

Sharda Baker's Dog World

HOW TO TURN YOUR BARKING DOG INTO A HUSH PUPPY

Essential Tips You Need To Know
By: Sharda Baker



5 Easy Steps To Turn Your Barking Dog Into a Hush Puppy

Before we start, you need to Understand How & Why Your Dog Communicates by Barking and howling.

When a Dog barks, growls, whines or even howls it is a natural and normal behavior and is their way of communicating with each other and with their human families. Starting when they are young puppies they use vocalization to communicate. This may include crying sounds when they are frustrated, afraid, or hurt, or soft whining sounds when they are hungry or cold. Older dogs make many different sounds for different situations. Dogs well known for howling.

Barking dogs and excessive barking are ways dogs communicate. Some breeds are trained to bark, such as working or herding dogs and guard dogs. Although barking is normal behaviour, often used to get attention, show excitement and other emotions, excessive dog barking often creates many problems.

When the barking becomes loud, unwanted, inappropriate or excessive, or when people hear continuous dog barking, it is not only disruptive but also causes stress and annoyance to you and others, such as neighbours.

Nervous, uneasy or lonely barking often happens when you leave your pet home alone and they experience separation anxiety or fear. As your pet becomes more upset, lonely or anxious, the barking gets higher and louder and often even annoys your neighbours. Some dogs also seem to be very hypersensitive to movements and sounds around them. They bark for almost no reason at all.

Often, when a person gets a new Dog puppy and it barks or whines, they yell at it to stop its barking. Unfortunately, a puppy takes this as a sign that you are answering it back, so it continues, and this eventually turns into excessive barking or inappropriate dog behaviour.

Sometimes people unintentionally train their dogs to bark by giving them the attention they want. If your dog barks to go in or out, for a treat, to play ball, for a tummy rub or other reasons, it learns quickly that barking gets results.

It is completely normal for all dogs to bark occasionally because this is their way of communicating. As a responsible dog owner you want your Dog to bark at the appropriate time, such as warning you when someone is at the door but stop when you give the command. Remember that rewarding and praise, not punishment, is the best way to motivate good behaviour, but you must do this exactly at the time when your dog is exhibiting the right behaviour, not after.

The following steps can be used to teach your Dog to stop his or her excessive barking:

Step 1

Teach Your Dog To Speak or Bark On Command

As amazing as it sounds, teaching a dog to speak or bark on command is a simple way to teach them to stop barking. Find something that makes them bark, such as holding their toy or treat away from them. Once they bark, praise them and keep repeating the word 'speak'. When you do this often enough, your dog learns that the word speak means bark and the dog will start barking on command.

Now you teach them the word 'stop' or 'quiet'. You do this when they are barking, say the word and give them their treat or toy as soon as they stop barking. When repeated often enough, it does not take long for your dog to figure out that saying the word quiet or stop, means for them to stop barking and they receive a reward. If someone comes into your home and you tell your dog 'quiet' and it stops barking, praise him or her, or give a treat, and keep reinforcing your dog's good behaviour.

You should work at the speaking/quiet command sessions at least once a day for between ten and fifteen minutes until your Dog responds to each command instantly. The more often you do it (as long as you quit when it becomes clear your dog is tired of the game) the more quickly you will see results.

Example: someone at the door

- When the doorbell rings, your dog alerts you to the presence of an "intruder" by barking wildly.
- Once you've taught your dog the "quiet" command in a calm environment, practice in increasingly distracting situations until your dog can immediately stop barking when asked to, even when that "intruder" arrives at the door.

Step 2

Teach Your Dog When It Is Young – if Possible

The best way to teach your dogs to stop barking is by training them well when they are very young. It is much quicker and easier to teach puppies to speak or bark on command than it is an older dog.

An older dog can still be taught not to bark inappropriately using the same steps, but it may take a little longer and require more regular, consistent training by you.

Easily Understand *The Secret Language of Dog Barking* **[Click here to find out how](#)**

Step 3

Get Your Dog Used To Being Left Alone

There will be times when you must leave your dog alone. Many dogs think that when you close the door and leave, you are never going to return and this starts your dog on continuous, loud barking and howling.

To get your pet used to this without barking, start by leaving the house for a few minutes. Never make a fuss of your dog when you leave and after being gone a few minutes, come back in. Again, do not make a fuss of the dog.

Gradually increase the time you are away but make it seem very natural so your dog knows you will return. This way they do not feel stressed.

Some Dog dogs are calmer when they hear a person's voice, so it is a good idea to leave the radio on low when you are away from the dog.

Step 4

Keep Your Pet Away From Things That Start Him Barking

Try to keep your pet away from things that start him barking, such as looking out the window at people or other animals. Close your curtains or blinds and if this doesn't work, give the command 'quiet' or 'stop', then slam a book down or shake a can full of marbles, to make a loud noise.

Once your dog is quiet, have him sit, praise him, and give him a treat.

Step 5

Give Your Dog Sufficient Exercise and Mental Stimulation

Exercise and mental stimulation are extremely important and help keep a dog from nuisance barking or exhibiting bad dog behaviour.

Letting your Dog out in the yard for a few minutes is not enough exercise. Your pet needs a long walk, brisk exercise or playtime daily, to run off some of his energy and keep his barking controlled. Remember that a tired dog does not bark as much.

On a walk, your dog smells and sees different sights, which keeps him stimulated and stops him from getting bored.

You should also try teaching your dog new tricks or obedience training, as all dogs need regular mental stimulation to keep them from barking.

[Check out *The Secret Language of Dog Barking* Here](#)

A Final Word

When properly exercised, rewarded, and trained there are very few dogs, including older dogs, that cannot learn to control their barking or howling. It is very important to remember that dogs bark as part of their natural behaviour, just like humans speak to communicate. Never try to completely eliminate dog barking from their repertoire, and only use positive training methods to accomplish this.

Most dog owners will be able to curb or prevent problem barking. For those dogs and owners that need a bit of extra guidance and structure to training or corrective training, consider purchasing a good manual on Dog Training, or speaking to a professional dog trainer in your area. He or she may be willing to work with you one-on-one to help your dog learn to control barking.

**[Click Here for more detailed information on all aspects of
Do It Yourself Dog Training at home](#)**

Warmly,

Sharda Baker

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