



Lewis County Humane Society

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021 AT 11 AM EDT – 4 PM

This is our shelter's biggest fundraiser of the year. Come and join in on the fun with a Basket Raffle, Lottery Board Raffle, "Best of" Dog Show with Prizes, Cake Walk, Dog Walk on our trail, Music, Bounce House, Food & Drinks, even Cotton Candy & Popcorn. Plus of course see our shelter animals. Be looking for a shirt sale also, both on FB & at the event. We're hoping to have a special guest judge and maybe even have a K-9 demonstration.

T-shirts, hoodies & long sleeve tops available!

We cannot thank open-minded adopters enough! They provide vulnerable animals with places to call home and someone to love them for who they are! Animals with disabilities are extremely resilient, they just don't know it. They are set to live a happy life like any other animal out there!

Even those like Atlas (dog available for adoption) that have severe separation anxiety.



ATLAS



**ADOPTED DOGS take 3 days
to decompress, 3 weeks to
start to know your routine
and 3 months to start to
feel at home.**



GIVE THEM THAT CHANCE

Are you looking for the best commands to teach your dog? Although having a trained dog isn't the same as having a balanced dog, teaching your dog basic dog training commands can be helpful when tackling behavior problems despite whether they are existing ones or those that may develop in the future.

So where exactly do you start with teaching your dog commands? While taking a class may be beneficial for you and your pup, there are many dog training commands you can teach your dog right at home. Below, we've listed the best list of dog commands you and your pup are guaranteed to enjoy.

Sit: Teaching your dog to sit is one of the most basic dog commands to teach your pup, thus making it a great one to start with. A dog who knows the "Sit" command will be much calmer and easier to control than dogs who aren't taught this simple command. Additionally, the "Sit" command prepares your dog for harder commands such as "Stay" and "Come."

Here's how to teach your dog the "Sit" command: Hold a treat close to your dog's nose.

- Move your hand up, allowing his head to follow the treat and causing his bottom to lower.
- Once he's in a sitting position, say "Sit," give him the treat, and share affection.

Repeat this sequence a few times every day until your dog has it mastered. Then ask your dog to sit before mealtime, when leaving for walks and during other situations when you'd like him calm and seated.

Come command: Another important command for your dog to learn is the word "come." This command is extremely helpful for those times you lose grip on the leash or accidentally leave the front door open. Once again, this command is easy to teach and will help keep your dog out of trouble.

- Put a leash and collar on your dog.
- Go down to his level and say, "Come," while gently pulling on the leash.
- When he gets to you, reward him with affection and a treat.

Once he's mastered it with the leash, remove it and continue to practice the command in a safe, enclosed area.

Down command: This next command is one of the more difficult dog training commands to teach. The reason it may be hard for your dog to master this command is that it requires him to be in a submissive posture. You can help your dog by keeping training positive and relaxed, especially if your dog is fearful or anxious. Also keep in mind to always praise your dog once he successfully follows the command.

- Find a particularly good smelling treat, and hold it in your closed fist.
- Hold your hand up to your dog's snout. When he sniffs it, move your hand to the floor, so he follows.
- Then slide your hand along the ground in front of him to encourage his body to follow his head.
- Once he's in the down position, say "Down," give him the treat, and share affection.

Repeat this training every day. If your dog tries to sit up or lunge toward your hand, say "No" and take your hand away. Don't push him into a down position, and encourage every step your dog takes toward the right position. After all, he's working hard to figure it out!

Stay command: Like the "Sit" command, the "Stay" cue will help make your dog easier to control. This command can be helpful in several situations such as those times you want your dog out of the way as you tend to household chores or when you don't want your pup overwhelming guests.

Before attempting to teach your dog this command, make sure your dog is an expert at the "Sit" cue. If he hasn't quite mastered the "Sit" command, take the time to practice it with him before moving on to the "Stay" cue.

- First, ask your dog to “Sit.”
- Then open the palm of your hand in front of you and say “Stay.”
- Take a few steps back. Reward him with a treat and affection if he stays.
- Gradually increase the number of steps you take before giving the treat.
- Always reward your pup for staying put — even if it’s just for a few seconds.

This is an exercise in self-control for your dog, so don’t be discouraged if it takes a while to master, particularly for puppies and high-energy dogs. After all, most dogs prefer to be on the move rather than just sitting and waiting.

Leave it command: This last command can help keep your dog safe when his curiosity gets the better of him such as those times when he smells something intriguing but possibly dangerous on the ground. The goal is to teach your pup that he gets something even better for ignoring the other item.

