



September Newsletter

Backyard Games For Your Dog

You know that you can throw the ball over and over and your dog will happily retrieve it, but take your backyard and turn it into an agility course to make it more interesting.

You could make your own agility course or hurdle by placing a broom or PVC pipe across two plastic buckets. (This method allows for the obstacle to get knocked over without your dog getting hurt.) Encourage your dog to jump over the hurdle by holding a treat on one side.

An agility pause table can be created out of a bench, ottoman, or piece of carpeted plywood on four blocks. You can teach your dog to jump up on the platform and sit or lie down for five seconds and then to jump off.

To create a backyard tunnel, use a nylon pipe tunnel. Coax your dog inside with food. You can run alongside the tunnel or sit at the opposite end and persuade your dog to come through. Make sure you reward your dog with their favorite toy or treat at the end of the tunnel.

To increase your dog's excitement when you are playing fetch with a ball, throw the ball, hold him back for about 10 seconds and then let him sprint after the ball. This will allow your dog to run around and enjoy the game with eager anticipation.

You can teach your dog tracking skills by using the popular hide and seek game. Show your dog one of their toys and then hide the toy in an easy location to find. Once your dog understands that he is supposed to find things that are hidden, have your friends hide in the yard. Tell him Ready Or Not, here he comes and let him find your friends. As your dog gets more skilled at this game, have him turn his back to your friends before they hide (that way he can't peek.)

Be creative when you're designing your agility course and make sure there aren't any obstacles where your dog might get hurt.

The most important part is having fun with your dog.

On The Lighter Side!

A burglar has just made it into the house he's intending to ransack, and he's looking around for stuff to steal. All of a sudden, a little voice pipes up, "I can see you and so can Jesus!"

Startled, the burglar looks around the room. No one there at all, so he goes back to his business. "I can see you, and so can Jesus!" The burglar jumps again, and takes a longer look around the room.

Over in the corner by the window, almost obscured by curtains, is a cage in which sits a bird, who pipes up again, "I can see you, and so can Jesus!"

"So what," says the burglar, you're only a bird!"

To which the bird replies, "Maybe, but 'Jesus' is the rottweiler!"

Q: What did the mouse say to the cat?

A: Sorry, I can't stay for dinner.

Q: What do you call a 300-pound cat?

A: SIR.

Q: What do you get when you cross a dog with a cat?

A: A pet that chases itself.

Q: Why did Snoopy quit the comic strip?

A: He got tired of working for peanuts.

Q: What kind of cat lives in churches?

A: Holy cat.

Q: How is cat food sold?

A: At so much purr can.

Q: What's a puppy's favorite soda?

A: Pupsi cola.

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