



THE
ANTI-CRUELTY
SOCIETY

A Commitment to Caring *Since 1899*

All About Dogs

Why Do Dogs Like To Be Petted?

Who doesn't like a good back scratch or a nice massage? Dogs like to be petted because it feels good! Under the chin or on the chest are many dogs' favorite spots for a nice scratch. You should always politely introduce yourself to a dog before you pet them: Ask their owner for permission, wait for them to approach you, let them sniff your hand, and gently pet them under the chin.

Why Do Dogs Bark?

Dogs bark to give signals. They have warning barks when someone they don't know approaches. They have barks that tell us they are feeling angry, barks that tell us when they are frightened, and barks for when they feel lonesome, too. But the best barks of all are the ones they use when they are excited to see us!

Why Do Dogs Lick Our Faces?

One idea about why dogs lick people is that puppies are licked by their mothers to keep them clean. This also encourages bonding. When your dog licks your face, they are saying, "Let's be friends!" Unless you have some food on your face, of course!

Why Do Dogs Whine or Whimper?

When they are feeling unhappy, lonesome, or sick, dogs may whimper to let others know how they are feeling.

Why Do Dogs Feel Angry?

Why do YOU feel angry? Dogs feel angry when people tease them or try to hurt them. Always treat your dog gently and with kindness. This will show them that they can trust you!



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Why Do Dogs Pant?

The only parts of a dog that can sweat are their noses and the bottoms of their feet. When dogs pant they breathe in cool air over their wet tongues. This helps them feel cooler.

Dogs might also pant if they are feeling nervous. If it's not hot outside or if your dog hasn't exercised recently, your dog might be trying to tell you that they are uncomfortable!

Why Do Dogs Dig Holes?

Sometimes dogs dig holes to bury things. They inherited this trait from their wild ancestors who buried extra food to save for later.

Dogs might also bury things to hide them.

Sometimes, dogs will dig holes if they are bored. If you see your dog digging lots of holes, that's your cue to play with them, or take them on a walk!

Why Do Dogs Like To Chew?

When dogs were puppies they chewed on all kinds of things, just like human babies. The chewing made their mouths feel good when they were teething. Even after puppies' teeth grow in, and when they are adults, they still enjoy chewing—it makes them feel content, and it keeps their teeth and gums healthy. Give your dog appropriate things to chew on, like rawhides, or chew toys!