- Place a treat in both hands.
- Show him one enclosed fist with the treat inside and say “Leave it.”
- Ignore the behaviors as he licks, sniffs, mouths, paws, and barks to get the treat.
- Once he stops trying, give him the treat from the other hand.
- Repeat until your dog moves away from that first fist when you say, “Leave it.”
- Next, give your dog the treat only when he looks up at you as he moves away from the first fist.

Once your dog consistently moves away from the first treat and gives you eye contact when you say the command, you’re ready to take it up a notch. For this next training method, use two different treats: one that’s good but not super-appealing and one that’s particularly good-smelling and tasty for your pup.

- Say “Leave it,” place the less-attractive treat on the floor and cover it with your hand.
- Wait until your dog ignores that treat and looks at you. Then remove that treat from the floor, give him the better treat and share affection immediately.
- Once he’s got it, place the less-tasty treat on the floor but don’t completely cover it with your hand. Instead, hold your hand a little bit above the treat. Over time, gradually move your hand farther and farther away until your hand is about 6 inches above.
- Now he’s ready to practice with you standing up! Follow the same steps, but if he tries to snatch the less-tasty treat, cover it with your foot.

Don’t rush the process of teaching your pup any one of these dog training commands. Remember, you’re asking a lot of your dog. If you take it up a notch and he’s really struggling, go back to the previous stage.

Remember, the training process takes time, so start a dog-obedience training session only if you’re in the right mindset to practice calm-assertive energy and patience.

TIPS & TRICKS FOR TRIMMING YOUR DOG’S NAILS

Keeping your dog's nails trimmed doesn't have to be a chore, even when you've had a bad experience in the past! Pets who've developed a phobia about nail trims will require

extra time and TLC, but with patience and a pup-friendly approach most dogs can become accustomed to regular nail trims.

Although nail clippers can be effective, there is a risk of cutting the quick if your dog makes sudden movements. Clipped nails also have straight edges which tend to damage furniture and wooden floors. If this is something you are concerned about, you probably want to look into getting an electric nail file. Electric nail files give you more control and eliminate the risk of cutting the quick. They also allow you to trim nails round and smooth.

Most dogs are uncomfortable with their human "holding hands" with them, which is also the reason they object to having their paws held during nail trims.

Dogs' paw pads are loaded with nerve receptors that help protect them when they walk and run. These receptors also make their paws more sensitive to handling than other parts of their body.

The last thing you want to do is hold your pet down or with an overly firm grip, this can increase the fear level, which can lead to a fight-or-flight response.

Incorporate paw touches into petting. Do this by stroking the head and body then working your way to the paws.

If the only time you touch your dog's feet is to trim her nails, she will immediately know what's coming when you touch her paws.

Another thing to keep in mind is not to rush, you can always go back and take a bit more off but you can't erase the pain memory if you cut one too close. If you create a painful experience for your dog during nail trims, she'll forever associate trimming with pain.

I recommend the use of food treats, soothing speech and cuddles to create positivity around nail trims. Also, to start off, only trim one nail a day. Especially if your dog has a very low stress tolerance threshold.

Regular nail trims are very important! Unlike human nails, the longer you leave dog nails untrimmed the longer the vein inside the nail will grow - making it difficult to keep the nails short. To avoid this from happening it is recommended to trim the nails every couple of weeks, and keep the quick (and nails) nice and short!

Many dogs have dark nails, which are especially tricky because you can't see the pinkish quick, which is the blood vessel inside the nail that nourishes it.

Shine a small flashlight or penlight on dark nails so you can see the quick, which should appear like a black bullseye in the center of the nail from the front view vs guessing how close you are to it.

Do very small trims — even if it is a half dozen or more each nail — until you can see the quick inside the nail.

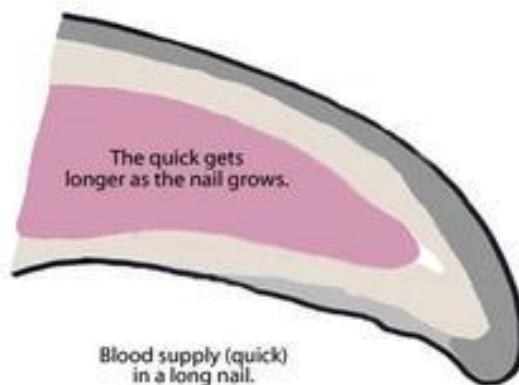
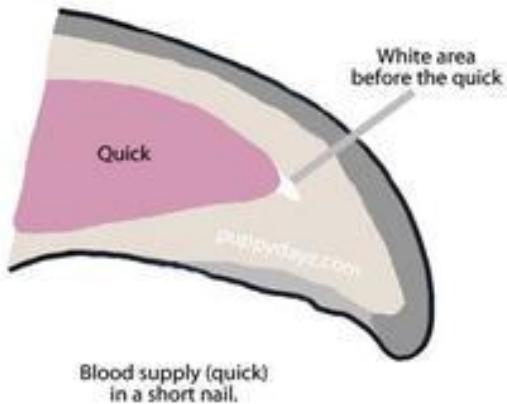
If the quick (blood supply to the nail) is long, trimming once a week will help the quick recede faster.

