



EMBRACING POSITIVE DOG TRAINING

Positive training may not be a term you'll find in scientific journals, but its transformative power in nurturing profound bonds with our canine companions cannot be underestimated. In this article, we'll explore the essential principles that underpin positive training, shedding light on why it's a game-changer in the world of dog-human relationships.

Positive Reinforcement: The Heartbeat of Positive Training

Positive training hinges on one core principle: positive reinforcement. It's about rewarding the behaviours you want to see more of, creating a humane, secure, and scientifically endorsed method. When combined with techniques like negative punishment (removing a pleasant stimulus to decrease a behaviour. For example, when your dog misbehaves, you take away his favourite toy. In this case, a stimulus (the toy) is removed in order to decrease the behaviour) or redirection, it lays the foundation for positive training.

A Positive approach is not permissiveness

Contrary to what many people think, a positive approach doesn't mean to become permissive. Clear boundaries are established for dogs, much like we do for children. Rewards like food, praise, play, and toys are employed to reinforce good behaviour and use humane methods to discourage undesirable actions. Techniques such as vocal cues to redirect negative behaviour towards positive actions, time-outs or removing the dog from the situation, withholding rewards, or ignoring certain behaviours. These methods are effective for a wide range of dogs, and address many behavioural issues, including chasing and severe aggression.



www.jockdogfood.co.za
010 271 4289

Leaving Behind Punitive Approaches

Positive dog training is all about using gentle, kind methods that don't involve scaring or dominating our dogs. Studies have shown that this approach is very effective for helping dogs learn, even if they're dealing with stress, fears, anxiety, aggression, or phobias. Dogs are taught by using friendly, force-free techniques that encourage them to engage in learning, problem-solving and critical thinking.

Seeing the World Through Your Dog's Eyes

To build an unbreakable bond, it's crucial to comprehend how dogs perceive the world. Sensory education, mastery of their language, and an appreciation of their sensory experiences are the keys.

In Conclusion: A Recipe for Success

Whether you label it positive reinforcement, reward-based, or force-free training, the philosophy remains consistent: rewarding desired behaviours is more effective and humane than punitive methods. It recognises that dogs aren't driven by dominance but by a desire for trust, respect, and a loving partnership. Positive training is the path to content, well-behaved dogs and deeply fulfilling relationships.

*Source: <https://positively.com/victoria-stilwell/about-victoria/> (Victoria Stilwell)



**UNLEASH
YOUR DOG'S
INNER
LEGEND**

