



To walk with a dog... is to share his world. What sights and sounds he encounters. What past and present smells he reads. To stretch his legs, to bask in the sun, to discover and wind his way through this brave new human world.

cheerfuldogs chronicles

Certified. Force-free. Dog-centred

Issue 56

The Family Dog: Mealtime Manners

One essential ingredient of enjoyable family mealtimes is a well-mannered dog. What's worse than a large, drooling head in your lap as you try to enjoy your dinner? Not to mention dogs that paw, whine, and pace. Luckily, teaching your dog how to behave appropriately during mealtimes is fairly simple. Start by teaching your dog to go to his bed or mat and stay there as you eat your meal (See <https://cheerfuldogsstore.com/product/go-to-mat-game/>). This also makes it impossible for your children to sneak the dog goodies, which worsens begging. Place the dog bed somewhere your dog can see you. Get up at irregular intervals and reward your dog with a treat for staying put.



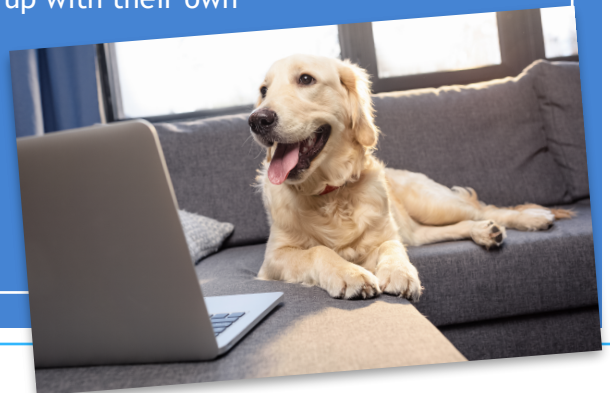
Certified. Force-free. Dog-centred.
cheerfuldogswalking.com

A World of Dogs: Canine Influencers

This last year or so of limited in-person contact has seen many of us spending more time than ever on social media. Locked in our homes and looking for new hobbies to pass the time, more dog lovers are introducing their dogs to social media: the number of Facebook pages, Instagram and Twitter accounts, YouTube channels and blogs “by” dogs has exploded.

This isn't an entirely new trend. Doug the Pug is a notable early pioneer with over 8 million social media followers. Then there's Dachshund Bosco and His Big Stick; Jiffpom, a Pomeranian with a Katy Perry music video on her resume; and Shiba Inu Maru Taro, tourism ambassador for the Mie Prefecture, Japan.

If you're looking for a new way to spend time, and you live with a dog who has something to say (is a comic genius, or even just particularly photogenic), perhaps it's time to set them up with their own online presence. At the very least it's likely to bring joy to your family and friends.





... Mealtime Manners

At first, your dog will find this task difficult – especially if he is in the habit of begging. Hang in there! If no one ever feeds him from the table and he is rewarded for staying on his bed, he will catch on. In the early training stages, it can help to tether your dog while he is on the mat and/or give him a stuffed Kong to get busy with. Be sure to vary your meal locations to give your dog a chance to polish his mealtime manners to perfection.



Healthy Dog: Handling Your Dog's Hearing Loss

Most senior dogs suffer some hearing loss and many eventually go deaf. When you become aware of your dog's impaired hearing, it's important to start making accommodations. In a multi-dog household, that may mean separating the dogs when you're not at home, in case another dog takes offence at the geriatric dog's obliviousness to sound signals. If your dog's sight is still decent, you can switch to communicating with hand signals. Be sure to "shout," i.e., use larger gestures than you would with a young dog.

Buying a storm whistle – reported to be twice as loud as other mouth-blown whistles – can help with recall on walks. Alternatively, you may have to stick to on-lead walks or off-lead romps in enclosed areas where you can supervise. Your dog will be less aware of what goes on around her; she may not hear traffic, joggers, kids, or cyclists approaching, or, if she isn't downwind, other dogs. In other words, out in the world, you will need to be your dog's ears. Check out our Cheerfuldogs Store free article <https://cheerfuldogsstore.com/product/caring-for-dogs-disabilities/>



cheerfuldogs.com

Your go-to trainer for enlightened dog lovers

cheerfuldogswalking.com

Professional dog walking you can trust

Website: cheerfuldogswalking.com

Tel: 9630 3884

Email: cheerfuldogswalking@gmail.com

Follow us



Supported by



Save the environment, access our e-newsletters on our websites