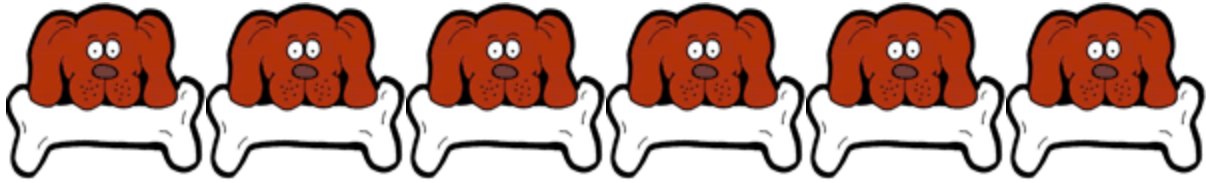
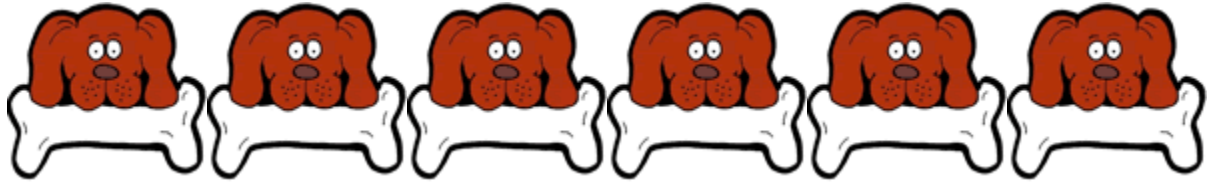


FREE AND DISCOUNTED TRAINING & BEHAVIOR RESOURCES



- The following training and behavior resources offer positive (reward-based) training methods and utilize variations of food, praise and play as lures and rewards to induce desired behaviors, and they may also utilize clicker training. They do not utilize aversive training methods such as shock collars, choke collars, prong collars, etc. (See reverse of this page for “What to Look for in a Dog Trainer.”)
- **Dumb Friends League** English/Spanish Animal Behavior & Training Solutions for just about every behavior issue: www.ddfl.org/tips.htm
- Dumb Friends League Toll Free Behavior Helpline 1-877-738-0217
- **Sacramento SPCA** Behavior site: www.sspca.org/behavior.html
- Sacramento SPCA Behavior email: <http://www.sspca.org/Behavior.html>
- Sacramento SPCA Behavior Helpline 916-383-7387 X9148
- **All Star Dog Training** site: www.allstardogtraining.net
- All Star Dog Training email: AllStarDogTraining@gmail.com
- Head Trainer, Leah Ruiz – Phone: 916-339-0744 **50% Off** on Foster Dogs.
- Offers **Free First Lesson** or **Free Phone Consult** for Newly Adopted Rescue or Shelter Dogs.
- **Common Sense Dog Training** site: www.commonensedogtraining.com
- Common Sense Dog Training email: megan@commonensedogtraining.com
- Head Trainer, Megan Alexander – Phone: 916-772-1364
- Offers **Free Phone Consult** or **Free Evaluation** for Newly Adopted Rescue or Shelter Dogs.
- **Unleashed Dog Training** site: <http://www.unleashdogtraining.com/>
- Unleashed Dog Training email: unleashmk@comcast.net
- Head Trainer, Mandy Kennedy - Phone (916) 605-9778
- Ask about their **discounts** for rescue and shelter dogs.
- **St. Francis Pet Education and Training Center** in Fair Oaks: <http://stfrancispet.googlepages.com>
Pet therapy, service dog and general obedience classes as well as AKC Canine Good Citizen testing
- St. Francis email: stfrancispet@gmail.com
- Head Trainer, Ms. Terry Sandhoff – Phone: 916-966-6758
- Offers a **\$10 class discount** w/in 30 days of adopting a rescue/shelter dog. Offers **Free Consultations**.
- **4Paws University** site: www.4pawsu.com
- 4Paws University email: info@4pawsu.com
- Phone: 916-549-0260
- Offers **Discounted (\$75) In-Home Dog Training Sessions** within 30 days of adoption from a non-profit rescue group or animal shelter.
- **The Right Steps** site: www.therightsteps.com (Large focus on Puppy Classes - Orangevale)
- The Right Steps email: TheRightSteps@comcast.net
- Head Trainer, Cindy Smith - Phone: 916-966-6883
- Ask about their **discounted** shelter/rescue dog rates as well as their **Free 4-week puppy primer** classes for puppies between the ages of 8 and 12 weeks.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN A DOG TRAINER

- Avoid people whose primary methods focus on punishment. Instead, look for a trainer who uses positive-based training methods. If a trainer's recommendations involve choking, hitting or slapping your pet, confinement or isolation, this indicates little or no understanding of animal behavior. Also question the use of prong, choke and shock collars and/or any other pain-induced training methods.

Some of the above methods may appear to be working initially but often have negative long-term effects. Ask yourself whether you want your dog to respond to you out of a respectful and loving relationship or out of fear.

- Ask to observe a potential trainer's obedience class. A good dog obedience trainer will exhibit good dog-handling skills and will welcome your observation. If the trainer you're observing doesn't exhibit these skills or refuses to permit you to observe, continue your search. Also, beware of dog trainers who misrepresent themselves as behaviorists when they've not been academically trained in animal behavior.
- Avoid people who guarantee their work. Qualified behavior experts and trainers will always do their best for you but cannot guarantee outcomes. Animals are individuals who have their own minds, their own personalities and their own histories.
- Avoid people who want to train your pet in your absence. Most behavior problems are a result of interactions between the animal, the owner and the environment. It may be helpful in some circumstances for the trainer to demonstrate for you while handling your dog, BUT giving your pet to someone else to "fix" in an outside environment rarely results in success once your dog has returned to its original environment. Owners need to work with the animal in and out of the home environment.
- Don't hesitate to ask your potential trainer about his/her training methods and continuing education experience. Many training methods which were considered acceptable in the field 20 years ago have been found to be counterproductive methods.
- Remember that there is no required curriculum nor is there an entity which regulates dog trainers; and, basically, anyone can call themselves a dog trainer. It is, therefore, up to you to do your homework when choosing a trainer.
- If you are committed to working with your pet and find qualified people to help you, there is a good chance that you will successfully resolve your pet's problem behaviors.