



COOPERATIVE CARE

WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

IMPLEMENTING COOPERATIVE CARE:

- **Start Early:** Begin training your puppy or adult dog as soon as possible.
- **Practice Regularly:** Incorporate short handling sessions into your daily routine.
- **Seek Professional Guidance:** Consult with a qualified dog trainer or veterinary behaviourist for personalised advice and support.
- **Be Patient and Persistent:** Remember that progress takes time and consistency.

BY EMBRACING COOPERATIVE CARE, YOU CAN CREATE A POSITIVE AND STRESS-FREE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR DOG DURING GROOMING, VETERINARY VISITS, AND OTHER ROUTINE PROCEDURES.



MORE INFORMATION

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COOPERATIVE CARE IS A TRAINING PHILOSOPHY THAT INVOLVES TEACHING YOUR DOG TO WILLINGLY PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS PROCEDURES, SUCH AS GROOMING AND VETERINARY EXAMINATIONS. BY BUILDING A POSITIVE ASSOCIATION WITH THESE ACTIVITIES, YOU CAN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE YOUR DOG'S STRESS AND ANXIETY.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATIVE CARE:

- **Positive Reinforcement:** Reward your dog with treats, praise, or play for calm and cooperative behaviour during handling and procedures.
- **Clear Communication:** Use clear body language and verbal cues to guide your dog through each step of the process.

- **Patience and Consistency:** Be patient and consistent in your training, rewarding even small steps of progress.
- **Gradual Desensitisation:** Start with short, low-stress handling sessions and gradually increase the duration and intensity.
- **Mindful Handling:** Use gentle and deliberate movements, avoiding sudden or forceful actions that may startle your dog.

BENEFITS OF COOPERATIVE CARE:

- **Reduced Stress:** Cooperative dogs are less likely to experience anxiety during grooming or vet visits.
- **Improved Vet Visits:** A cooperative dog makes veterinary examinations smoother and less stressful for both you and your pet.

- **Enhanced Bond:** Cooperative care strengthens the bond between you and your dog by fostering trust and understanding.
- **Safer Interactions:** A cooperative dog is less likely to react defensively, reducing the risk of injuries for both you and your pet.
- **Empowered Dog:** Cooperative care empowers your dog by giving them a sense of control and choice during these procedures.

