



Checklist & Guidelines

Behavioral and Reactive Consultations & Training

CHECKLIST

The following must be submitted before your Behavioral Consultation or Reactive Training appointment will be scheduled:

_____ Behavioral History Form

_____ Proof of the following Vaccinations:

- Rabies
- Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvo, Parainfluenza (Distemper Series/DHPP)*
- Bordetella*
- A current Vaccine Titer from your veterinarian stating your dog has adequate protection from the above listed diseases is also acceptable.
- Some puppies will not be old enough for all required vaccinations at the time of your training. Please adhere to your veterinarian's vaccination schedule and provide proof accordingly.
- **If any of the above vaccines cannot be given to your dog, a statement from your Veterinarian is required.**

*Not required for if we will be meeting or training your dog in your home. If your dog will be coming to the training center or any of our play parks, these additional vaccines are required.

_____ Release of Liability Form

_____ Payment, Options include:

- Mail in Check, payable to Awesome Dawgs
- Visit *The Dawg Store*, located at the Awesome Dawgs Training Center: pay by cash, check or credit card.
- Call Awesome Dawgs to pay by credit card

GUIDELINES

- Training communication is through email and phone.
- As a courtesy, please call Awesome Dawgs if you need to reschedule your appointment, 610-750-6868.
- Private Training sessions must be paid in full prior to scheduling an appointment.
- All **training sales are final and non-refundable.**
- Please carefully **consider your schedule when registering.**
- Private training sessions **must be completed within 6 months from the date of payment.** If your allotted time period expires you will have to pay for additional training.

WHAT TO HAVE FOR YOUR TRAINING APPOINTMENT

- **A variety of soft treats** Treats should be cut to about the size of a pea. Suggestions include: Zukes, Real Meats, Bravo!, Tricky Trainers, Lickety Sticks (all available for purchase at The Dawg Store); cheese, cooked meat, peanut butter. Treats that are very scented work well.
- **Flat Buckle Collar or Harness and 6-ft. training lead.** (No Flexi-Leads)
- **Busy toys, stuffed Kong and/or chews.**

SAFETY & RISKS

- In the event your dog is aggressive, fearful or anxious: please work with your trainer to establish a safe arrival plan. Not only does this refer to physical safety of dogs and humans, but also mental safety for the dog(s).
- If you have a home consultation or training session, do not let your dogs run loose in the yard to greet the trainer when he/she arrives. Your dog(s) must be in your home, on leash, or secure behind a fence.
- There are always challenges to modifying behaviors. Each client is looked at as an individual and our training staff will provide the recommendations that would best benefit your dog. Please keep in mind, training that involves behavior modification requires time, patience, and consistency. Your trainer will also provide management suggestions that are critical to the implementation of a training program.
- Some behavioral problems will never completely go away with training, but they can greatly improve. There are also no quick fixes when modifying behavior problems; we must work at the learning pace of the animal.
- As the owner of the dog being trained, you are responsible and liable for your pet and his/her actions even if you are seeking training guidance.
- If your trainer determines your dog needs further assistance or is not responding to the training protocols, you may be referred to a veterinary behaviorist for further evaluation and treatment.

TRAINING PHILOSOPHY

Awesome Dawgs Dog Training, LLC (ADDT) utilizes force-free training methods and will educate you on how to train and manage your dog in a humane and friendly manner. At no time will we use aversive techniques (harsh physical or verbal corrections, prong collars, shock collars, etc.) nor will we permit our students to use such punishments. Awesome Dawgs follows the dominance and punishment position statements established by American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior www.avsab.com.

ADDT classes are designed to educate you how to teach your dog desired behaviors and how to manage your dog both safely and humanely. It is your responsibility to implement and reinforce the recommended training techniques and advice outside of the training classes. Dogs will not learn the behaviors taught in class if you do not work on them outside of class.

HOW DOGS LEARN & ADDT TRAINING METHOD

When a behavior occurs, the immediate consequence for that behavior will either increase or decrease the chances of that behavior happening again. For example, if your dog sits and you give him a treat, there is a very good chance he will sit again. If he sits and you do nothing, he may or may not sit again. At Awesome Dawgs we reward the behaviors we like and ignore the behaviors we do not like. Often referred to as Positive Reinforcement training, our training staff focuses on teaching and reinforcing desirable behaviors so your dog can be asked to do the things you want them to do. Simply relying on saying 'no' or 'stop' does not give your dog clear information. You may not want them to do something like jump on you, but you need to let them know what you want them to do instead and then reward, reward, reward this preferred action so it becomes more frequently offered. This science-based method is supported by animal welfare agencies, The Association of Professional Dog Trainers, and American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior.

ADULTS & CHILDREN

Wear comfortable, secure shoes. No sandals, flip-flops or slip-on shoes. Our training facility is smoke-free. Please refrain from using cell-phones during your session. Your child is welcome to attend training classes if: they are able to be settled during the session, are not a distraction for the adult handlers. Your child is only permitted to handle your dog during your session if he/she is over 16 years of age and able to safely manage and effectively train your dog. If training at Awesome Dawgs, for your children's safety, please do not allow them to run around the Training Center, Dawg Store, Dawg Park or Parking areas which could trigger dogs to jump, chase or nip them.

ILLNESSES & INJURIES

If your dog is ill or injured, please call ADDT at 610-750-6868 to determine if your dog should have training.

SPAY & NEUTER SURGERY

If your dog is having spay or neuter surgery, it is recommended that your dog have 7-10 days to recover. Please follow your vet's follow up care and schedule your appointment with this in consideration.

FEMALES IN HEAT

Females in heat are not permitted to attend training classes at Awesome Dawgs, shop the Dawg Store, or play in the Dawg Park. She may return to the facility two weeks after the day discharge stops. Please contact ADDT if your dog goes into heat to determine if training can be held at your home.

HANDLER DISMISSAL

ADDT may cancel your service or training agreement if you: fail to pay; have poor attendance or frequently reschedule; are disruptive or behave inappropriately; fail to follow recommended training advice and techniques.