



## 76 Ways to Get Your Dog to Do What You Want

by

Suzanne Hetts, Ph.D.

Daniel Q. Estep, Ph.D.

Hi — I'm Harry and you can see I'm doing what my people want — lying here quietly. I'm thinking about finding something more fun to do real soon though. I'm also the star of **“What Dogs Need and How They Think: 71 Tips on Understanding Your Dog's Behavior.”**

Dogs are much more likely to do what people want when it's fun for them. In this booklet, my people and I will share loads of ways for you to be more successful teaching your dog to be cooperative and well mannered. Dogs love to learn when you make it easy and enjoyable for them.

My canine friends have told me that many of their people think dogs learn best with things like dominance and discipline. I'll tell you for sure they are barking up the wrong tree. For being so much smarter than us most of the time, you humans sure have some silly ideas about these things!

You will be amazed at all the canine secrets hidden in this booklet that will help you and your dog get along better. So, give me a toy to chew and I'll keep you company while you read.

## I. Following the Leader is Better than Being the Leader

\_\_\_\_\_ **1 Appreciate my tendency to let you be the boss.** Most dogs are not status seekers and are more than willing to follow your lead. Your job is to be a good pet parent by developing a relationship based on trust and respect, without bullying and intimidation, based on the tips in this booklet.

\_\_\_\_\_ **2 Teach me that “giving in” to you is fun.** It’s not fun for you or your dog if your relationship is confrontational. Make giving up toys, space and food, and complying with instructions fun so your dog enjoys doing so. Make your dog happy when he acquiesces to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ **3 Pet me because you love me, but sometimes have me earn it.** Allowing your dog to demand petting by barking, jumping or pawing at you creates “the dog who must be obeyed.” This is a red flag that problems exist in your relationship. Have your dog sit, lie down, shake hands or perform a trick before giving him what he wants.

\_\_\_\_\_ **4 Teach me that making eye contact with you is fun.** Eye contact between dogs can be a threat, and the dog who looks away is acknowledging the other as boss. Teach your dog that it’s good for her to look at you. Hold a treat next to your eyes – when your dog looks at you, give him the tidbit.

\_\_\_\_\_ **5 Let me know that I must share space on the bed or furniture.** It’s fine for your dog to cuddle and be close to you. But he should also get up and move when you ask. If he growls or challenges you instead, take away his bed privileges temporarily and seek professional help.

