



# Tips on Proper DOG ETIQUETTE

**OUR DOGS ARE JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY AND IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE WELL BEHAVED WHETHER WE ARE IN OUR HOME, IN OUR CAR, OR IN PUBLIC. WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE SOME TIPS SO YOU DON'T BECOME THE OWNER OF "THAT ANNOYING DOG".**

## **WHEN AT HOME:**

- The most annoying thing for most neighborhoods or apartments is the home with the barking dog. When you are away, keep your dog in a location that is quiet and that he has ample distractions to keep him occupied.
- Do not let your dog jump on or bark at your guests when they are in your home. Place a leash on your dog and guide him away from your guests if you believe he is going to jump or bark.
- Never feed your dog at the table. If he becomes used to this, he will have no problem in stealing food from the table whenever he wants. He will also bug your guests for food when they might be having a snack on the sofa.
- Encourage your dog to relieve himself in appropriate places in your back yard so that your guests won't be outside and "find a present". If you walk your dog, always take a bag to pick up after your dog.
- Do not let your dog aggressively engage your guests in his playtime. This can easily escalate into jumping and nipping. You may be able to control your dog when this happens, but your guests may not.
- Do not allow your dog on the furniture when your guests are present.
- Do not leave your dog unattended outside. This could cause nuisance barking. If he is in a non-enclosed area, he may decide to chase someone down the street. Even though he might just want to play, the person he is chasing may not know your dog or want to play.

## **OUT IN PUBLIC:**

- Always keep your dog on a leash so that you can control him and guide him to you as soon as he may become a nuisance to another person.
- If you are walking down the street and people are approaching, move to the side and keep your dog close to you. Do not let your dog approach them unless you guide him and the other people ask to meet him.
- Always be extra careful with your dog around children. Small children can many times be unpredictable and could frighten your dog. This could cause an unwanted jump or nip.
- Do not take your dog into crowded areas. Even though a café or store might be "dog friendly", the other patrons might not be so willing to be in such close proximity to your dog. Respect others' space.
- Always be sure to pick up after your dog. Many cities have public ordinances regarding this.
- If you see a person with a small dog approach, move to the side and have your dog sit while you hold him on a short leash.
- When in a car, do not let your dog bark at people on the sidewalk or at people in the car next to you. This can easily cause a distraction and an unsafe situation for both you and others.
- Wherever you are and whatever you may be doing, if you feel your dog is becoming overly tired, uncomfortable, or scared, it is time to leave and take him home.