



Sun, fun and quality time with furry friends

Now that summer has arrived, it is the perfect time to get outdoors to explore a new place or spend some quality time with your pet.

We're very excited to welcome a guest post from our friendly pet expert, Dr Katrina Warren, who has provided us with some great [tips about how to teach your pet how to behave](#).

Now that we're entering the busy festive season, it's a good idea to post your Christmas and New Year positions now to give house and pet sitters enough time to plan for your position. Remember to check references and testimonials of prospective house sitters and ask for police checks if they haven't already provided this information.

There are many house and pet sitters registering on the Mindahome website every day, so [browse the many profiles online to find your ideal house sitter](#) for your position.

Mindahome Team

Interesting reads...



Tips on how to teach your pets how to behave

Dr Katrina Warren, ambassador for PAW by Blackmores, gives us her tips about how to get the best behaviour out of our furry, four-legged friends. [More...](#)



Finding the right house sitter pet sitter for your four legged friend

It takes a special someone to look after your treasured pet, so make sure you take the time and make the effort to find the right one. [More...](#)



What's on around the country...

- [Credit Union Christmas Pageant](#) (SA, 12 November)
- [Dog Day by the Bay](#) (NSW, 13 November)
- [Margaret River Gourmet Escape](#) (WA, 18-20 November)



Caring for pets: Tips on how to teach your pet how to behave

Training your dog to behave around your home and in situations with other people can take some time, but it is worth the effort to ensure you and your furry family member are able to enjoy spending quality time together.

Our friendly pet expert and ambassador for **PAW by Blackmores**, Dr Katrina Warren, gives us a few tips about how you can help your dog understand boundaries and provides strategies to help you manage their behaviour.

Check out the full article on [our blog here](#), or for additional tips on how to raise a healthy dog, download the PAW by Blackmores eBook "[20 things no one tells you about raising a healthy dog](#)".

a. Chewing - Try to provide specially designed chew toys and bones under supervision for your dog to keep them occupied and reduce the temptation to chew on things they shouldn't. Placing the toy in the freezer while filled with treats creates more of a challenge for your puppy and will keep them busy (and out of trouble!). If you have a young dog, puppy-proof your place by moving easily chewable items such as plants or electrical cables so they're not easily accessible.

b. Nipping & Biting - Let your dog know when it has gone too far, by saying "ouch," followed by a minute or two time-out before returning to play. You can also encourage the dog to play-bite with a toy in exchange of your hand.

c. Housetraining - Any time your dog eliminates in an appropriate place, either at home, at the park or during a walk, praise them excessively and reward them with treats or play time. This way they will learn that it's a positive action and that it pleases you.

d. Being Non-Responsive - Change the way your dog thinks by teaching them that coming to you when you call is a pleasant experience. Of course he will want to come to you if he gets his favourite toy, a beneficial chew that is good for him, such as the **PAW Wellness + Vitality Multivitamin & Wholefood Chews**, or verbal praise. Work on this daily at home and in confined environments. When you first go to the park, use a long lead or rope to ensure your dog can't run somewhere dangerous. *Always read the label. Follow dosage instructions exactly.

e. Barking - Give your dog something to do every time you leave the house, like a chew toy stuffed with food.

f. Digging - Give your dog plenty of exercise and lots of toys, preferably with food hidden in them, to keep them amused. Digging can be a sign of boredom, so make sure he has lots to interest him when you are not home.

g. Jumping on People - Instead of making eye contact and touching him when he jumps up, do the opposite. Turn around and stand still completely ignoring him. Wait until he has all four feet on the ground and then give him a little treat. Keep on doing this, and it will take many, many times, and he will eventually learn that he only gets a treat and your attention when he is sitting. There is no point in shouting and pushing, because to a dog this is still attention and will only confuse him about what you want him to do.

We hope you have found **Mindahome House and Pet Sitting's e-news** informative and interesting.

If there is something you would like us to cover in the e-news or if you have some general feedback, feel free to email us at admin@mindahome.com.au.

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