

Exercise as a Remedy

Dogs who need exercise often bark to release tension; tired ones rarely bark excessively.

You can help by enjoying a long walk together before you leave home. Or make it part of your daily routine to visit a community dog park. Visit HawaiianHumane.org for a list of parks and beaches that welcome dogs.

Anti-Bark Collars

Citronella anti-bark collars work by dispensing a spritz of scent that's considered unpleasant to dogs. This interrupts their barking. The collars can be purchased at the Humane Society. When available, a collar can also be loaned to you for two weeks. Call 356-2218.

Shock collars are not recommended and may cause pain and create other behavioral problems.



About the Law

It's against City & County of Honolulu law for a dog to bark constantly for 10 minutes, or unprovoked for 30 minutes on and off, to the disturbance of others. The Humane Society helps to resolve complaints by working with pet owners on how to remedy the situation. Quiet neighborhoods are important for all. Unresolved and persistent barking can lead to fines and court appearances.



About Us

The Hawaiian Humane Society is an education and advocacy organization that shelters, protects, rescues, reunites and rehomes animals. It is Oahu's only open-admission shelter that welcomes all animals. Established in 1883, this non-profit organization is not a chapter of any group as there is no national humane society.

Make a gift at HawaiianHumane.org or call 356-2213 to donate.



2700 Waiialae Avenue
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Phone: (808) 356-2250
hhs@hawaiianhumane.org
HawaiianHumane.org



All About Barking

Reasons & Resolutions



Why Dogs Bark

Barking is the way dogs communicate their thoughts, feelings and needs. Here are a few of the many reasons why your canine may be sounding off:

- 🐾 To notify you of potential danger or something out of the ordinary.
- 🐾 To fend off a perceived aggressor or trespasser.
- 🐾 To let you know he's bored, needs exercise and attention or is feeling lonely.
- 🐾 To tell you he's hurt or scared.
- 🐾 To say that he's hungry or thirsty.
- 🐾 To join other dogs barking nearby.



Home Alone

Housing your dog indoors is truly where he's happiest. Interactive toys such as puzzles and treat-filled ones, along with a radio, can help fight boredom.

Another option is to have a pet door for indoor/outdoor access. Create comfortable quarters in the garage, backyard or other areas away from pedestrians and distractions.

If you must keep your dog outside and you have the option to select fencing, choose a solid one where he can't easily view distractions.



Be a Good Neighbor

A good relationship with neighbors helps to prevent and resolve barking issues. If you're new to the area, introduce neighbors to your dogs. And always invite neighbors to let you know if they have any concerns about your pets. A good rapport sets the stage to working collaboratively on issues should they arise – especially since it's not uncommon for dogs to bark when their owners aren't home.

Mediation Can Resolve Issues

The Mediation Center of the Pacific can help with resolving barking dog issues. Its experts advocate that neighbor-to-neighbor disputes can often be resolved with the right approach in which the goal is to ensure the complaint is openly received and that the pet owner does not become defensive. Call 521-6767 for mediation support.

Effective & Positive Training

The Humane Society supports positive reinforcement training. All who share your home must use consistent training methods when your dog is quiet. Reinforce good behavior by saying, "Good dog – quiet."

Punishment is least effective as it may worsen problems or create a new fear-based issue. Keeping calm and assertive reinforces your leadership with your dog. Giving him a short time-out to redirect his attention and brief separations from the family can also be effective.

Oahu Trainers

Hawaiian Humane Society maintains a resource list of trainers who use positive reinforcement. Contact 356-2219 for a copy or find it at HawaiianHumane.org in the section titled All About Animals.

