CONSTRUCTIONAL AFFECTION

Interaction Guidelines

This is a visual guide for anyone interacting with "hyperactive," "jumpy," "mouthy," or "scratchy" dogs who really want to interact with us but don't know how to ask for and receive affection and interaction. (Never use this guide with dogs showing signs of fear or aggression)

How to Provide Affection "Conjugately"

Our affection and interaction is **constantly moving and synchronizing with the dog's behaviors.** Affection/interaction (reinforcement) is always available, and its magnitude changes fluidly with the dog's behaviors. This helps our dogs learn how their moment-to-moment behaviors directly control the amount of affection and interaction they receive.

We pet with long, soft strokes using a soft tone of voice like soothing a baby to sleep.



To have your dog calmly approach, and sit or lie down to ask for and receive affection.





*If you want to proceed to the Affection Loop, make sure the dog can sit/lie down for at least 30 seconds while you pet them.

When DOG looks in our direction or approaches within arm's reach on their own...

*We don't lure with treats, chase, or force them to interact with us



OFFER hands at dog's eye level



All four paws

PET with

If DOG leaves...





... with "Undesirable" Behaviors:

JUMPING

DOG learns to keep four paws on the ground to ask for and receive our affection





PAUSE PETTING and WAIT



MOVE WITH DOG toward ground





MOUTHING

DOG learns to sit calmly to ask for and receive our affection





PAUSE PETTING and WAIT



SLOWLY MOVE HANDS toward DOG'S MOUTH *like giving water to the dog







When DOG sits...



When DOG lies down...



kiss, hug, talk sweetly to them, with lots and lots of loving!

We try to have **no delay** in the delivery of our affection in relation to our dog's behavior. It is the dog's behavior that is controlling the magnitude and duration of our affection. This is key for immediate behavior change and to achieve mutually enjoyable interactions and relationships.



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