

Does your dog trainer...

- Encourage you to "correct" your dog when they pull, jump, or bark?
- Use aversive training tools such as prong or electric collars?
- Discourage the use of food or praise during training or refer to treats as "bribes"?
- Use terminology like "alpha dog", "dominance", or "pack leader"?
- Utilize physical force, fear, or even pain as part of their training plans?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions you do not have a Humane Dog Trainer.

Find a dog trainer or behavior consultant near you at

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*Humane Training Alliance
of Indiana*

Our mission is to prevent the surrender of dogs by increasing access to skilled training and behavior services in Indiana.



What is Humane Dog Training?



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1. Rewards-based: Allowing the dog to earn rewards for desirable behaviors or those being taught.

Reinforcement = Repetition

2. Supported by science and backed by experts like the **American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior** who state, *"Reward-based learning offers the most advantages and least harm to the learner's welfare. Research supports the efficacy of reward-based training to address unwanted and challenging behaviors. There is no evidence that aversive training is necessary for dog training or behavior modification."*

3. Humane Trainers adhere to **Least Intrusive, Minimally Aversive (LIMA)** guidelines. LIMA does not justify the use of punishment in lieu of other effective interventions and strategies. In the vast majority of cases, desired behavior change can be affected by focusing on the animal's environment, physical well-being, and operant and classical interventions.

4. Humane Dog Trainers are highly educated professionals that use **positive reinforcement** to teach your dog new skills, desensitize them to phobias, and modify undesirable behaviors without fear, force, or punishment.

**"When we know better,
we do better."**

-Maya Angelou

5. Humane, positive, rewards-based training is for everyone and works for all animals. **Clicker training**, one of the most popular methods of "Humane" Trainers, has revolutionized the care of animals in zoos and sanctuaries, as well as in the Service Dog, and sport dog sectors.

Dogs are showing us time and time again that if we give them a chance to solve the complex problems we need them to without fear or punishment, they'll rise to the challenge!

6. Humane Dog Trainers treat dogs as individuals and address their unique needs during training. **By being experts in body language and how dogs learn, dogs can be taught anything and have fun doing it!**