

~ Reasons People Struggle with Dog Training & How to Suggest Seeking Help ~

Struggling with dog training is a common experience for many dog owners, and there are several reasons why people might find it challenging. Here's a look at some common struggles and how to gently suggest seeking help:

1. Lack of Experience

- Challenge: Many people are new to dog training and may not have a solid understanding of effective techniques or how to implement them consistently.

- Suggestion: "It can be tricky to navigate dog training without a bit of guidance. Sometimes, having a professional trainer can make a big difference by providing clear instructions and personalised tips."

2. Inconsistent Training

- Challenge: Consistency is key in dog training, and it can be hard for owners to maintain the same approach every time, especially with busy schedules.

- Suggestion: "Consistency can be challenging but crucial for training success. A trainer can help set up a structured plan that fits your routine and offers support to keep things on track."

3. Misunderstanding Dog Behaviour

- Challenge: Owners might not fully understand their dog's behaviour or how to address specific issues effectively.

- Suggestion: "Understanding dog behaviour can be complex. Trainers have a lot of experience in interpreting and addressing various behaviours, which might help clarify what's going on with your dog."

4. Behavioural Issues

- Challenge: Severe behavioural issues like aggression or anxiety can be particularly challenging to address without professional help.

- Suggestion: "For more challenging behaviours, professional trainers can offer specialised techniques and strategies that might be more effective in resolving the issues."

5. Lack of Time

- Challenge: Busy lifestyles can make it difficult for owners to dedicate time to training, leading to less effective results.

- Suggestion: "If finding time for training is a struggle, consider reaching out to a trainer. They can work with you to create a plan that fits your schedule and offers flexible options."

6. Emotional Challenges

- Challenge: Training can be emotionally taxing, and frustration can lead to inconsistency or giving up.

- Suggestion: "Training can be emotionally challenging, and having a professional to guide you can provide encouragement and support, making the process less stressful."

~ How to Kindly Suggest Getting Help ~

1. Empathise and Relate

- Approach: Acknowledge their struggle and relate to their experience.
- Example: "I totally understand how tough training can be. I've been there too, and it was so helpful to get some expert advice."

2. Highlight Benefits

- Approach: Focus on the positive outcomes and improvements that professional help can bring.
- Example: "Professional trainers can offer tailored advice and solutions, which might help resolve the issues you're facing and make training more effective and enjoyable for both you and your dog."

3. Provide Recommendations

- Approach: Recommend specific trainers or resources if you know of any reputable options.
- Example: "I've heard great things about [Trainer/Program]. They have a lot of experience and might be able to offer some helpful strategies."

4. Offer Support

- Approach: Offer to help with the process, whether it's researching options or accompanying them to a session.
- Example: "If you'd like, I can help you find some training resources or even go with you to a class. It could be a fun way to get started!"

5. Normalise Seeking Help

- Approach: Normalise the idea of seeking professional help as a positive step rather than a failure.
- Example: "Seeking help from a trainer is a really smart move and can make a big difference. It's just like getting advice from a specialist when you need it."

6. Share Success Stories

- Approach: Share positive outcomes from others who have benefited from professional training.
- Example: "I know someone who had similar challenges and found that working with a trainer made a huge difference. Their dog became much more well-behaved and happy."

By approaching the conversation with empathy and focusing on the positive aspects of seeking help, you can gently encourage others to consider professional dog training without making them feel judged or inadequate.

You are always welcome to share these documents with anyone who needs them,
Aunty Jazz xx