

We put a twinkle in your eye, a smile on your face, a song in your heart, skills in your hands, so that the time with your family dog will be some of the best times of your life.

# cheerfuldogs chronicles

#### cheerful dogs, happy people

### Living With Dogs: Parents' Night Out

It's Saturday night and you're planning a welldeserved and long-awaited night out in the company of adults. Your babysitter arrives, greets the kids, and gives your dog a good belly rub — because naturally you made sure you found someone who likes dogs. Feeling well prepared, you go over the rules, the favourite bedtime toys or books, the meal plan, the emergency numbers. After kissing the kids good night and giving your dog a pat, you head out

the door and set off, confident you have covered everything. But have you? When parents leave the home, the dynamics change and that can create confusion for dogs. The babysitter may like dogs, but does





#### Did You Know: These Canine Hearing Facts?

**High frequency.** Dogs can hear significantly higher frequency sounds than humans (although cats take the prize in that department). In the dead of night, for example, dogs can hear the high-frequency crystal resonator inside your digital alarm clock.

**Superior muscle control.** Our ears can barely twitch. Dog ears move independently of each

other and are operated by 18 muscles that allow them to tilt, rotate, and stand straight up.

Shaped for sound. Unlike our supershort ear canals, dogs have long, Lshaped canals. This makes a dog's ear an instrument finely tuned to interpret sound. It also makes it difficult to clean and as such prone to infections and parasites.

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#### ... night out

she know how to handle them around children? Can she cope with both human and canine kids at the same time? What happens if there is a thunderstorm? How will your dog react and what should the babysitter do? Here are some tips to make sure everyone in your family remains safe while you are out — so you can truly relax and enjoy yourself.

• Set up a quiet and secure area for your dog before you leave — with the dog safe in her special area, the babysitter can focus all her attention on your children.

• Prepare a stuffed Kong with extra delicious filling for your pet, and reserve this treat for times when you leave the household in someone else's hands. That way, your dog is happily occupied and comes to associate your absence and her secure area with something positive.

• Whether or not you put your dog in a secure area (remember to ensure that your dog loves being in this area), take time to educate your babysitter about safe child-and-dog interactions in general and your dog's quirks in particular.



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The Boston Terrier story began in 1875 when Robert C. Hooper of Boston bought a bull terrier-type dog named Judge, who then mated with Hooper's bulldog-type dog Kate. Their pups were the first step toward today's loveable Boston Terrier.

Originally bred to eradicate barn rats, these personable little dogs quickly became favoured as family companions.

The Boston's big personality makes the breed popular beyond the

home. A Boston named Sergeant Stubby was awarded war medals of honour by both the United States and France for service in WWI.







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