



HELPING YOUR DOG FEEL SAFE



FEELING SAFE

As dog owners, it's our responsibility to help them feel safe, calm, & comfortable in the environments we place them in.

STRATEGIES

- Choose environments wisely, only going to environments where we can provide a feeling of safety.
- Create training opportunities with triggers that can be controlled.
- Give your dog the skills to be successful in their environment.

Understanding Emotions

Emotions drive behavior. The bigger the emotion the bigger the behavior!

Understanding the emotions allows you to take action before the dog feels unsafe.

Creating Distance

We use distance away from triggers to help our dogs learn about that trigger at place where they feel safe enough to observe the trigger calmly without huge emotions.

Develop an Exit Strategy

We do our best to set up activities for success, but we can't control or even predict when triggers will enter our environment. When this happens we need an exit strategy.

CONTACT US
906-399-0548

UNDERSTANDING YOUR DOG'S EMOTIONS



AROUSAL UP/DOWN

Emotions and Behaviors start small and grow, moving up the scale when the dog feels unsafe & down the scale when needs are met.

POSITIVE ASSOCIATIONS

- Create positive associations to triggers by training at a safe distance where the dog feels safe, calm, and comfortable.
- Build a connection between owner and dog by using reinforcement to teach teamwork skills that increase a feeling of team safety.
- Pay attention to the dog's body language to increase space before the dog escalates up the chart.

AVOID THE RED ZONE!



CREATING DISTANCE TO INCREASE FEELING SAFE



A SAFE DISTANCE IS DETERMINED BY THE DOG

The goal of a training session should be to observe the distraction at a distance where the dog feels safe enough to avoid reacting to the trigger.

A safe distance might be 20 feet or 200 ft or any distance the dog needs to feel safe, calm and comfortable around the distraction.

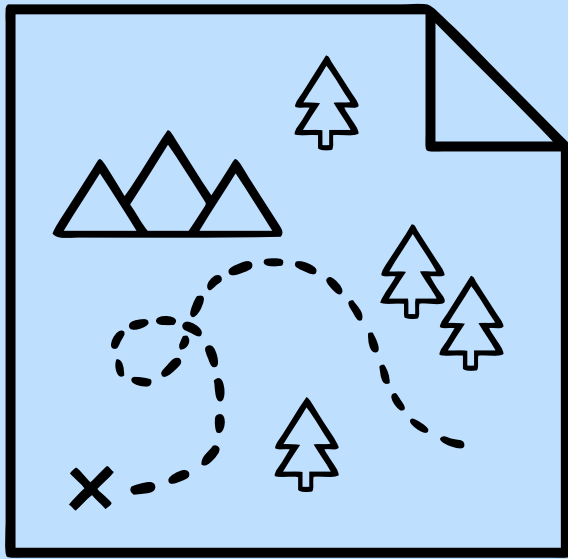
FINDING THE RIGHT DISTANCE

- Learn your dog's body language: Eyes, ears, mouth, tail, posture, etc. While this may vary slightly from dog to dog, you're watching for changes. Typically a low tail tucked between the dog's legs is a sign of stress, but a husky that carries their tail high, might only lower it slightly when stressed.
- Start far away, much further than you would think!
- Slowly close the gap, stopping to play games & reward.
- Allow the dog to move back away at any time.

STOP BEFORE A REACTION!

<http://www.yooperpaws.com/2022/03/training-around-distractions.html>

DEVELOP AN EXIT STRATEGY



TRAINING PATTERN GAMES

- Practicing U-Turns with Cones
- Move Sideways Off the Trail
- Climb Up on a Platform/Bench

UNEXPECTED TRIGGERS

Choosing environments wisely still leaves a possibility for the unexpected trigger to enter the environment. An exit strategy can help you get out of the area before something bad happens.

**KNOW YOUR ENVIRONMENT!
TRAIN BEFORE THE MOMENT!**

**PAY ATTENTION!
GET HELP WHEN NEEDED!**

**TRAIN BEFORE THE SITUATION
NOT IN THE SITUATION!**



**YOOPER PAWS OF LOVE IS DEDICATED TO
PROVIDING TRAINING "WITH LOVE"
TO YOU AND YOUR 4-LEGGED FRIEND!**

My mission as a trainer is to **TEACH** owners to **ENGAGE** better with their dogs to empowering them to **ACHIEVE** their goals using **MOTIVATION** to create the perfect team of handler and dog.

Owner Penny Beeman
Canine Coach & Behavior Consultant
Email: yooperpaws@gmail.com

WWW.YOOPERPAWS.COM

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOOPERPAWSOFLOVE

WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/YPOFLOVE

DISCORD.GG/H9EUYTKBQW

CONTACT US
906-399-0548