

Barr Standards ‘obedience’

■ BY HARRY KALAJIAN

What is Barr Standards; Barr standard levels are different in every family, what you expect and are content with is what counts. Some people strive for excellence while others are happy with the minimal display of obedience.

The standards of every family are dictated by how much time they are willing to put in training. All dogs have great potential, as long as the owner follows the golden rule of mine. This golden rule also can be applied to other parts of a person life. The golden rule is Patience, Persistence, Consistency, & Repetition.

One must be determined to reach their set goals. Some people are happy with the dog sitting beside them crookedly; while others want the dog to sit perfectly beside them where the dog’s feet and butt is parallel and in line with the owners. There is no right or wrong in either, it’s what the owner wants. I believe to always strive for 100 percent to get 75 percent. The more we strive for precision, the more the end results will look nicer. We consider our dogs to be family members. Just like kids, parents always want their kid to do well in school. While other parents want their kids to do great.

While some dog owners are more lenient with their dogs, others are not. Every family’s expectancy is different. Dogs are very smart and when you put the time and effort, it will show. Yes some dogs, some breeds can be stubborn or defiant but when the formula is put in place the results will be impressive. Sometimes a mix of techniques may be needed to achieve certain goals; your trainer will guide you according to the character and



temperament of your dog.

Figure out what obedience commands are most important to you, and then work those commands without fail. But remember many commands need prerequisite of other commands prior to the one you are interested in. Best way to understand “You can’t do Algebra without knowing mathematics (arithmetic). You must be determined and patient.

Master each command before moving on to the next. A weak command will make you work harder to achieve the next step. Stationary practice should be no more than 20 minutes. While on your walks you can do as many of the commands you want. Obedience training never finishes it’s for life just as you are always telling

your kids over and over certain things. The more your dog is worked the happier they are, because you are one on one giving attention to them. Plus it will stimulate their mind. When you take out your dog remember to always throw in some leisure walks also “let them be a dog”.

Exercising your dogs mind will tire them out, while running your dog in play just builds up endurance. Commanding your dog with a clear word is better than asking them in a “gooch pouchi” way. Your command should not give your dog a choice, to do or not to. Your command should be direct for them to do it and not

question it. It could be the difference between a split second and their safety.

Make sure you take the outdoor temperature in account when walking or training your dog, use judgment. Also if you are not in the mood to train for whatever reason “Don’t”, because if you do you will do more damage to the training then you would think. Work always when you are in a good mood. Don’t make the training like a job; make it like a fun thing with a great outcome to see. Always praise your dog verbally during walks and training, once done you can praise them physically. If you physically praise at every point during training, they will think it’s over and go in a spas mode. As a final note you chose the level of the Barr you want your dog to achieve.

Always remember ... Training isn’t hard as long as you are willing to put time and follow my formula to have success; Patience, Persistence, Consistency & Repetition. If you still fail, it’s on you not your dog. You didn’t stick to the formula.

Have a woof woof of a month.

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