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**Tips on Handling Getting a Second-Hand Dog**

**By Louise Louis**

**Tips on Handling Getting a Second-Hand Dog by Louise Louis**

It's appealing to see oneself "saving" an adult dog from an animal shelter but dealing with a dog with a troubled or insecure past can be very challenging.

The good news is that you'll be getting a full size dog so you know what to expect in that regard. He's likely to have at least some rudimentary training, perhaps from shelter personnel.

The worst thing that can happen is that the dog and the owner are not well matched. Inexperienced shelter personnel might place a strong-willed, dog with an elderly couple or a busy couple with young children.

Sometimes, owners over-estimate their own abilities and under-estimate the time commitment to handle dogs with tricky or troubled personalities.

Many older dogs entering a new home will not behave well. Expect problems like whining, barking, destroying things, and toilet mistakes.

That's because the dogs are anxious and do not feel safe in the new home. Do not take this behavior personally and try not to become angry.

Please recognize that the concept of gratitude is a human one. It does not exist in dogdom.

## Tips on Handling Getting a Second-Hand Dog

On the other hand, some owners make the opposite mistake and become too indulgent with these dogs. That will only increase the dog's insecurity and may create a dog that can't bear to be away from its owner.

If you get a second hand dog, you need to find a middle ground. The dog needs security, not pity. Be kind but be firm. You are in charge and you need to show it to your dog.

If your dog anxiously paws at your lap trying to get attention, ignore him! You make the decisions on playing, walking and feeding.

Behavior problems are minimized when your dog feels secure and has a leader (you) that he is confident can protect him.

I recognize that not all shelter dogs will come with problems, but because many will, it's best to begin your relationship on the basis that problems should be expected and dealt with.

In the long run, this will help the dog's new home become his last one.

Louise Louis is a long-time dog person and creator of [www.ToyBreeds.com](http://www.ToyBreeds.com).

### **Dog Training Tips**

**By Fayola Peters**

Dog training requires simple persistence to be a successful and delightful experience for you and your dog. Here are 8 dog training tips to guide you along the way.

#### 1. Dog Training Tips – Get your dog's attention

Before you can start training your dog you first need to get its attention. You can do this by talking to him and offering him a small treat.

#### 2. Dog Training Tips – Use the correct dog training supplies

If you have a well behaved dog a six foot training lead and a regular buckle collar will do. However if your dog is uncontrollable you should use a training collar. For the right collar size measure the dogs'

## Tips on Handling Getting a Second-Hand Dog

neck and add 2 inches.

### 3. Dog Training Tips – For safety in vehicles

Before you introduce your dog to the inside of a moving vehicle you should teach him the 'down!' and 'stay!' commands. This ensures that he spends the ride on the floor of the vehicle.

### 4. Dog Training Tips – Elimination

When your dog got to go it got to go. To prevent your dog from getting busy on the carpet you should train him to eliminate on command.

### 5. Dog Training Tips – Praise

Always praise your dog when he learns a new command.

### 6. Dog Training Tips – Reprimand

Do not hit your dog! Any time your dog is engaging in bad behavior, use the opportunity to teach him the 'stop!' or 'no!' command. Using the 'stay!' command can also be effective in these situations.

### 7. Dog Training Tips – Play with your dog

This will help in building the bond between you and your dog.

### 8. Dog Training Tips – Do some dog training everyday

Don't rush dog training. Teach your dog one command at a time and don't move on until he gets it. A little dog training everyday is all that's needed.

Well that's it for my dog training tips. Enjoy training your dog and remember that it takes simple persistence.

Fayola Peters is the webmaster of

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Do you want to be able to take your dog anywhere, and KNOW that he'll listen to you... even if tempted by another dog, a cat, or even a piece of food??? Then check out: "Secrets of a Professional Dog Trainer: An Insider's Guide To The Most Jealously Guarded Dog Training Secrets In History!" By Adam G. Katz, Owner of South Bay K-9 Academy and Dog Problems.com. For more information, go to:

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Dog Training Tips  
Tips For Buying A Dog Collar  
Dog Obediance Tips...  
Dog Training The Gentle Way - The Sit Command  
How To Train A Dog To Stay

How to Gain and Retain More Customers  
Hints for lovers  
The Art of Kissing  
The Ultimate Rose Garden– Neighbors envy, owners pride!  
Cure Bad Breath



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