

Predict and Prevent Dog Bites

Dogs bite people when they feel threatened and these are the most common triggers

Every dog has certain things that make them feel uncomfortable, anxious, or frightened. Each of these things can contribute to the dog's fear in a cumulative way so if a dog is confronted with multiple triggers at the same time, or a single trigger at a sufficiently high intensity, it may cause the dog to react defensively and possibly bite.

If your dog displays any signs of avoidance or fear towards any of these triggers, it is a warning sign. You should use classical conditioning to carefully desensitize your dog towards this trigger so your dog is more relaxed and less likely to bite.

People Triggers

There are three categories of people that commonly trigger fear and anxiety in dogs:



Children



Men



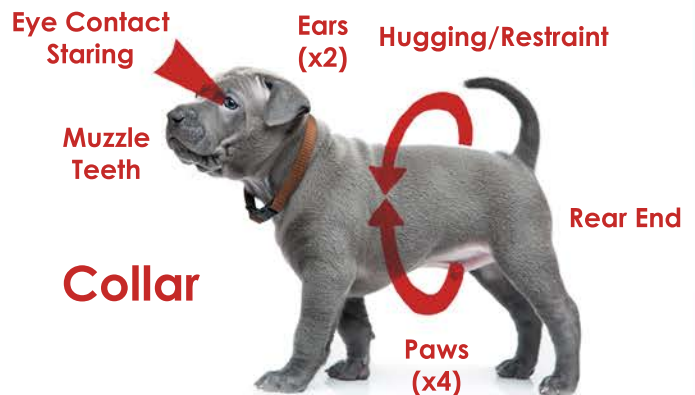
Unfamiliar People & Things

Handling Triggers

Many dogs are sensitive or fearful about being touched on specific parts of their bodies:

Grabbing the Collar

The most common dog bite trigger is when someone reaches for a dog's collar because many dogs have learned to fear or dislike people taking their collar.



Guarding Triggers

Some dogs are more likely to bite when they are in possession of something they value



Valued Objects



Special Places

Other Triggers

Dogs can become fearful of pretty much any stimulus. A single scary or painful experience can produce a lasting, superstitious fear towards certain sights, sounds, smells or situations.