



Dog Guard of Southwest Virginia®

540-983-0353

Serving Roanoke, Salem, Smith Mountain Lake and surrounding areas

Pet Training Tips

Hopefully your dog has been trained on the Dog Guard® fencing system; if not, you're in the right place.

By now your pet should have a basic idea of its new boundaries. Remember that this is all still new to your dog and even though it understands the concept, it hasn't become an everyday habit yet.

Most dogs will make mistakes during their first week on the system. Don't get too concerned! Soon your dog will become comfortable with the boundaries and will adjust to the whole process. The following instructions may be helpful if you run into problems while training your dog. **When working with dogs it is easier to PREVENT problems than to FIX them!** So, if you have any questions, always call your Dog Guard® of SW Virginia dealer!

- Problem 1: Home-Bodies and Porch-Sitters
- Problem 2: Break-Outs
- Problem 3: Proper Receiver Placement
- Problem 4: Taking Your Dog for a Walk

Problem 1: Home Bodies & Porch Sitters

If you have a dog that doesn't want to go out of the house or is sticking close to the house, be patient; time is your best friend. The more sensitive your dog is, the longer it will take it to explore the yard. Eventually, your dog will grow more comfortable and use the whole yard.

The main problem with this scenario is that your dog's enthusiasm is very low and its containment is very high. Your job is to get its enthusiasm back up. Here are some tips that will help you work through this challenge:

- Try not to worry about your pet. Picking up on your anxiety may hinder its learning. Again, time and use of the yard without corrections will solve this challenge.
- Do NOT take your dog on a leash near the boundary.
- Do NOT take the Dog Guard® receiver collar off the dog. If you do, the entire process will become inconsistent and the dog will become more confused and take even longer to settle in.
- Do NOT let the dog hide in the house. Make it go out even if it sits next to the door all day. The only way it will loosen up is if it is left outside to explore and learn about its surroundings.
- Play with your cat, dog or puppy in your yard. Introducing kids and other pets into the training helps expedite things greatly!
- Use food and water to encourage the dog to go away from the house. Start with small distances first.
- Try and limit the number of corrections when training your dog. Right now your dog is "over contained." Don't play with it near the boundary or do anything to coax it towards the edge. Another correction at this point will only discourage it from using the yard. Because more sensitive dogs or cats can't tolerate more than one correction every two days, try and extend the amount of time between corrections.

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Problem 2: Break Outs

If your dog has run through the fence more than twice, its desire to get out is greater than its concern for the correction of the fence. To solve this breakout problem you can either turn off the transmitter or take off the Dog Guard® receiver collar. This will allow the dog to come back through the perimeter without getting shocked. Put the training collar back on the dog once it's inside the boundary.

If your dog acts like it doesn't feel the correction it is for one of two reasons; either its collar is too loose, or there is too much hair between the probes and its skin. In both cases it will not feel any correction. To remedy this, try adjusting the collar. If that doesn't work, try trimming the fur directly beneath the probes.

If you have a dog that runs through the fence more than three times, call your dealer immediately. Adjustments may have to be made in either the receiver or the field. Please call your dealer before attempting to make any changes to your transmitter settings.

Problem 3: Proper Receiver Placement

To ensure a consistent signal, the dog's collar must be secured as illustrated to the right. To do this, make sure the probes are closest to the dog's chest so that the receiver hangs down at a slight angle.

IMPORTANT: It is important to periodically check the size and fit of your pet's nylon collar. As it grows, the collar size will have to be adjusted to provide a secure, comfortable fit.

Problem 4: Taking Your Dog for a Walk-Three Proven Methods

In all three methods you must take the dog's receiver collar off. If you don't take the collar off and you enter the correction zone of a house that has a Dog Guard® fence, your dog will get a correction. **It is important that you remove the collar instead of turning the fence off at the transmitter.**

Method 1 - The Carry

Simply pick your dog up and carry it through the perimeter. Please only use this method if you have a small dog and you can safely lift and carry it. Put your dog down once you have generously passed the barrier. Use the same maneuver when returning through the fence.

Method 2 - The Drive

Put your dog in the car and drive through. This is much like the pick-up method, but a little less strenuous for large dog owners.

Method 3 - Begin at the Beginning

From the day your fence is installed, follow the same route when taking your pet out of the yard, making sure to leave and enter the yard in the same spot each time. If this is done consistently before and during training, your pet will associate you, the leash, and the route as a safe means of leaving the yard.