



Parallel Walking

Every dog who reacts by lunging, barking, etc, be he frightened or “aggressive” towards another dog, person, object, has a "safe distance".

This means that at this distance, however close or far it is, the dog will not be reactive.

The dog walks in parallel to what he is reactive to. Walking in parallel is the least threatening, least confronting type of walking we can do with our dogs.

We help owners to guide the dog, so that he himself can understand that there is no threat, no reason to be afraid, no prey to hunt ...

No Tricks

We do not use any distraction, like treats, toys, words ... They only heighten excitement !

We help the dog to find his calm in situations that were difficult before. Only then can he learn to cope and come up with appropriate behaviour.



Recommended: Calming Signals - The Wee Signs of Dogs, both by Turid Rugaas

Good Habits

Stay out of trouble !

Avoid situations and places where you know your dog will be reactive, defensive, scared ...

Use a 3m lead

Learn about the subtle communication of dogs and allow your dog to communicate with you and the whole environment, by giving him the freedom of movement.

Use a harness.

A well fitted harness will prevent neck pain and subsequent negative associations.



Parallel Walking Session

Is your dog

- Lunging at other dogs?**
- Chasing cars, bicycles, joggers? ...**
- Over-enthusiastic, anxious or reactive?**

Would you like to learn about your dog's body language?

We can help you !

Contact: 0479/50.32.21

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Parallel Walking

Natural Solutions for dogs who are



- reactive
- anxious or frightened
- over-enthusiastic when meeting other dogs or people on walks
- really good at chasing cars, bicycles, joggers ...



Natural Problem Solving

Believe it or not all dogs are natural problem solvers. Remember that in nature a fight can be fatal, so better avoid it where possible.

Strategies

Body language

Dogs will communicate with subtle signs from a respectful distance, that they mean no harm, are afraid, want to be left alone, want to meet, play ...

Curve

Around any situation, person or animal they don't trust, fear, find too insistent/invading of their space ...

Flee

The natural reaction for most animal when they startle is to run IF they are not restricted by say a lead, small space, not able to run fast enough ...

To avoid trouble, we need to:

-  Learn about our dog's body language, recognize it and react accordingly.
-  Give them the freedom to express themselves and therefore not have them walking to heel or on a short lead.
-  Take them out of a situation or follow when they do it themselves.

Chasing

Dogs who are particularly good at chasing cars or anything that has fast moving wheels or legs are mostly shepherds and some hunting breeds.



Why? They were bred for it !

Shepherds, herding or driving herds, react very fast to visual impulses. Should one of the animals walk off the wrong way, they will immediately set off in chase to bring it back to the herd. Any chase means high adrenalin levels and excitement building up quickly.

**This is not aggression,
or defensive behaviour
it is a form of **Hunting**.**

No ball or stick throwing

Chasing a ball or a stick, is exactly the same behaviour, it's chasing a fast moving object. Do not use this as replacement behaviour, it will only heighten the excitement associated with the passing person/vehicle.

Reactivity on Lead

Some dogs are particularly reactive on lead as opposed to when being off lead.

A general misconception is that the dog is protecting the owner, but we need to have a closer look at how we handle the lead and what messages we are giving.

-  **Have a loose lead.** Tension on the lead heightens the tension in your dog.
-  **Never force yourself or your dog to go into situations where one of you is not confident.** Anticipate and avoid difficult situations. Curve to give your dog sufficient distance to enable him to cope.
-  **At all times take responsibility !**



Social Walks = endgoal for dog-dog reactive dogs