

Discovering the Cause of Barking in Dogs

If nuisance dog barking is a problem, consider these issues to find a solution.

Cesar Millan

Some clients tell me that they love coming home because their dog greets them excitedly by jumping and barking. They feel this proves their dogs love for and bond with the family.

But look at a dog in a natural setting he doesn't bark and yelp and jump on his pack mates in a burst of affection.

So what are my clients dogs trying to say?

Looking Deeper for Answers Dogs that greet their owners in this way are trying to communicate. But rather than professing undying love, they're probably trying to tell you that they're lonely and bored and that their needs as a dog are not being met. The excitement that you see is your dogs way of burning off the excess energy that has been building throughout the day.

People shouldn't be disappointed by this revelation. This just means that dogs don't use emotions like people do. Remember, they're dogs. To love a dog means you must treat him like an animal, which means fulfilling him as Nature intended him to be fulfilled.

Now, lets get back to our barking dog. So-called nuisance barking which is often ongoing and not in response to a particular stimulus, like a jogger running by the house is your dogs way of sending you a distress signal.

Somewhere his needs as an animal are not being met. Is his world anchored by a pack leader who projects calm, assertive energy? Are you walking with him every day, which exercises his body and his mind? Is he living a balanced life?

If nuisance barking is a problem, consider these issues to find a solution. Its the best way to show real love for your dog.

Next Step: Tips for a dog who jumps up on guests

Get more tips from Cesar.

Note: Cesar Millan is a professional. Please consult a qualified trainer before attempting these techniques with your dog.

For more information, visit Cesar Millans Dog Psychology Center where the express purpose is to rehabilitate and maintain a dogs natural state of being.