

## DOG TRAINING

# Dogs Spending Time Alone

Things to remember:

1. Confine the dog when he is alone where he can do no wrong.
2. When you are at home with him, provide him with one chewable toy of his own. The purpose behind this is to train him to direct all his chewing toward this one object. Give him no more than this one toy and this way we can ensure there is no confusion due to too many choices.
3. Have one or two “special” treat-stuffed toys that he can have only when you are going out or he is being confined for a long period of time.
4. Keep chewable objects you do not want him to have out of his reach.
5. Use obedience training on a regular basis. This gives him an outlet for his energy and gives him a function which makes him a contributing member of the household.
6. Exercise him regularly.



ONCE THE DOG IS PAST THE CHEWING STAGE, MORE FREEDOM CAN BE GRANTED PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING RULES ARE ADHERED TO:

- Keep all chewable objects you don't want him to have out of his reach.
- Just prior to leaving do not rush around the house trying to stash things away. This kind of behavior causes anxiety or excitement in the dog.
- Prior to leaving sit quietly for five minutes. Have coffee, read the paper, or engage in some other quiet solitary activity but pay no attention to the dog.
- When it is time to leave just get up and leave. Be unemotional and simply go.
- If the dog regresses, go back to the confinement stage for a short period of time while the possible causes for the relapse are examined.