

GOT BARKING?



The first thing you need to do in order to quiet a chronic barker is to figure out why he's barking in the first place. Is he lonely or bored? Do you spend enough time with him?

Remember that dogs are **pack animals**, and prefer the company of other animals and/or humans. Most dogs will not be happy sitting by themselves in the backyard with nothing to do except bark! Make sure your dog has *plenty* of toys to occupy his mind and his need to chew. Also, make sure to spend quality time with him. Take him for walks, bring him inside the house every day for some family time- dogs *really* love being with their people!

If your dog barks at night, bring him inside the house or the garage. Most dogs prefer sleeping inside anyways (remember, dogs are not solitary creatures by nature.) Relocating your dog away from immediate neighbors to another area of your yard might eliminate barking. Another good solution is to adopt another animal so your dog may have a companion.



Bark collars are a wonderful tool in training your dog not to bark. They can be purchased at pet stores or can be ordered online for a lower price. These new-age collars do not hurt your dog in any way; they simply reprimand the bark. This may startle your dog at first but after a few times, they associate the reprimand with the bark and learn to do their everyday activities without barking.

In extreme cases, you might consider having your dog "de-barked." De-barking is a procedure in which the vocal cords are surgically removed. In most cases, the dog will come home the day of the procedure. The barking sound will still be audible, however, it will sound more like a whisper. Consult your veterinarian for more information regarding this procedure.



Barking is the number one cause of neighbor disputes. Remember, it is unlawful to allow your dog to become a public nuisance. Your neighbors have a right to be in their backyard without your dog barking at them. Backyards are considered private property and the noise is a trespass. Chronic barking is a serious problem, but there are many solutions! Investing some time, money, and energy to solve the problem will be well worth the effort- for you and your dog.



33751 Mission Trail Wildomar CA 92595

animalcontrol@animalfriendsofthevalleys.com

Shelter: (951) 674-0618/Fax: (951) 674-7819