



Help with your 4 legged kid!

Private Sessions – In home (in person) or online (Zoom)

Jamie Bozzi, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KSA, KPA, CTP, ACDBC, CC, CNWI

How privates work

If you are seeking positive training and behavior modification for a behavior issue related to fear, anxiety or aggression, please fill out the Canine Behavior Questionnaire (CBQ). For puppy training or basic behaviors (like sit, down, come or loose leash walking), a CBQ is probably not needed.

The CBQ can be found on the smrtdog website (home page) under Private Consultations. It is a very lengthy document and provides the canine behavior consultant with lots of background information and history of the dog.

Note: As you are filling out the fields you will not be able to save your work. Make sure that you have adequate time to sit down and fill out the CBQ in its entirety.

The non-refundable fee for the canine behavior consultant to review the CBQ is \$75. You will receive feedback, educational hand outs, and recommendations that address the specific issue. In addition, there can be a considerable amount of Q&A between the pet owner and the canine behavior consultant in the form of emails. In this way, we can minimize the need to take copious notes at the initial private session. Instead, all of the Q&A can be accomplished prior to the first meeting. Less note taking during a session, means more practical, hands on training. IF both parties, the pet owner and the canine behavior consultant, decide that a private session would be beneficial, then the cost of the first session is \$100 instead of \$175. The Q&A also allow both the pet owner and the canine behavior consultant to decide if they are a good fit.

Cost

Hourly rate is \$175/hr. A package of 5 one hour sessions is \$695, paid in full at the first session. (Discount of 20%)

Payment

Payment is due either prior to the first session OR at the first session (when services are rendered). If you pay for private sessions using PayPal or Venmo, make sure that you are sending the money to the correct email address. For PayPal the correct email is jamie@smrtdog.com. For Venmo the correct contact is @Jamie-Bozzi.



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How many sessions are required

This depends on what issues you are having with your dog. Explaining and demonstrating how to teach simple foundation behaviors can be accomplished in one private session. However, the pet owner must practice the techniques taught.

Explaining, demonstrating and reviewing proper management and training / Bmod techniques for more severe types of behavior requires more time and resources. How the dog responds to the initial training session(s) will give the canine behavior consultant a better idea of length of time needed to reach training goals.

What is the success rate

Successful outcomes – reaching your training goals – depends on several factors: dog's learning ability, motivating factors like food and toys, your comfort level with the action plan, and your commitment to the training and behavior modification action plan.

Realistic Training Goals

It is important for the pet owner to have realistic expectations based on the dog's age, breed, learning history, developmental stage, and severity of the problem. For example, your dog has bitten several people and dogs and your goal is to have a dog that is perfectly safe around all dogs and all people. This is not a realistic goal. Another example would be your dog is reactive (barking and lunging) at other dogs while on leash. Your goal is to be able to walk your dog in the neighborhood with less reactivity. That is a reasonable goal.

Important

"Behavior is not something you fix. You can't unlearn what you have learned. It will always be in your learning history, but you can build a stronger and more recent history for different behavior." Agnieszka Janarek

For example, if your dog pulls on leash, don't focus on stopping the pulling behavior. Instead, focus on teaching your dog the skill of making eye contact with you while moving. Teach a connection and focus game. Teach your dog what TO DO. Focus on small successes and build on what is working.