

YOU MAY NEED A *Dog Trainer*

By: Andy Hanellin

You just had to have that cute little puppy in the window. But now what? Fido, all grown up and out of control, is not so cute anymore. Here are some signs that you may need a professional dog trainer.

1 Your dog has no manners. You wouldn't raise your children without manners, discipline and rules, right? In fact, the kids I know who grew up without those staples in their lives are in jail now. So why raise your dog that way? You may need a professional dog trainer.

2 Your dog walks you. Is your leash arm a couple inches longer than your other one? If your dog is dragging you around the neighborhood, jerking you this way and that, he thinks he is the one in charge. You may need a professional dog trainer.

3 You have to ask permission to sit on your own couch. If your dog growls at you from the middle of your couch when you walk into your

own living room, you've got a problem. Fido is staking out his territory and trying to establish dominance. You may need a professional dog trainer.

4 Your mother-in-law is afraid to come over (Ok, sometimes there's an upside to these things!). If your dog is extremely aggressive with his barking and excessively protective, once again, he's trying to establish dominance rather than letting you do so. He thinks he's in charge. You may need a professional dog trainer.

5 Your dog doesn't listen. You can't get your kids to listen, your husband has never listened, so you thought you'd at least have a shot with the dog—but not so much. When you say "sit" you get no response, or better yet, Fido just walks

away. If your dog doesn't take you seriously when you tell him to do something or to stop doing something, he's ignoring your leadership in favor of his own—you may need a professional dog trainer.

DOGS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE AN ASSET, NOT A DETRIMENT.

Dogs are supposed to be an asset, not a detriment. The more you can do with your dog, the more enjoyable it is to have a dog. And besides, times are changing—not everyone is nice—wouldn't it be nice, though, if you had the peace of mind of knowing that your dog has your back? A dog trainer can provide you with techniques to give your dog the kind of guidance he needs to feel confident that you will take care of him and to respect your instructions and boundaries. And in the end, you may find you'll have someone who will listen to you! 🐾



Andy Hanellin, owner of Dogs by Andy K9 Services, is a professional, certified dog trainer for over 25 years and is recognized as a qualified instructor by the AKC. Andy and his staff of professional dog trainers bring their training program to the privacy of your home. All training is covered for the life of your dog. For more information, visit the website www.dogsbyandy.com or call Andy at 704-662-3456.