

HUSBANDRY



Stress-free vet visits are possible! Teach your dog to willingly cooperate with veterinary and other invasive procedures and improve your dog's well-being. Apart from preventing or reducing behaviour problems, you can help your dog, the veterinary team and yourself to have more positive experiences at the vet clinic.

Wouldn't it be nice if your dog loved going to the vet? Lack of socialisation, insufficient or inappropriate body handling at an early age, traumatic experiences and genetic factors can all contribute to your dog feeling anxious about going to the vet. Be pro-active and make your dog love visiting the vet by attending 'husbandry training' classes or taking private lessons. If your dog is already fearful, you can help them with a systematic 'desensitisation & counter-conditioning' program.

Husbandry training classes.

Classes are a cost efficient and fun way to turn your dog into a 'vet pro'. Learn how to teach your dog to

- stand still for routine exams
- cooperate with temperature taking, blood draws and injections
- accept ear inspection, cleaning and administration of ear drops
- lie motionless on their side, e.g. for xrays
- allow paw handling and nail clipping or filing
- open their mouth for inspection, teeth brushing and pilling
- happily wear a muzzle, head halter and Elizabethan collar

Private husbandry training.

If your dog is very fearful, shows fear or aggression towards other dogs or you simply prefer private training, you can opt for a custom training package. Here are some typical activities.

- Gradual, step-by-step desensitisation & counter-conditioning to veterinary clinic, veterinary staff, chemical odours, implements and instrumentation and veterinary procedures.
- Regular planned, targeted and fun veterinary visits.
- Husbandry training at home with gradual transfer to the veterinary clinic.
- Fun muzzle training for aggressive dogs.
- Assistive advanced training.

Desensitisation & counter-conditioning.

The go-to protocol for the treatment of fears, phobias and anxiety involves exposing the animal to a diluted version of what they fear. and following it with something the dog loves to create a new - positive-association in the dogs mind.

The goal is to present the fear-provoking 'thing' at a level where the dog does not show a fear reaction (that's the 'desensitisation' part) and turn it into a predictor for something the animal loves, usually extremely tasty food (that's the 'counter-conditioning' part of the protocol).

Meticulous execution and timing, keeping the dog under their fear threshold at all times and carefully progressing through all the steps in the plan are crucial for the success of the program.

CONTACT

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