How to properly socialize your new pup!

How to show your pup a whole new world!

By Joseph James

Introduction

It can be extremely overwhelming purchasing your first puppy or any dog for that matter. Getting things started on the right “paw” is extremely important to the long term success of your new pup and family. Socialization doesn’t just mean introducing them to another dog, there is way more to socialization than just that.

In this checklist we will discuss a few items to start your dog off with success that will last a lifetime.

Why do you need to read this checklist? Most dog owners want to take their dog where they go. Maybe it is to the grocery store, or a local park but without all the stress of a dog being aggressive, fearful or just over exerting themselves in a playful manner. Learning how to properly expose or socialize your dog to new environments can and will help with your dogs overall temperament and nerves.

There is nothing like being able to take your dog to different places and your dog has no issues with its environment and I mean “no” issues.

About Me

Hello My name is Joseph James and I am the CEO and Founder of Professional K9 Solutions and have worked training dogs, dolphins and chickens. Yes that is right chickens. Why? Because regardless of the animal, they are all opportunistic creatures and will do anything to get what they want in their own way.

I founded Professional K9 Solutions after I spent time training and working with both pet and police dogs. One thing that prompted me to start my own business was to help educate owners as much as possible about dogs simply due to the fact that before I was a dog trainer I was like you a lost puppy trying to train a

dog. On top of that, when I sent my dog off to training there was a missing piece to the puzzle, if not the most important piece. I was not educated or trained on how to properly keep up with the behaviors my dog learned and so over time, he went right back into his old ways.

Well that is what I am here to change and the change starts with all of us as a team.

Let's Get Started...

1. Item #1 Make the experience positive!

The most common phrase I hear from dog owners when they get their new pup is "lets go take them to the dog park to socialize our dog." I understand what they want to do but people have no idea what or how true and positive socialization really is.

What ends up happening is the new dog has a negative experience with this new environment and now this can lead to a list of issues that can ultimately develop over time.

Think like this, Socialization is nothing more than an easy introduction to something. For example, a teenager that just started drivers education isn't thrown on the the interstate to start their first lesson. For most parents even before drivers education we start them off in a Mall parking lot with NO cars around. That is how we need to think about socializing our dog.

Why is it important?

- Builds awareness to different people, place, sounds, objects, movement...
- Builds confidence.
- Decreases potential anxiety and timidity.
- Strengthens their 5 senses. (touch, sight, smell, sound, taste)
- Helps them adjust to a new environment.

Additional Benefits

- Helps with travel.
- Helps when staying at the vet.

2. Item #2 Explore right away

When you purchase or adopt your new pup, come right home and let them explore away. Now you definitely want to be mindful and watchful of your pup getting into

things at your home, however allowing them to sniff and search the home can help socialize them to things like slick floors, stairs, smells, grass, dirt, concrete, sounds of the washer or dryer and of course other people in your home. All of these things can be a great ease and positive experience for your new dog.

3. Item #3 Build the senses

Yes dogs need all their senses built and a great way to do that is to start off with touch! I am not just referring to petting your dog, I am talking about touching them in places they may not be used to but this will help you down the road. Touching your dog will allow them to get used to the possibility of uncomfortable feelings when they get older.

Places to build the touch

- Between their paws, and nails for future nail trimming.
- Around their tail and rectum
- Behind and inside their ears
- Stomach

By doing this it will allow your pup to know that your touches are soothing and positive and that when they are touched by other people like at Vet offices they can experience the same.

4. Item #4 Don’t force it

Most of us have seen a child wrap themselves around their parents neck or even leg when they get scared. Well dogs do the same thing, at least for the leg. When you see your pup get scared, advocate for them and ease up on what you’re trying to do.

Remember dogs don't reason like us humans do, so telling them it is going to be ok and coaxing them does not work the same as in humans.

If a noise startles them then maybe stop for a second and see what your dog does.

If he walks towards the noise to investigate, that's a good sign. If they walk away then just go with it for now. This goes the same for car rides, slick floors, or anything of that matter.

I hope this was helpful for you...

These 4 simple examples are just the tip of the iceberg.

I hope that it's helped you and that you see the importance of starting your pup on the correct path with proper socialization.

It can provide you with the information needed to make an informed decision that could save you a ton of time, energy and money.

These 4 reasons show you why it's important to start your pup off with socializing them to build a solid confident dog as well as decreasing the likelihood of creating an anxious and timid dog.

I'd love to talk with you and see how I can help you with training your pup and bringing solutions by creating even happier families through dog obedience.

I pride myself in working with clients to educate and empower them in training their pup and I'd love to see how we can work together as well.

If you'd like to have a talk with me, let's set up a quick chat today.

Go here and book your spot on my calendar today:
Schedule a call

No pressure. Just solid advice.

Best of success,

Joseph James