

In-House Behavior Modification Protocol
Jumping up on people

Protocol to be used for dogs who jump on people in greeting or when excited in play.

Jumping on handler

Any time the dog jumps on you - turn and ignore. Don't say anything or touch the dog in any way. If you are sitting, simply stand up, shrugging him off in the process. If the dog persists on jumping while you are ignoring - use tethered sessions to teach the dog that jumping chases you away. Tether the dog to something with the leash and as soon as the dog jumps up simply walk away, out of range, and ignore the dog for a few seconds. The dog will learn that jumping on you chases away all the attention.

Jumping up on approaching people

One person should have the dog on leash while another approaches. If the dog starts to jump up on the approaching person, the approaching person should turn around and walk away without saying a word to the dog. Repeat this over and over until the dog remains standing or sits when the person approaches. At this point the approaching person will praise the dog and give him/her a treat. Repeat this with as many different people approaching as you can so that the dog learns that he/she must sit to greet all people.

Leash management

You can also use the leash to prevent the dog from jumping on you or someone who approaches. To do this, step on the leash at the point where he/she can stand and sit comfortably but is physically prevented from jumping up.