



SUGGESTIONS FOR CALMING BARKING DOGS

- Ask yourself why the dog is barking. Is the dog lonely, frustrated, calling to other dogs? Spending more time with the dog, and providing toys and playing music or other soothing sounds may help.
- Think about the time of day or what occurs when the dog barks excessively. Can any disturbing noises be eliminated, or masked by a barrier or soft music?
- We realize that you may own a dog in part to alert you to strangers and danger. However, unprovoked and excessive barking defeats this purpose. By teaching your dog not to bark unnecessarily and/or for extended periods of time, you're training him to be of better service to you.
- Obedience training can be very successful for dealing with nuisance barking:
 - A. Train the dog yourself---there are special interest classes at both the Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Department and Scottsdale Community College
 - B. Many good training tips can be found in books at the library and on the Internet
 - C. Use professional training services (in the Yellow Pages)
- Monitor the dog while you are home; assess the problem, if barking persists, tell the dog to quiet.
- Teach the dog not to bark by squirting water in its face (possibly with a water bottle, not a high pressure hose) while the dog is barking inappropriately. Say "quiet (name of dog)" when you are squirting the dog. Be consistent with this and pet and/or reward the dog after it is quiet for a short while.
- Keep the dog inside the house, in the garage (if temperature permits---summer is not recommended), or inside the house in a kennel cage during times of barking. Even large dogs usually adapt well to being kenneled for reasonable lengths of time.
- Move the dog to a side of property away from neighbors or away from the noise that is bothering the animal, if one exists.
- Dogs are pack animals, and by nature require companionship. Walk and play with the dog as opposed to leaving it alone in the yard for long periods. This will also help the dog become more familiar with its surroundings, gives the dog necessary exercise, and makes time for interaction with you.
- Don't make too big of a fuss with your dog when leaving or returning home. Over-excited dogs are more likely to bark. Plus, they may begin to associate your leaving with nervousness.
- Contact other knowledgeable sources such as your veterinarian, Arizona Humane Society, or an animal trainer, for additional ideas about behavior modification.

SCOTTSDALE CITY ORDINANCE

No person shall keep a dog within the City limits which is in the habit of barking or howling or disturbing the peace and quiet of any person within the City. (Scottsdale City Code)

It's good for your dog and your neighbors.... Please calm your barking dog