



We continually update our skills and knowledge so that we stay current with the best practices that can help you and your dog.

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Issue 64

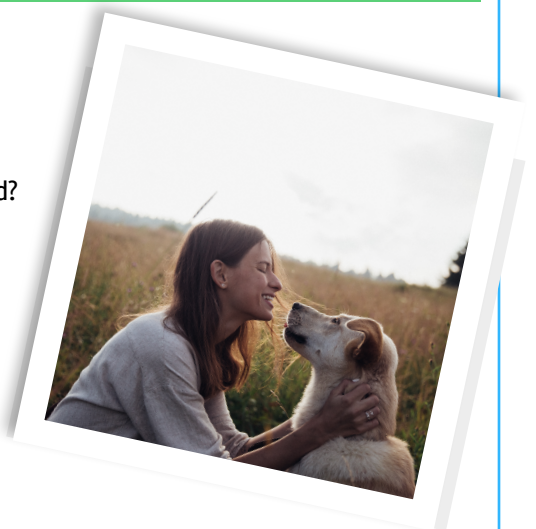
A World of Dogs: The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Canines

What is it about dogs that makes them so adorable and fun to have around? It's not like they help with the housework, do the shopping, or pay their share of the utility bills. Mostly, they warn off hapless delivery men and passers-by, or laze around. So how do they draw us into their thrall and hold us there like besotted groupies, making us feed them, groom them, walk them, play with them, clean up after them, and rub their bellies? Here's a tongue-in-cheek breakdown of the seven habits of highly effective canines:

Habit 1: Doe-Eyed Dog. The plaintive look we get when Fido has turned his brand new stuffed toy into a patchwork doily – and sees our expression. Such is the compelling power of this look that it melts human resistance. You ruined your new toy teddy? Oh come here, all is forgiven.

Habit 2: Sit, Roll, Stay. We think we're clever because we've taught them a few rudimentary behaviours. We call it training. They call it humouring mum and dad to get free rent and board all the days of their lives.

Habit 3. Shake My Paw. The classic raising of a paw as if wanting to shake



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Dog quotes

“My little dog—a heartbeat at my feet.” -Edith Wharton



... effective canines

hands. We oblige, little realising Fido is employing a neurolinguistic programming technique designed to make us go weak at the knees whenever that paw comes near us.

Habit 4: The Loveable Nut. Whether it's chasing tails or racing around the garden post-bath, dogs know how to bring the cute.

Habit 5: The Mind Reader. The remarkably accurate human-emotion radar that somehow always tells dogs when we feel down, so they can do something extra cute.

Habit 6: So Happy Together. Who can resist the emotional party dogs throw when we return after leaving the house for a mere five minutes?

Habit 7: Miss You Already. The slumped, ears-down, why-are-you-doing-this-to-me look by which dogs communicate that leaving the house sans your furry friend is tantamount to cruelty.



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Healthy Dog: Be Quick to Treat Dry Eye

Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS), better known as “dry eye,” is a common eye condition in dogs. Any dog can develop dry eye, but dogs with big, buggy eyes, such as Pugs, Lhasa Apsos, Pekingese, Boston Terriers, Cocker Spaniels, and English Bulldogs, are extra susceptible. Symptoms include irritation, goopy discharge, excessive blinking, swollen eyelids, and corneal colour changes. The condition, which can have numerous causes, results in an inability to produce enough tears to provide nutrients and oxygen to the precorneal tear film.

The good news is that most of these causes can be treated on an outpatient basis, often with a topical antibiotic or corticosteroid.

The less-good news is that there's no cure for most causes of dry eye, so your dog will need ongoing treatment.

Remember, the first thing to do about any eye-related problem in your dog is to call the vet. Eyes are too sensitive and vulnerable for a wait-and-see approach—better a wasted trip than a blind dog.



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