

**Does your dog come when you call?
or
Looking at Leadership Through a Dog's Eyes**

Leadership: Not physical dominance but a mental quality

The following suggestions are an effective and humane way to set boundaries without intimidation and to love your dog without spoiling him.

Petting: Petting is grooming to a dog and subordinates groom only those who are higher in status. *Get your hands off your dog!*

- 1) Pet only for obedience
- 2) Keep Petting brief
- 3) You initiate Petting by calling your dog to you; you don't go to her

Body Blocks: Control the space of your dog rather than controlling his every move. Use your shoulders and torso; not your hands. Insert your body in the dog's direction of movement and lean forward slightly.

- 1) Don't let your dog move out of his way to cut you off
- 2) Command your personal *space* around you. For example, when your dog is jumping out of control when it's walk time, lean into your dog, not away. "Take the "space."

Look Aways: Cross your arms, raise your chin and look the opposite direction from your dog. Use when your dog is being pushy for attention or if she has been too rough in play or bites too hard in play. The game stops immediately and you *Look Away*.

Lie Down and Stay: Teach you dog a good *solid Lie Down and Stay*. Begin slowly and work up to a half-hour down stay. Proof with distractions

Wait at the Door: Alpha dogs have priority to limited resources, which means they always go first.

With out a leash:

- 1) Use Body Blocks
- 2) Use the door

Four on the Floor: Dogs interpret an increase in vertical height as an increase in status. Keep your status-seeking dog on the floor; not on the furniture or on your bed. Crate at bedtime

"Leave it": Canine pack leaders can warn an individual off of a resource (like a bone or a good sleeping place) with just a warning glance. Teach your dog to "Leave It"

Integrate obedience into your day: Instead of having one long, organized training session each day, your dog will be much better behaved if you integrate obedience into your dog's day, so it becomes part of the routine

Leaders are in the Lead: Training your dog to heel is not just an "exercise" but teaching your dog to follow you and to always keep an eye on where you are going (not the other way around)

Reference: How to be the Leader of the Pack....and have your dog love you for it!

Patricia B. McConnell, Ph.D This booklet can be found at www.dogwise.com