

## Common Sense Rules for taking your dog to a public place

- 🐾 Do not ask to bring a non-housebroken dog or puppy into a store or business.
- 🐾 Make sure your dog has gone to the bathroom right before going inside (and that you've cleaned it up and properly disposed of it in a receptacle away from the business entrance). Do NOT let your dog urinate on landscaping!
- 🐾 Do not take your sick dog (or a dog with any open sores present or bandages on your dog) into a public business (if he's sick or injured, he should be home.)
- 🐾 As always, groom your dog before going into any public place (your dog should smell and look CLEAN, and have no mats, nothing stuck to fur, and have feet hair trimmed and toenails maintained.) Dog not let your dog track in dirt or mud.
- 🐾 Don't take your dog in public wearing excessive corrective equipment, like prong collars, no-jumping harnesses, etc. If your dog needs these devices to behave, perhaps you need to train him a little better first. A regular buckle collar, harness or easy-walk harness is suggested. Head halters are not considered excessive, but some people think that your dog is vicious or uncontrollable with a halter on (they think it's a muzzle.) Choke collars and electric collars are not allowed for use by representatives of Dog Scouts of America. Prong collars are not encouraged.
- 🐾 Keep your dog under control at all times. If your dog breaks or damages something, you bought it. You are to be totally responsible for your dog's actions. Use your obedience cues to get your dog to stay with you, settle down, pay attention, or stay still as requested.
- 🐾 Keep your dog quiet. If he barks at strange appearances or people, then you need to socialize him or her to more of these unusual sights and sounds before taking him into a place that will stress him out and set off his startle reflex.
- 🐾 If your dog gets stressed or for some other reason sheds fur like crazy, clean it up. There should not be visible hair left behind from your dog.
- 🐾 Take materials with you to clean up after your dog should he or she happen to get sick or have an accident on the floor (or need hair cleaned up- use a sticky roller.)
- 🐾 If your dog becomes a problem, remove him or her from the area immediately. It's not the store's obligation to help your dog get over his fear of teddy bears, and if he starts going nuts and causing a scene, you should forget about working him past the issue and just vacate the premises.
- 🐾 Some businesses are known for allowing dogs. Let them know that you appreciate their open-to-dogs policy, and always ask before entering. If you have a choice of where to do business in the future, be sure to choose the businesses that allow you to bring your well-mannered pet in (even when you don't have your pet with you.)
- 🐾 Don't try to handle more than one dog at a time. If you have a second dog, have another competent individual manage your second dog.
- 🐾 Do not let your dog get close to or greet anyone unless they clearly indicate that they WANT contact with your dog. Never allow your dog to put his paws onto anyone or anything and don't let your dog slobber on someone or on items that don't belong to you.

