

How to Address Excessive Barking

Barking may be due to boredom and loneliness if:

- He's left alone for long periods of time
- He's under 3 years old
- He's a particularly active type a dog

Recommendations

- Exercise them with long walks or vigorous play.
- Provide them with new toys when you're gone.
- Supervise them when they are outside.
- Consider taking him to a doggie daycare.
- Never give your dog attention while he is barking.

Barking may be due to frustration if:

- They bark at people through a window or when on leash.
- Their posture when barking appears threatening.

Recommendations

- Teach your dog the "quiet" command.
- Give them a treat when he sees someone new so they will learn to associate strangers with good things.
- Limit access to windows when you are not home.
- Redirect his attention by having him obey a command.
- Have your dog spayed/neutered to decrease frustration.

Barking may be a response to something that frightens them if:

- The barking occurs when he's exposed to loud noises.
- Your dog's posture indicates fear – ears back, tail held low.

Recommendations

- Identify what frightens your dog and desensitize him to it.
- Mute noise by leaving your dog a quiet room, and leave on a television or loud fan, and cover windows.

Barking due to separation anxiety if:

- The barking starts shortly after you leave.
- They seem to be strongly attached to you
- A change has happened resulting in his being left alone more often.

Recommendations

Separation anxiety can be hard to overcome yourself. Please contact us or a canine behavior expert for help!

NO BARK COLLARS

- The other main drawback of bark collars is that they do not address the underlying cause of barking.
- Using any form of aversive will not help; rather it can make any anxiety worse.
- We are strongly opposed to shock collars. The shock is painful and can result in redirected aggression towards people or other pets around the dog when shocked.