



## Training Your Adult Dog

Yes, your old dog can learn new tricks! Studies have shown that older dogs, although it may take them longer than younger dogs or puppies, are capable of learning new things and can be trained to change their behavior.

It's important to remember that an adult dog has been behaving the same way for years, and has an established personality, so when adding one to your family, patience is key. It will likely be more of a challenge than training a puppy, but the upside is your adult dog will have a longer attention span and likely be a little less curious than a puppy.

If you adopted an adult dog that lived in a different home previously, he may be used to house rules that differ from yours. For example, maybe you don't allow dogs on the furniture, but in the past, he's always been able to jump on the couch. Be sure to start teaching your dog the new rules as soon as you bring him home and be sure everyone in the household is on the same page.

Similar to puppies, old dogs respond best to positive reinforcement training using treats, praise, and playtime as a reward for good behavior. It's important to keep training light, upbeat and positive as you are pushing your pup out of his comfort zone. He'll be confused at first, but with persistence, you'll have a well-behaved dog, and a stronger bond!