

IS YOUR DOG PLAYING OR PUSHY?

Hyper arousal often leads to inappropriate play.
Always advocate for your dog if you are in any doubt.

SOME SIGNS THAT YOUR DOG IS PLAYING TOO ROUGH

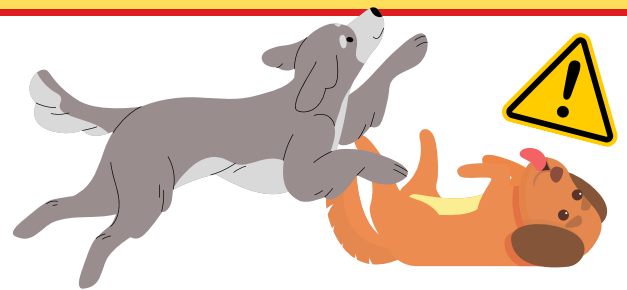
If you see your dog attempting to interact with a sniffing dog, redirect them elsewhere. They are not reading the other dog's signals well.



Dogs sniff the ground as a way to disengage with the dogs around them. This is a clear indicator that they do NOT want to interact or play.

Sniffing can be an attempt to disengage with what is around them. Many anxious dogs default to sniffing the ground when they want to be left alone.

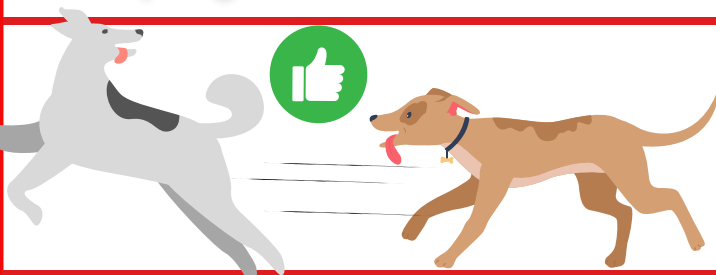
If your dog is constantly pushing dogs onto their backs when interacting, they may have a very pushy style of play that can cause issues for both dogs. This should be stopped by you.



In an equal / fair play style, both dogs would roll onto their backs to show that they are equals in play

If your dog defaults to being on their back when dogs approach or play, it can be a sign that they are anxious or wary around dogs.

Playing well does **NOT** come naturally to many dogs



Look for dogs that are:

- Taking turns
- Have loose, wiggly bodies
- Loose ears and face
- Nipping & play bites should be back & forth

WATCH THE BODY LANGUAGE IF YOU ARE UNSURE

The following body language signals means that play needs to stop

- Tight face
- Snarls / growls with lip curled
- Stiff Posture
- Ear position changes
- Frantically running from other dog
- Frantic chasing of dog
- Tail position changes

Never leave dogs to "figure it out". They will and you may not like how they do it. Intervene early!

