

Get ready for PuppyLove or Basic Manners orientation (first class of your series) or private class (advanced levels of obedience, agility, rally, conformation etc. too)

Best Paw Forward Inc., 1835 Oak Haven Plantation Road, Osteen, Fl. 32764-8872

Print/follow directions to Osteen site from web page or from us

If necessary change to our driving directions If your GPS tried to send you to Lake Ashby or Boy Scout Camp roads, turn around NOW! GPS & mapping programs may have serious routing errors for our relaxing country site

PuppyLove or Basic Manners ORIENTATION

- Included as your first class for registered students if at these times: 11 a.m. Mon., 4:30 p.m. Wed. or 6:30 p.m. Thurs.
- Your first class, Week 1, with your dog
- Call, text or email us to let us know if your orientation time changes from what you put on your class registration. (\$75 fee for a different orientation time – confirm availability)
- **Discounts only available with completed class registration form sent in advance & payment before first session.**

WHAT YOU SHOULD WEAR

- Comfortable casual clothing appropriate for both outdoor and indoor training
- Non-skid shoes such as tennis or athletic shoes
- **No sandals, no flip flops** (dogs step on the back of your shoe -- you trip!)
- Dog training treat pouch is a big plus!

MISSING A CLASS?

Tell instructor or helpers (even better, bring a note or back it up with email or text) at registration or orientation if you will be away during any regular class days to get extra weeks/free makeup dates for planned events & serious emergencies

Drop in on other sessions during the week, free, for extra help as well as for makeup times. Check <https://bestpaw.com> ahead before dropping in – often no one is on phones during a current class time

Particularly important to check on Saturdays due to occasional special dog events

BRING TO FIRST CLASS (to orientation & all other beginner sessions)

- **Your dog**
 - Rested - no long walks, no play dates, nodoggy exercise workouts day of class
 - Hungry - no full dog tummies
 - Morning or afternoon class: no breakfast until after class
 - Evening class - light breakfast before 9 a.m.; no other food/treats until after class

- **GREAT TREATS TO EVERY CLASS**, including orientation. Change at least some flavors every week. **Don't use same treats at home**
 - 4-5 different soft, high-protein, healthy human-grade items - boneless chicken, all-meat or low-fat hot dogs, drained lean ground beef, cheese, lunch meat, liver, chicken gizzards (cheaper and healthier than most dog treats, helps you make the most of your class training time).
 - Each week – 4-5 different types that can be easily ripped apart during class or cut into tiny bits lightly dusted with flour or almond flour to keep them separated. Puffed-rice size for tiny dogs, frozen pea size for medium to large dogs
 - Program prevents & fixes begging dogs
 - Ask your instructor **before** bringing any commercial dog treats (even at home avoid those full of sugar, artificial sweeteners, chemicals, grains). They cost more and many are less healthy than the whole foods recommended here.
 - Something novel & exciting that pup does not get at home already
- Treats in easy-open easy-close dog training treat pouch, treat bag, carpenter/kitchen apron with pockets, belly bag or similar carriers
- **PLASTIC BAGGIES CONTAINING TREATS NOT ALLOWED** because dogs **HAVE** swallowed plastic bags in class
 - Slippery plastic bags & even easy-open plastic containers with lids slow down your response time, & you know how fast those pups are!
- Vaccine or titer records - vet receipt is fine; bring or send online
- Provide fresh water at all times for your dog - no need to withhold water before class nor usually any other time

With the right dog-friendly, handler-friendly collars & leashes:

- Walks improve quickly.
- Easy, gentle control of pups/dogs new to training & long-time serious pullers
- Dogs cannot easily slip away
- Not used for corrections – used for safety
- Dog wears regular collar with tags at same time if BPF collar is used – the two work quite well together, and make it easier to go back down to regular snap or buckle collars later (sooner with dedicated trainers)
- Let us know if your dog is uncomfortable with strangers (on the incredibly rare occasion when we did not notice it). We can talk you through the fitting. A leather leash and snug-fitting buckle collar may be best for orientation or a private session in that case.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT

- Bring dogs on secure leash & **snug-fitting** collar in private or orientation class
- Best leash for all ages: 4' to 6' leather, easy to hold, no wider than 5/8" handmade latigo (included free with new student Basic Manners advance

registration). *No wider than 5/8" for medium to large dogs, 1/2" for most smaller dogs*

