

Getting Your Puppy to Hold Still

Things you need:

1. Patience It's hard for K9 toddler's to hold still, but they still need to learn how to do it.
2. Consistency Don't allow your pet their freedom until they have completely and totally relaxed/given up and you have released them with a verbal command.
3. Persistence Very active or dominant type pups need more work on this than submissive youngsters, but all dogs are capable of holding still.
4. Knowledge Puppy tenses, you tense. Puppy relaxes, you relax.

Be ready for puppy to "fake you out". Don't be persuaded by temper tantrums.

Initially a few seconds is all you want. Gradually, over a few weeks, increase the amount of time your pup must hold still until being released.

Have a definite release word such as "OK" or "Free". "Good" is a reward - NOT a release word.

Introduce things like brushing, nail trimming, tooth brushing slowly only after your pup is comfortable with holding still. Practice looking in the ears, eyes and mouth (simulate a physical exam).

5. Goals A relaxed, calm, accepting puppy who will let you (or the vet!) do whatever they need to do.