

ebook

The Ultimate Guide to Living with Kids and Puppies

*Complete with fun training games for
kids!*

doGGone crazy!


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Contents

#1 What fun, A New Puppy!

- An intro to clicker training

#2 A quick must-know safety tip

- How to stand like a tree

#3 Start training right away!

- Sit
- Teaching your puppy how to be gentle
- Teaching “off”
- Teaching “kisses”

#4 Fun games for kids and dogs

- Hide and seek
- Fetch
- Stay in the circle

#5 Keep it positive

#6 Ages and stages

- How you child can help at different ages

#7 Choosing a kid friendly puppy school

#1 A New Puppy! What Fun!

A new puppy! What fun! The whole family can (and should) be involved with the care and training of the puppy. Kids can help with the puppy under supervision.

Clicker training is a hands-off method of training using positive reinforcement. Clicker trainers reinforce desired behaviour and make them stronger, while ignoring behaviour they don't want to be repeated. This method is a great way to promote a safe and loving bond between kids and dogs and is perfect for children and puppies. It is hands-off, so little fingers don't get painful nips from razor sharp puppy teeth and there is no physical strength required.



#2 A quick must-know safety tip

Teach your kids to stand like a tree, that is stand still, fold their branches (hands folded in front) and watch their roots grow (look at their feet) and ignore the puppy if it gets too frisky or is jumping on them nipping.

Running away, screaming, yelling “No!” at the puppy or pushing him away may make the puppy even more excited or may frighten her.

Kids standing like a tree are boring to the puppy and she will soon give up. Speed up the learning process by giving the puppy a click/treat when he is near the kids with all four feet on the ground. Kids can click/treat as well whenever the puppy has all her feet on the floor.



#3 Start training right away!



The solution to puppy chaos is simple: management (crate, chew toys, nap time, puppy play pen and supervision) and training!

You **MUST** train your dog and training can be really fun for you, your dog and your kids. It also creates a special bond between dog and trainer that is unbreakable. Your dog will love you and listen to you but you **NEED** to put in the time.

The next four slides will give you the three most basic and essential tricks that you can start teaching your puppy right now.



First things first: Sit

Your puppy can learn to say please by sitting even if she is only 7-8 weeks old.

Note: You don't need to touch the puppy, just let her learn on her own and have a positive experience with the joy of learning.

1. Hold a piece of food over the puppy's nose and move it slowly backwards towards her tail so her head comes up and she eventually sits. Click as soon as his rear end touches the ground and give the food.
2. Repeat ten times and then have the puppy sit to receive the remainder of her food from the bowl.

When the puppy has learned basic self-control around food, the kids can start to help with feeding and training the puppy.



Teaching your puppy to be gentle

It is essential that the puppy is allowed to use her teeth on your hands at first so that she learns to control his bite. At first say “ow” and remove attention for a few seconds only if it really hurts, and then say “ow” for gentler and gentler bites.

The puppy will learn to be careful with his teeth on human skin. If he ever does get startled or hurt enough to intend to bite as an adult, he will know how to control the bite and not bite too hard.





Teaching "Off"

Use the clicker method to teach the puppy to take her mouth off your hand.

1. Offer a tasty treat in a closed fist, so the puppy can smell it, but can't get it. Let the puppy bite, lick or paw at your hand. Eventually she will tire of this and will take her mouth off your hand.
2. Click as soon as he takes his mouth away and open your hand to give him the treat.
3. Repeat a few times until the puppy pulls his head right back away from your hand and looks at you. At this point you can add the cue "off", when the puppy moves back from your hand and gives eye contact.
4. This helps the puppy learn that if he wants something, using his teeth is not the way to get it.



Teaching the puppy to give kisses

1. Obtain a tiny treat that will leave crumbs or other residue on your hand. Offer this to the puppy with a flat hand and leave your hand open for the puppy to lick once he has taken the treat. Click the moment you feel the puppy's tongue on your hand.
2. Offer another treat in the same way and repeat 10 times. (You can also encourage kisses by putting soft treat between two of the fingers of your outstretched hand or by putting a little soft cheese spread on your hand for the puppy to lick off.)
3. Give the cue "kisses" while the puppy licks. Click and give another treat each time the puppy gives kisses on cue. Practice giving the "kisses" cue on the back of your hand, with no food on your hand.
4. Practice with other family members and guests and soon the puppy will realize that licking gets more attention and treats than biting.

