



Positive Training

Traditional Training

Dogs repeat behaviors that are rewarded.	Dogs must be forced to behave.
Teaches alternatives to unwanted behaviors.	Corrects mistakes without teaching alternatives.
Dogs & their humans enjoy training.	Dogs & most humans do not enjoy training based on punishment.
Based on research on how dogs and other animals learn. Zoos and aquariums use positive training too.	Based on dominance theory rooted in outdated research on wolves. Intimidation is used to show your dog who's boss.
Dogs learn to trust their owners.	Can lose your dog's trust using punishment (yelling, shaking, squirting, hitting, yanking, throwing something at a dog, shocking, etc).
Reinforcement makes behavior stronger when applied randomly.	Punishment is ineffective when applied randomly.
Looks at the root of a behavior problem (i.e., most aggression is fear-based; so, you want to create positive associations with the trigger, not punish your dog).	Suppresses a behavior without addressing the problem (ie, choke chains to suppress aggressive barking). The problem may reappear in a new unwanted behavior.
Cannot create fear & anxiety issues.	Can create fear & anxiety issues.
Creates positive associations using rewards.	Can create negative associations leading to reactivity/aggression. (If your dog is yanked for barking at another dog, he may start to blame other dogs for the discomfort or pain.)
Provides mental stimulation. Dogs think.	Some dogs shut down to avoid punishment.
Manages the environment to help dogs practice wanted behavior.	Dogs are corrected for unwanted behaviors.
Builds a cooperative relationship with a willing partner.	Dog is punished as a teaching tool, even before the dog knows what's expected.
Doesn't cause injury to dogs or people.	Dogs and people can be injured using force.



A Non-Profit that Educates and Supports Dog Owners