

Observe

Start observing your dog during the walks and you will notice the signs of alertness he/she makes, when passing by.

Signs of alertness can be:

- The ears go up and/or forward.
- The tail goes up and/or forward.
- Your dog stands in an tense position.
- Paw raise.
- ...



From the moment you see alertness signs, start curving, even if you're not completely sure.

You do no harm with it!



A good habit

Make a habit to curve in any possible situation even if your dog is not really alert or aroused.

Remember, it is their way of "polite" approaching



The power of curving



The dogs way of approaching and passing by.

What is curving?

Curving is the natural way of how dogs pass or approach all kinds of situations.

Situations like:

-Other dogs/animals

-People

-A noisy construction yard

-...

Dogs curve, it is their way of “polite” approaching or passing by.



Why should I do it?

Walking straight ahead to other dogs or situations is very unfriendly and even aggressive for dogs.

Yet in many situations, like walking on a leash, our dogs do not have the possibility to curve.

We ask them to follow us straight on. This can become very intimidating and stressful for dogs, and many will show behavior like barking, lashing out, pulling on the leash,... in order to get out of the situation.

Curving is a powerful tool that we can use during walks, to avoid these stressful situations.

How do I do it?



When your dog gets alert by someone or something, start curving and take a proper distance so that your dog can walk relaxed around the person or situation.

You don't have to compliment, treat or lure your dog during the curving. Just walk relaxed at a far enough distance.

If you have passed the person or situation in a calm way, you can give a small compliment but it is not necessary.

If you see no good possibility to curve around and your dog becomes anxious, it is better to turn around instead of forcing them forward!

