

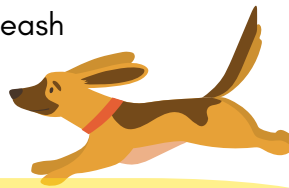
COMMON NEGATIVE ASSOCIATIONS

Your dog decides what they find scary or unpleasant. Unfortunately, we can't choose for them. Many dogs have made a negative association with what we consider fun or a non-issue.

THE LEASH

Do you have a hard time attaching your dog's leash when you are ready to leave? This can be caused by excitement, but it is also likely that your dog may have a negative association with the leash. The fun is done when the leash is on, or you may be going somewhere scary!

- 🐾 Start in your home
- 🐾 Let your dog play a bit while on the leash
- 🐾 Use your dog's favorite toy or treat



Make attaching the leash a positive experience



Start making a positive association by attaching the lead and playing with a toy, treating and using a lot of praise WHILE you attach the leash. Play with your dog for a few minutes while they are wearing their leash. Start this in the house and over time, repeat it in different controlled environments.

THE VET CLINIC

Many dogs find veterinary visits scary or unpleasant because they ONLY visit when shots or procedures are needed.

- 🐾 Park away from the vet clinic
- 🐾 Have treats & toys
- 🐾 Play with your dog in the parking lot / side yard of the clinic
- 🐾 Do not put any pressure on your dog except play
- 🐾 Repeat outside visits for 3 times a week for a month
- 🐾 Begin working with your dog the same way in the vet lobby then leaving



Ask your vet clinic if you can visit regularly to make the experience a fun one for your dog. The repeated positive experiences will help your dog relax at their clinic.

You can help your dog turn negative associations into positive associations. Do this SLOWLY and always work **AT YOUR DOG'S PACE**

This takes time and patience. Your dog will decide when they are making a positive association.

