

LAS VEGAS

WOMAN

DOG DISH

RECYCLING TRICKS FOR ROVER

Turn household throwaways into training lessons for your misbehaving canine

By Jennifer McCarthy

Want to solve canine behavior problems with your old household goods? Here are some great ways to recycle unwanted items into a dog trainer's bag of tricks from the trade!



CAN OF PENNIES

Fixes: Barking, digging, crotch sniffing, begging, howling, jumping, food stealing, cat or animal chasing, stalking and jumping on furniture

How to make it: Fill an empty aluminum can 3/4 full with change. Place duct tape over the top.

How to use it: Dogs hate the noise when the can is shaken loudly. For example, if a dog is jumping up on someone, I shake it several times to shock it, and put a command to it such as, "Off!" If you do it long enough, the dog will get what you are saying. If your dog goes off to another room for a minute, speak dog: Ignore it for five minutes after you've made the statement. You can use the can as loudly or as softly as you want to, but you need to always shock the dog to get a response. If you shake the can too gently or let your kids play with it, they'll get used to the noise and then it

won't work. Don't try to warn it with it either—keep it all or nothing because to a canine, that makes sense. If your dog is absolutely resilient to loud noises, try banging a pot with a large spoon.

SQUIRT BOTTLE OR SQUIRT GUN

Fixes: Barking, digging, crotch sniffing, begging, howling, jumping, food stealing, cat or animal chasing, stalking and jumping on furniture

How to make it: Fill an empty squirt bottle with water and add a teaspoon of vinegar. Shake up the bottle so the fluids mix and put the squirt bottle onto "stream."

How to use it: When a dog starts barking for instance, take the bottle and squirt the water directly in its face. Put a command to it such as, "Quiet!" Dogs hate the smell and will usually stop whatever they're doing. Just make sure you've made it clear that that behavior is unwanted.

TABASCO SAUCE

Fixes: Eating feces

How to use it: Place a little Tabasco sauce on the dog's poop. One taste of this and it'll think twice about coming back for seconds!

Tin Foil

Fixes: Pets on furniture, counters or wherever you don't want them

How to use it: Place the tin foil on your furniture or counters. When a dog jumps up and its paws hit the foil, the noise will scare it off.

BELLS

Works for: Teach your dog to hit bells on your door to let you know when it's time to go outside to use the bathroom.

How to use it: Place some bells on the door knob that leads outside. Make sure your dog can reach the bells easily. Before it is allowed to go out, teach the dog to hit the bells with his nose. Pretty soon, he'll tell you when it's time to go potty! ♦



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Jennifer McCarthy is a celebrity trainer and trainer-to-the-trainers with experience working in behavior, trick, security and show training for some of the most prominent names in their respected industries. Contact info, www.jmddogtraining.com and 702.807.9950.

