered into a computer database. If your pet gets lost, animal shelters or city pounds equipped with scanners will be able to scan your pet's body to quickly locate the ID number of the microchip along with the corresponding owner information. Many shelters and pounds these days are equipped to handle microchips.

Regardless of what form of ID you choose, please be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date. It will help ensure that your pet finds his way home -- where he belongs.

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Teaching An Old Dog New Tricks -- How To Train Your Dog

By Kirsten Hawkins

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Whoever said you can't teach an old dog new tricks, must not have owned a dog. If dogs are anything, they are extremely intelligent and can learn many new things given the chance to show you. When training your dog, keep in mind that yelling, hitting, cursing or punishment is uncalled for, as dogs will retreat backwards the more they are yelled at. Besides, you wouldn't treat a child like that and dogs are essentially just little children with tails and four legs!

The first thing to learn when training your dog to do anything new is to never change your verbal expression, tone or volume. If you say, "come here, boy" then do not change to "Fido, come here". By doing this, your dog will become confused and it will cause unneeded frustration for both of you.

A couple of tips to take into consideration when training your dog is to reward him with treats for good behavior, however be sure to also give a lot of praise and patting to ensure he does not rely totally on the treats when being good. You may also think about enrolling your dog in an obedience class. Even if training is going good at home, this will give him extra practice with interaction between other animals and people.

When training your dog don't cram everything into one day and expect him to remember it. Dogs have short attention spans and will quickly become bored, so try to keep training time down to short sessions throughout the day. Here are a few of the easier and more popular commands to teach Fido.

- Come– Use a toy or treat to encourage him to come towards you. Say "Fido, come." As he makes his way towards you, praise him. Once he is in front of you, hold onto his collar for 30 seconds and then let go.
- Sit– Press gently down on his backside and say "sit." You can also hold a treat above his head. When a dog is forced to look upward, he will automatically sit on his hind legs. Just as he bends to a sitting position, say "Fido, sit." Remember to praise and reward.
- Down– Get your dog into a sitting position. Slowly guide his legs straight down in front of him until he is flat. As you are doing this, repeat "Fido, down." Keep him in this position for 30 seconds and then praise and treat.
- Stay– Have Fido sit. As you slowly take a couple steps backward, say "Fido, stay." Hold your hand out as you do this, palm facing him. If he moves from position, tell him "no" and return him to the starting point. If he stays, praise and treat. Don't forget to find a `release command' like "ok", or done." This will tell him it is okay to move.

By using persistence, consistency and patience when training your dog, you will almost effortlessly be able to teach new commands and tricks. The `trick' for you is to always praise and treat. Start with these easy commands and before long you will have him doing somersaults!

Kirsten Hawkins is a dog lover and animal expert from Nashville, TN. Visit

for more information on dog health, the care of dogs, and dog travel.

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