Please avoid the quick. In fact, don't even get close to it. You only want to trim the white or dark ends of each nail.

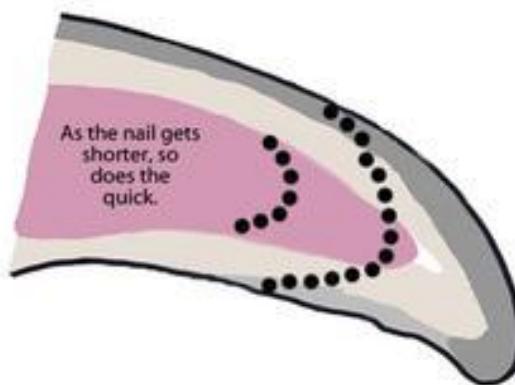
If you hit the quick of your dog's nail, the amount of blood that tiny wound produces can be impressive. You might panic and so might your dog!

If "heaven forbid" you trim into the quick and draw blood, have some styptic powder (or cinnamon powder) on hand - you can even use a teabag if you have nothing else!

Apply the powder to the wound with a wet Q-tip and hold it right up against the cut nail to stop the bleeding.



If you clip a little off a long nail every few days,
the blood supply will recede with the nail.
In time, you will be able to clip the nails shorter.



LET'S NOT FORGET OUR FELINE FURBABIES

Anyone who loves and lives with a cat knows that felines are heat-seekers. If there's a warm spot to be found, your cat will find it, whether it's a sun-puddle, a windowsill, or a fresh pile of laundry straight from the dryer. Cats are creatures of comfort, and the most

comfortable cat is a warm cat. Here are some tips to make sure your cat enjoys a balmy winter.

1. Should cats go outdoors in the winter?

A. No! In fact, the best way to make sure your cat is safe and comfortable any time of year is to keep him inside. It's as simple as that. With proper care, attention, and stimulation, an indoor cat will enjoy the best of all possible lives — all nine of them — in the safety and warmth of the great indoors.

2. What can you do to help cats be comfortable without turning up the thermostat?

A. First, create a few warm nooks so your cat can enjoy a variety of comfy places. If your cat has a special windowsill, make sure it's draft-free. If your cat loves his cat bed, keep it off the floor in the winter. Floors get cold, which is why you wear slippers and socks. Be careful when it comes to fireplaces and space heaters. Flying sparks from a fireplace can hurt your cat, so remember to use a fire screen and keep your cat at a safe distance. As for space heaters, don't leave your cat unattended in a room with a space heater. One jump could topple the heater and possibly start a fire.

3. Can a cat's litter box be in the basement or the garage?

A. You're not alone in wanting to keep the litter box out of sight, but basements and garages are cold, dank places, especially in the winter — and cats don't like anything that's cold and dank. So try to locate the litter box in an out-of-the-way spot that's convenient for you and inviting to your cat. If you make using the litter box an unpleasant experience for your cat, you might have to deal with some unwanted "outside-the-box" behavior in the future. In addition, cats don't like sleeping in cold, damp places. So treat your cat like a member of the family, and that's what she'll become!

4. Houseplants can also pose a serious threat to cats. Very often, when we bring our plants in for the winter, we're unwittingly exposing our cats to potential poisoning. The list of poisonous plants is long and includes everything from the amaryllis to the peace lily to the tulip. Find out if any of your houseplants or floral arrangements are dangerous and, if so, give them to someone who doesn't have a pet.

5. If you have a basement or an attached garage that you allow your cat to explore, be careful to store antifreeze, batteries, deicers, cleaning products, and other chemicals securely out of reach. Even a tiny amount of these substances can kill your cat. Call your veterinarian immediately if you think kitty has ingested anything that might be toxic.

6. Finally, though it's not deadly, winter's dry indoor air can be uncomfortable for both you and your cat. A humidifier will help everyone breathe more easily and also keep skin from drying out. Besides, neither you nor your kitty enjoys the surprise of a caress charged with static electricity. (Some people recommend wiping your cat with fabric softener sheets to eliminate this problem. But veterinarians say "no!" The chemicals in those sheets put cats at risk each time they groom themselves and ingest the toxins.)