



TRAINING PHILOSOPHY

At Peace Love Dogs our mission is to keep dogs in homes by helping owner raise happy, healthy, and well-mannered members of the family!

We have an experienced group of Certified Professional Dog Trainers and Certified Dog Behavior Consultants with knowledge of different training techniques and styles. We primarily use "Marker Training" or a Positive Reinforcement style of training. This means that we communicate immediately with a marker, typically with the word "Yes," that the dog has given a correct response and that a reward will follow after (positive reinforcement.) With this technique, the dog quickly learns to repeat desired responses instead of waiting for a treat to be offered as a bribe or incentive. We also use a variety of rewards including but not limited to food, toys, praise, free time, walks, play, social interaction, and anything else your dog finds valuable. Additionally, this creates a fun and engaging learning environment that strengthens the relationship with your dog.

We do not advocate the use of harsh or physical punishments for ethical and safety reasons. Any corrections given to the dog should be discussed directly with your trainer. Most undesirable behaviors are a result of improper management, lack of structure, not providing enough appropriate intellectual or physical outlets, and not enough training for the expected behavior. If we decide as a team that a correction or punishment is necessary, we use the least aversive punishment possible to interrupt the undesired behavior. Examples include removal of reinforcement, time outs, a verbal interrupter such as "uh-uh," or spatial pressure. The focus of the training should still be teaching the dog our expectations and setting the dog up to respond correctly and appropriately.

Communication with your trainer is essential for the success of the program! Dog training requires motivation, consistency, patience, and leadership. If everyone involved in the dog's life is not on the same page, the dog's behavior simply not improve. To get the most out of any program at Peace Love Dogs, owner compliance and follow-through is important. We're here to help you develop an excellent relationship with your dog! We offer Private Lessons at our facility and in your home, Group Classes, Prep School, and Boarding School options that can fit the needs of just about any dog and any schedule. All of our programs are designed to complement each other, and participation in more than one is encouraged!