

Fixing Problem Behavior In Mature Shih Tzu Cheat Sheet

When attempting to prevent or cure behavioral issues, please be aware that most problems are a result of human misunderstanding, that most often cannot be properly assessed or cured by reading a book.

The reason for this is because there are just too many variables and different situations, individual guardians, unique dogs and endless reasons why they may have developed any particular behavioral issue.

Therefore, without knowing the dog's particulars and all the history that came before, attempting to write about how to cure a particular issue will be no more than a best guess.

This is why, in a situation where a Shih Tzu puppy or dog is suffering from a specific behavioral issue that is, at the least embarrassing, or at the worst, dangerous or driving the humans and the entire neighborhood crazy, it must be properly addressed by engaging the services of a professional dog whisperer (behaviorist) who can ask many questions, properly assess the situation and then create a customized plan for alleviating the problem.

Barking Dogs

Generally speaking, when properly trained and socialized, the Shih Tzu is not an excessive barker and because of their friendly natures they do not usually growl at other dogs or people.

However, if a puppy or dog has been mistreated or not properly socialized, they may develop these behaviors out of fear or as a protective mechanism, and the best way to overcome them is to hire a professional dog whisperer to help determine the root cause of the problem.

If your puppy or dog is barking because they are simply bored, they need more of your attention, daily exercise and ways to engage their mind, such as teaching them more advanced commands or enrolling them in a canine sport.

Barking at Strangers or Noises

It is within every dog's nature to bark at strange noises or intruding strangers, therefore, allowing a little bit of this is perfectly normal and should not be totally curtailed, unless it becomes more serious.

Many dogs will become extremely distressed by fireworks, loud popping or banging noises or the sound of household fire alarms. Some dogs become so upset that they literally "lose their minds", cannot hear you, try to run away, or hide and tremble in fear. Be patient, stay calm, and do not overly coddle your puppy or dog as this can make the situation worse.

Biting or Aggressive Behavior

Generally speaking, biting or displaying dominance or aggression toward another dog or human, showing fear aggression, or aggression over toys or food means that your dog has not been given proper rules and boundaries and taught that they are a follower.

If your dog harms another dog or person they may be deemed a dangerous dog, be required to wear a muzzle when out in public or be euthanized, and you may find yourself in a lawsuit.

If your Shih Tzu is displaying even mild signs of fearful, anti-social or aggressive behavior, you will want to immediately contact a professional to help you determine the cause and provide methods for alleviating these problems before they become serious enough to be harmful or life-threatening to themselves or others.

You do not have to live with behavioral problems, because *"With the proper training, Man can learn to be dog's best friend."*