



Training & Guidance of your Rescue Dog

Why Phoenix French Bulldog Rescue only promotes Positive Reinforcement Training Methods.....

Positive Reinforcement Training, also known as Reward-Based Training, uses praise and/or treats to reward your dog for doing something you want him to do; the reward makes him more likely to repeat that desired behaviour. Positive Reinforcement is one of your most powerful tools for shaping or changing your dog's behaviour.

Negative reinforcement training uses 'punishment' based training, this can take the form of a strong 'NO' or in extreme circumstances an aversive stimulus, such as a tightened prong collar around the dog's neck.

Using harsh punishment techniques to change behaviour is frequently counterproductive.

Training a dog using such techniques carries a number of risks:

- Increasing the dog's fear or anxiety
- A decrease of the dog's trust in his carer
- Inducing a new undesired behaviour or aggressive response
- Cause confusion to which behaviour is required of him
- Can cause physical injury

Training methods considered detrimental to a dog's well-being:

Under no circumstances does Phoenix French Bulldog Rescue advocate any of the following training methods:

- Shouting at the dog
- Hitting the dog
- Forceful or harsh handling
- Water sprays & shake bottles
- Intimidation

The theory that dogs display a dominant behaviour towards humans has now been disproved; they view us not as other dogs or wolves but as human members of their social circle. We are not 'pack' members who need to continually assert our place as 'alphas'

We are kind and understanding leaders who are here to guide our dogs and show them how to lead a happy and healthy life.

Registered Charity No: 1171943

Registered Office: Phoenix House, 17, Wellington Road, Shortstown, Bedford, MK42 0UT

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Boundaries are Important for a Dog!

Between the ages of 6 to 18 months a dog enters puberty and, rather like a teenager, he will often show unruly behaviour and rebel against authority. The surge of hormones during this time can leave him feeling confused, hyper-active and disturbed. Sadly, a large proportion of dogs that come into rescue do so within this age bracket, as this can be a difficult time for the carer. During this time you will need to calmly reaffirm the boundaries previously set in place, consistently following this through the rebellion period. Positive Reinforcement is effective and the rebellious stage will pass quickly, especially if you as the carer ensure that the bond you have with your dog remains a positive one.

Setting boundaries for your dog will teach him what he can and cannot do and establishing clear boundaries can help solve unwanted behavioural problems with your dog, giving him a clear understanding of what is acceptable and what is not.

A dog that has no boundaries will not understand what is required of him and when the rules suddenly change it will leave him feeling anxious and confused.

Continuously reinforcing these boundaries will help your dog feel more confident and trusting in you as his carer.

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