

Tips for Taking Your Dog Out in Public



Taking your dog places with you can be a fun and rewarding experience for you both. These simple tips will help ensure a safe and positive experience for everyone involved when you take your dog into a public situation.

Be sure your dog wears proper identification.

Your dog should wear an I.D. tag with your name, address, and phone number to ensure that you can be contacted if you and your dog are separated. You can also microchip your dog as an added precaution in case your dog becomes lost without his collar and I.D. tag.

Keep your dog on a leash at all times.

Even if your dog is obedient at home, he may not listen as well when he is distracted or excited by everything he will encounter in a public space. Keeping him on a leash will help you keep him safe and under control and prevent him from being a nuisance to others.

Make sure your dog is well trained before going out in public.

Your dog should know some basic obedience skills such as sit, down, and stay before taking him to places where there may be crowds of people, children, or other dogs.

Do not let your dog get close to anyone unless that person indicates that they want to interact with your dog.

Some people are afraid of dogs. Be respectful and never let your dog approach another person unless that person has chosen to interact with your dog. Never allow your dog to jump on anyone.

Know your dog.

If your dog is stressed, anxious, or unpredictable around strangers, children, or other dogs, he will probably be more comfortable staying at home.

Clean up after your dog.

Always bring supplies with you to clean up after your dog. Dogs will be more welcomed in public spaces if everyone cleans up after their pet.

Never leave your dog unattended or unsupervised.

Dogs that are tied out, even for a few minutes while you run into the store, are at risk of being stolen, escaping, or being attacked by other dogs. In many places, this is also against the law. You will also be liable for any damages your dog causes such as biting someone, and can be sued in civil court. For your dog's safety and the safety of others, he should be supervised at all times when in public.

Never leave your dog alone in the car.

Even when it seems cool outside, the temperature inside your car can heat up very quickly in a short period of time. A dog that overheats can suffer from severe brain damage or even death.

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