

TEACHING DOGS BETTER BEHAVIORS THROUGH ACTIVE DISENGAGEMENT

Positive reinforcement trainers do not simply “ignore” undesired behaviors. Instead, we use ACTIVE DISENGAGEMENT.

If your dog is exhibiting undesired behaviors such as jumping, barking, or pawing...



... use ACTIVE DISENGAGEMENT



1. Turn your back and bring your hands to your body so you don't have dangling targets. Ask for a known skill such as Sit. Re-engage if your dog offers desired behavior.



2. If that doesn't work, create distance by walking a few steps away. Re-engage if your dog makes a better choice.



3. Leave the room if necessary. Count to ten and enter again while giving a cue such as Sit.



Be ready to RE-ENGAGE when the dog offers a more desired behavior.

Actively disengaging teaches the dog their undesired behavior repels us while re-engaging with desired behaviors teaches them “what works.”