

Play Time!



To get the most out of training, we highly recommend you start playing with your dog at home every day!

Play is an absolutely vital part of proper development in young animals. Not only does play teach social and cooperative skills, it will strengthen your dog's relationship with you and give them an appropriate outlet for being a dog!

What Does Your Dog Like?

The first step is to figure out what they like. Do they prefer chasing or tugging? Or maybe wrestling? Do they like soft fleece toys? Or maybe balls? Find a toy and activity that they enjoy doing WITH you, and do it every day.

Here are some toys we love:



[Flirt Pole V2
by Squishy Face Studio](#)



[Squish Ball with Leather Strap
by Leerburg](#)



[Hi Drive Udder Tug
by Clean Run](#)



[Robit Toy
by K9 Tactical Gear](#)

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Teach Your Dog the Game

Once you've found a toy that your dog really likes, teach them how to play a game with you! Many dogs won't figure out games like "fetch" or "tug" unless we help them. Have a leash or long line on your dog so you can teach them that you don't want them to play keep away with the toy.

If you're playing "fetch" and you throw the toy and your dog doesn't chase it, then you should chase the toy and throw it again! Teach your dog by doing. If you aren't acting playful, neither will your dog.

If your dog does chase and grab the toy but doesn't bring it back, no problem! Go to your dog and praise them for grabbing the toy. Eventually they will drop the toy, then you can throw it again.

If your dog chases the toy, but returns to you without it, no problem! Ask your dog "where's your toy?" and then go grab the toy and throw it again. The more you model the game, the more likely your dog is to figure out what you want.

Be a Part of the Game!

Handing your dog a toy to chew on isn't play, be a part of the game! If your dog is chewing on the toy, take the toy and show them other things they can do, like chasing it or playing tug of war.

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