
GOOD MANNERS START HERE

Jumping, Biting & Leash Training

Three common puppy behaviors, one simple approach: prevent rehearsal, reward the behavior you want, and practice in short, happy sessions.

JUMPING | Four paws on the floor

- **Why it happens:** Puppies jump to greet, get attention, or express excitement. They are learning what works.
- **Before a greeting:** Keep your puppy on a leash or behind a gate if needed. Have tiny treats ready and ask visitors to stay calm.
- **Reward the moment:** Mark and reward four paws on the floor. Toss a treat low to help your puppy stay grounded.
- **If jumping starts:** Pause attention, avoid pushing or yelling, and reward as soon as paws return to the floor.
- **Practice:** Have a family member approach, reward calm paws, then gradually build to more exciting greetings.

A simple greeting routine

- Approach slowly → reward paws down → brief gentle petting → pause if jumping returns.
- Keep greetings short. If your puppy is too excited to succeed, add distance or use a gate and try again.

HEYDOODS TIP Everyone in the family should follow the same greeting rules. Consistency helps puppies learn faster.

Remember: management is training too. Preventing an overexcited greeting is better than repeatedly correcting one.

GENTLE MOUTHS, HAPPY HANDS

Puppy Biting & Teething

Mouthing is normal puppy behavior, especially during play and teething. Our goal is to teach appropriate outlets without fear or punishment.

What to do when teeth touch skin

- **Keep a toy close:** Redirect your puppy to an appropriate chew or tug toy before hands become the target.
- **Pause play:** If teeth keep contacting skin or clothing, calmly stop interacting for a few seconds. Resume when your puppy settles.
- **Offer a reset:** Repeated frantic biting may mean your puppy needs a potty break, a quieter activity, or a nap.
- **Reward gentle choices:** Praise your puppy for licking, calmly taking a toy, or choosing to settle.
- **Protect children:** Supervise every interaction. Teach children not to run, squeal, or wave hands around a nippy puppy.

Teething tips that actually help

- Offer puppy-safe, size-appropriate rubber chews or a chilled (not rock-hard frozen) puppy teething toy.
- Rotate toys to keep them interesting; supervise chews and discard damaged pieces.
- Avoid rough hand-wrestling, muzzle grabbing, physical corrections, or forcing your puppy's mouth shut.

When to get extra help

- Seek guidance from a qualified reward-based trainer if biting is escalating, frequently breaks skin, or comes with stiff body language or guarding.
- Contact your veterinarian if mouth pain, swelling, broken teeth, or sudden unusual behavior appears.

HEYDOODS TIP Little shark moments are often a sign of big feelings and a tired puppy. Short play sessions and regular naps can make a huge difference.

WALKING TOGETHER

Leash Training Basics

Leash manners start at home, not on a busy sidewalk. Build comfort first, then reward your puppy for choosing to stay near you.

Start with the right setup

- Use a comfortable, well-fitted harness or flat collar and a lightweight fixed-length leash. Avoid leash jerks and aversive collars.
- Let your puppy explore the harness indoors with treats. Clip on the leash for brief, supervised practice.
- Before public walks, ask your veterinarian about safe areas based on your puppy's vaccinations and local disease risk.

Teach loose-leash walking

- **Step 1:** In a quiet room or private yard, reward your puppy for looking at you and taking a few steps beside you.
- **Step 2:** Walk two or three steps with a loose leash, then mark and reward near your leg. Gradually add more steps.
- **Step 3:** If the leash tightens, stop moving or gently change direction. Reward when your puppy reconnects and the leash loosens.
- **Step 4:** Add distractions slowly. Let your puppy sniff and explore during appropriate breaks.

Troubleshooting on walks

- **Pulling ahead?** Shorten the route, increase rewards, and practice where distractions are lower.
- **Freezing or refusing to walk?** Don't drag. Give space, encourage gently, and end the session if your puppy seems overwhelmed.
- **Jumping or biting the leash?** Pause, redirect to a toy or simple cue, and consider whether your puppy is overtired.

THE HEYDOODS REMINDER Progress is measured in small wins: a calm greeting, a gentle mouth, or three steps on a loose leash. Celebrate each one!

This guide is general education, not a substitute for individualized veterinary or qualified training advice.