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Top Tips For A Well-Behaved Dog

Good dogs are housetrained, come when called, do not have bad habits, stay when told, and do not pull when taken for a walk. If you train early, build trust, practice consistency, and take charge your dog can learn to be a good dog. Don't you want your dog to be a good dog?

Train Sooner Than Later – Seven weeks of age is the ideal time to begin training your puppy. Between the ages of 7 – 16 weeks your puppy is the most receptive to training. A young puppy is much easier to manipulate than a grown dog. Developing basic obedience at a young age sets the foundation for all future training. Most people make the mistake of waiting until a puppy is 6 – 8 months old to begin training. By this time the pup has learned undesirable behaviors and is in a fear impact period which will result in basic obedience training taking longer.

Build Trust – If you want a dog that will come reliably when called, be nice to him whenever he comes to you. You want your dog to associate coming to you with something pleasant. Don't scold him even if he's been out roaming the neighborhood or has left you an unwanted 'present' on the living room carpet. If you punish your dog when he comes to you he will associate coming to you with punishment. Don't call your dog to you if you need to do something he may perceive as unpleasant. For example, if your dog does not like to be bathed, don't call him to come to you and then give him a bath. Instead, go to your dog and take him to the bath.

Be Consistent – Consistency in training is a major key to success. It is up to you to teach your dog what is acceptable and what is not and without consistency your dog will be confused. If you allow your dog to jump up on you, your dog will not understand that it is not acceptable to jump up on others. It is also important that everyone in the family is consistent with the dog. For example, if the dog is being trained not to pull on the leash when walking but, is allowed to pull by anyone in the family, the dog will not understand that pulling on the leash is not acceptable.

Take Charge – Training your dog takes persistence and your dog may try to be more persistent than you, so establish leadership. If you expect your dog to listen to you and to obey your commands you must take charge. It is not a matter of choice. Even the meekest of dogs will take over if you don't. Taking charge doesn't mean being cruel or unkind – it means being firm, fair, and in control. Simple things like teaching your dog to sit and lie down on command will help you control your dog. Your dog will be calmer when you are in charge.

Deepen Your Relationship With Your Dog - Training your dog deepens your relationship with your dog. The more you learn about training and building a working relationship with your dog, the more profound the communication between you and your dog will become. The more profound the communication between you and your dog, the deeper and richer your relationship becomes.

We believe that training a dog should be both rewarding and fun. Through work and play, you can develop effective two-way communication and a healthy working relationship with your dog. With encouragement and reward, your dog can become a trusted well-mannered companion.

If you would like to experience the satisfaction of owning a dog that is welcome almost anywhere, the peace of mind in having a dog that comes when called, and the joy of taking your dog for a walk, a romp in the park or on family outings, then a training program with Red Barn Ranch and Labradors, LLC, is for you.

You can reach us by e-mail at Info@RBRandL.com or by phone at (304) 725-0901.