#4 Fun games for kids and dogs

In the chapter you will learn some fun, safe and simple training games your kids can play with your dog including:

- Hide and seek
- Fetch
- Stay inside the rope





Photo by [Fredrik Öhländer](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Hide and Seek

This activity is a hit with both two- and four-footed family members. One child distracts the dog, while the other hides and calls for her.

When the hider is found, he gives the dog a click/treat. Once the dog gets the hang of the game, the hider can make it more challenging by going out of sight or into another room while the other child encourages the dog to “go find Jordan!”

This game provides physical and mental stimulation.



Fetch

The primary rule of fetch is that the dog will give back the fetched object and step back and wait for the next throw.

Offer the dog a treat in exchange for the object and click as soon as the puppy lets go. If the dog tries to engage in a game of tug of war, or refuses to give up the object, the kids should end the game and ignore the dog for awhile.

“Any game that pits the strength or speed of the dog against those of the child could lead to over-excitement and even a biting accident,” says Teresa Lewin.. “Adult supervision and proper training are essential.”





Stay inside the rope

1. Place a circle of rope on the floor and give each child a clicker and some small dog treats (the kids can make a clicking sound with their tongues if no clickers are available).
2. Toss a treat into the center of the circle to get started. When the dog has eaten the treat, click before she steps outside the rope and toss another treat into the circle. The goal is to click and reward as often as possible while the dog has all four paws inside the rope circle.
3. Once the dog has the idea that the place to be is inside the rope, the children can start moving around the room, still clicking and tossing treats into the circle.
4. Play this in various locations and eventually the dog will learn to go and lie within the rope.

PRO TIP: You can then take the rope into any situation where you need to establish a boundary for the dog. It's easier and safer than using the rope to tie the dog up!

#5 Keep it positive



Variations on the third game can be used to teach the dog to prefer a certain room in the house, lie on a mat or in a crate, shake a paw, jump over a stick or just about anything else you and your kids can think up.

Just remember to teach your kids never to scold or use physical force. The word “no” is never used with clicker training, and there is no need to try to “dominate” the dog. If the dog does the wrong thing, the kids ignore her; if she responds correctly, she receives a treat reward.

Who says training isn't fun?!

#6 Ages and Stages

Here are some suggestions of how kids can help (you can find more in-depth explanations [here](#)):

Ages 0-2

- Parent must be touching the dog if child is too
- Never leave infant/toddler alone with dog

Ages 3-5

- Constant and close supervision
- Put down food dish for puppy that will sit and wait
- Toss toy for puppy that will wait for toss
- Help with clicker training
- Drag toy for puppy to chase

Ages 6-11

- Adult supervision still required
- Give puppy food and water
- Handle puppy in obedience class with parent's help
- Help with grooming
- Put away puppy's toys
- Teach tricks

Ages 12-16

- Handle puppy independently (as judged by parent)
- Feed, groom and train with parental guidance
- Handle puppy independently in obedience class
- Play a major role in training
- Walk puppy independently (possibly)

#7 Choose a kid-friendly puppy school

When you are choosing a puppy class, make sure that it's kid friendly so your kids can learn too!

Before signing up:

- Ask if kids are welcome
- Ask if positive methods are used
- Ask to bring kids to observe a class before registering

Look for the following:

- Class is well-structured – instructor is in control
- Class is not crowded
- Kids seem happy and are paying attention
- Dogs seem happy – lots of wagging tails
- Lots of praise and treats are used
- There is no intimidation or leash yanking to control dogs behaviour
- Misbehaving puppies are ignored, given more space to work, taken outside for a break, redirected with treats or toys but are not punished

STOP THE "I'M DOING THIS WRONG," AND THE "I'M GOING TO SCREW HER UP."

- Get a more in depth understanding of clicker training
- Live video demonstrations - all done by kids!
- Step-by-step tricks including sit, down, roll over, high five and more
- Learn how to teach a dog without talking or touching

BONUS: learn about one of the most effective training methods out there: target training (how service dogs are trained)

BUY NOW

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Clicker Puppy



Kids and puppies learning together.

DO YOUR KIDS LEARN BETTER WHEN THEY'RE HAVING FUN?

While racing around the board collecting bones and trying to avoid the doggy do-do, your kids will learn:

- How to read your dog's body language to understand how he's feeling with real photo examples
- What to do if a strange dog approaches
- How to decide which activities are safe to do with your dog and which are not
- And more!



[LEARN MORE](#)

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Did you enjoy our ebook?

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around dogs and dog training tips!