

# **Jumping** Up

## TULSA SPCA

#### **On People:**

It's good to remember that jumping is a social behavior in dogs, is not a sign of disobedience or dominance. They are happy to see us and want attention!

- Management: prevent your dog from accessing people during times when you know they are most likely to jump, such as when visitors first arrive.
- 2. This might mean:
  - a. Having your dog on leash when people come over
  - Putting up a baby gate or crating them when people first arrive and releases them when everyone gets settled and they have calmed down.
  - a. Train the behavior we'd like to see instead of using positive reinforcement. We can train a sit for petting/attention for a friendly dog, or the

dog to keep all four feet on the floor if the dog might be a bit more cautious about strangers.

- a. First get the behavior up and running during calm times
- b. Then slowly work in distractions such as people approaching
- c. Here is a video of the entire process: https://youtu.be/wghJ7xFotqY

#### **On Counters:**

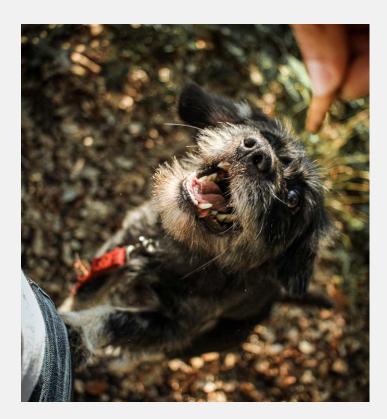
No one wants their dog stealing food off the kitchen counter. This highly rewarding behavior though quickly becomes strong after a few successes, and soon you see dogs who are often checking the counter tops for tasty snacks.

1. Management: keep things your dog might want off the counter tops or keep your dog out of that room by using baby gates.

- 2. Teach your dog where you'd like them to be in the kitchen. Having a comfortable and reinforcing place for your dog to rest in the kitchen goes a long way in keeping them off the counters.
  - → When you are not preparing, lure your dog to this place and give them treats for laying down there. Walk a step away, then come back and reward. Mill around the kitchen pretending to do various things and continue rewarding your dog every 5-10 seconds as long as they are still laying on the mat. If they get off it, lure them back with a treat and start again.
  - → After they can stay in their comfy place during boring times, start doing this same technique during more exciting times, like during meal prep.
  - → If the dog wants to get off the mat let them and only reward them for laying back down on it.
  - → Counter surfing is immediately marked with a verbal too bad! The dog is gently banished from the kitchen for a short period by closing the baby gate or door to the kitchen.

### **On Furniture:**

It's a personal decision if you allow your dog to be up on furniture or not. Letting your dog on the furniture does not teach them to be naughty. There is no correlation between dogs being higher than us and displaying aggression.



- If you don't want your dog on the furniture, that's fine. Provide many other comfortable resting places for them, and reward them for laying down there. Block access to furniture when you aren't around, and teach an off cue.
- Teach an off cue. We never want to push dogs away from comfortable resting places. It can be a recipe to get growled at or bitten. Start by saying your cue and then throwing a treat on the ground for your dog to follow. Encourage them to get back on the sofa after. Repetition is important. Follow-up with multiple reps of saying your cue, and make a hand signal that looks like you threw a treat on the ground. Don't throw the treat till they/ve jumped off the sofa.



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