- **NO HARNESSSES, NO EXTENDABLE LEASHES ALLOWED on dogs in any classes including private. Any rare exception for a private session with friendly dogs must be approved ahead.** Feel free to contact us for any clarification. There are reasons that sled dogs wear harnesses to pull heavy loads. 😊

PuppyLove (8-18 weeks old at orientation) **or private class for pups under 18 weeks old.** We follow these same guidelines with our own pups & dogs — PJ has started her own dogs on leather leashes & head collars for decades, moving on to other equipment fast once pups have a great foundation. **Now available: BPF easy-buckle head collars**

- Buckle or snap collars
- Leather or soft fabric leashes. Leather recommended (and used with our own dogs) and may be required for already-strong larger pups pulling hard. Instructors more often demonstrate with class dogs on leather leashes which are easier & safer for holding onto wiggly pups.

Basic Manners dogs (older pups & adult dogs) \$40-\$50 value training equipment package, including handmade latigo leather leash, **free** with advance registration for students new to BPF and class payment. Instructor will choose which collar works best for your dog

Special-feature leashes available at great prices.

Regular collars remain on dog when using the right head collars (easier then for dog to behave well on soon on his regular house collar). When using a nylon slip or limited slip collar, all other collars must be removed for safety

No chain nor partial chain collars allowed in beginning nor agility classes

No wide collars attached to leash for any dog that pulls on leash

On rare occasions, for friendly very small dogs that do not pull around distraction, we may allow snug-fitting buckle or snap collars & leash variations. We reserve the right to require safe, easily handled equipment at any & all sessions.

Female dogs in season may **not** attend Basic Manners for 3 weeks – extra weeks will be added to their series

Female dogs in season welcome in advanced sessions at owners' discretion with owners' careful management

Dogs must be clean, healthy, free of parasites such as fleas, ticks etc.

Entire family/household welcome for most programs

- especially PuppyLove, Basic Manners, private sessions for friendly pups & dogs
- Two adults if possible, please, in each family with children younger than age 5
- Children must remain with parents or guardians at all times

CELL PHONES, PAGERS

- Please take pictures and video to share with us for class credit for your family – talk to your instructor about downloads
- Otherwise turn off internet connections, mute call/message/app notifications, or mute/turn off phones, tablets, pagers during class
- Let your instructor know about a special need to leave one on during class, or if you are filming/shooting pictures to share.
- Step at least 20 feet away from an outdoor class if you must take an emergency call during a class.

If your dog has serious noise issues, consider a private session first so we can confirm the dog has good social skills without affecting other attending families. Talk to us in advance since this is a rare & quickly-addressed problem for friendly dogs in our programs.

DETOUR DOGGIE DELINQUENTS

Programs for dogs 19 weeks (early teenagers) or older with social issues such as being shy, nervous, dominant, possessive, territorial, protective, or aggressive: [Detour Doggie Delinquents \(bestpaw.com\)](http://bestpaw.com)

CLASS POSTPONEMENT Rare class cancellation announcements posted on web page. Rainy, cold or hot weather usually does not affect classes. Most sessions outside under cover; some move inside training areas or house. Feel free to use masks for closer indoor work or anywhere it makes you feel more comfortable (instructor vaccinated, boosted & careful)

Inclusive programs - Work study means affordable classes for all who appreciate logical, thorough, gentle, friendly programs. We love students who exchange their help or barter items for discounted group sessions and workshops (many of our instructors came from this category over the decades). Details available at <https://bestpaw.com/discount-opportunities>

Tell your friends & family about discounts for:

BPF Continuing/Returning Students

Reputable breeders & their pups

Seniors

Multiple dogs in household

Experienced trainers

Service dogs, service dogs in training

Veterinary staff

Essential personnel, including law enforcement, firefighters, military, Coast Guard, medical personnel, teachers, mental health counselors

Beginner discounts available with completed class registration form sent in advance & payment before first session

bestpaw@bestpaw.com

<https://bestpaw.com>

407-321-1006 home office cell/volunteers

407-415-6601 instructor cell

In-home private sessions available for friendly dogs. Advance payment for first hour is required. Regular at-your-site prices apply