

Jumping Up

Dogs jump up as a form of greeting, to receive attention, this is because humans provide attention from their upper part of the body, from hands and facial expressions. By jumping up the dog gets closer to the source of attention. It is important to teach the desired behaviour at an early age is vital to prevent this problem. People think that when a puppy is young, if they excuse the jumping as pure puppy behaviour, it will go away as the puppy grows in age. But what must be remembered is that these small dogs grow into very large dogs and jumping up can become a bit of a problem.

Teaching the dog an appropriate style of greeting yourself will be necessary. The much-preferred behaviour being to keep all four feet firmly on the ground as you or visitors enter. There are several techniques to resolve jumping up and choosing one most appropriate your dog is necessary. For small dogs, crouching and bending to the dog's height and level reduces the temptation for jumping up.

With more excitable dogs, the excitement of people arriving can be reduced by repetition. This is a technique, which reduces the dog's anticipation of receiving attention immediately upon returning home. Leave the house with a hidden reward, re-enter and request the dog to sit & then give the dog the reward. Repeat this several times and as you re-enter the room the dog will begin sitting without a command. This should receive a reward or alternatively affection, such as stroking or petting. The dog is only rewarded for all four feet on the floor. Should the dog jump up, quickly turn your back and fold your arms and leave the room if the dog becomes persistent at trying to seek your attention even whilst your back is turned. A definite display of no attention & promptly leaving the room signal to the dog that their advances are not welcome. Practice these techniques with various members of the family and visitors. With persistent offenders the use of a lead in the early stages of training, maybe necessary to assist with the dogs learning.

Within a short time you should see a great improvement & to ensure the dog understand what is required you must practice this regularly and at various points around the home from which people enter, eg. Front door, back door and garden gates.