



INSIGHT
ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SERVICES

IABS TOP TIPS

Checklist for Canine Clients

Top Tip #1 – Learn to Listen

- Watch: Dog Body Language 101 by Fear Free Happy Homes
- Watch: Consent for Petting
- Review: Body Language of Fear in Dogs
- Review: Physiological Signs of STRESS in Dogs
- Review: The Spectrum of Fear, Anxiety, and Stress in Dogs
- Start a Behavior Journal

Top Tip #2 – Change the Environment First

- Block your dog's view from inside your home
- Keep your distance
- Signal for Space
- Ask for space

Top Tip #3 – Avoid Correction

- Read: Dog Training Aversives: What Are They and Should You Avoid Them?
- Read: American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior's Position Statement on Humane Dog Training

Top Tip #4 – Train Smart

- Start new behaviors with high-value treats
- Use small treats
- Experiment with Squeezable Treats
- Carry high-value treats on walks
- Stash treats around your home
- Prepare for training sessions in advance
- Train in short bursts of 5-10 reps or 1-3 minutes, or less
- Train daily by adding sessions into existing routines and/or the flow of your daily life
- Video your training sessions

Top Tip #5 – Start with Attention

- Play *The Offered Attention Game* with your dog