



LEADERSHIP EXERCISES FOR PUPPIES

Practice these leadership exercises as the situations occur throughout the day. They will help turn your puppy into a confident, friendly pet that is eager to please all members of the family, adults and children alike!

| Do | Don't |
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| Have your puppy sit and wait while you go through doors first. | Let your puppy run through the doorway ahead of you. |
| Have your puppy wait for their meal until after people have had their dinner. | Let your puppy eat before you or at the same time. |
| Teach your puppy to accept being touched while they eat. | Avoid disturbing your puppy while it is eating. |
| Gently move your puppy out of the way if they are lying in your path. | Step around your puppy or choose another route so the puppy is not disturbed. |
| Have your puppy obey a request like sit before receiving attention. | Pet your puppy whenever they come to demand attention from you. |
| If your puppy stares at you, stare back until it turns its head or looks away. | Break eye contact if your puppy stares at you. |
| Pet your puppy with long, slow strokes starting at the top of the head and continuing to the shoulders. | Pet your dog with short, quick strokes across the head or face that get the puppy excited. |
| Play games like fetch, with you in control of the toys at the end. | Play games like tug-of-war, where your puppy is likely to win. |
| Teach your puppy that hands are not appropriate chew toys. | Encourage your puppy to bite your hands by playing games with its mouth. |
| Practice touching and handling your puppy's feet, mouth, and ears. | Avoid touching your puppy's feet, mouth, and ears. |
| Speak in a soft, high-pitched praising voice so your puppy is eager to pay attention. | Speak in a loud, low tone– a firm threatening voice suggesting to your puppy that you “mean business.” |