



# ***Train a Chicago Dog***

Choosing a trainer will be an important part of building your relationship with your dog. Here are some tips we've learned along the way on how to make the best choice:

**Accreditation:** The Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers is a worldwide organization for certification of dog trainers with an emphasis on well researched, humane, and trusted methodology. Look for these credentials CPDT-KA, CPDT-KSA, or CPCC-KA.

**Comfortability:** Most dog training classes show the owners how to work with their beloved pets once they go home; after all, training means practice, practice, practice! When choosing a trainer, make sure you are comfortable asking questions and receiving guidance from the trainers.

**Fit:** There are many types of classes in which you can enroll your dog. Make sure that the class fits what your pup needs. It always helps to call if you are unsure. Trainers should be able to easily recommend classes based on the behaviors you describe.

**Location:** It will be a commitment to take your dog to training each week, so set yourself up for success by finding a training facility convenient to you.

**Red Flags:** Be aware of any training facility that advertises "dominance" training. This is not science-based training, nor is it humane.

## **Questions to Ask a Trainer:**

- Can you discuss your training philosophy?
- What equipment do you use?
- How long have you been training dogs?
- Where did you receive your education?
- Do you participate in continuing education?
- May I speak to a former client or do you have written testimonials?
- For board and train - Can I have a tour?
- May I observe a training session?
- Will I be involved in the training process? If so, how?
- How long before I see results with my dog?

Dog training is for your dog and YOU. It's about your relationship. Every situation will be unique with its own triumphs and setbacks, but the journey is just as important as the final destination.

