

UNDER
CONSTRUCTION

WORK IN
PROGRESS

CHALLENGES OF TEENAGE DOGS

Just like humans, dogs go through a teenage stage

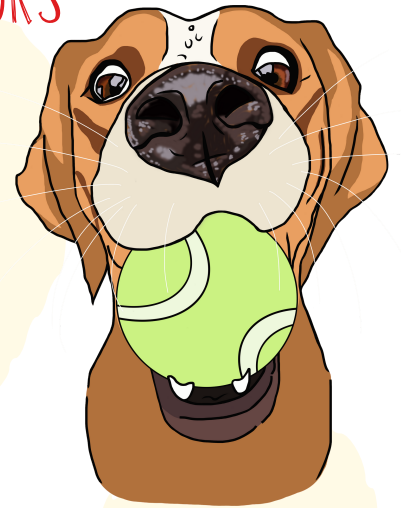
The teenage brain is being rewired
BIOLOGICAL / EMOTIONAL / PHYSICAL
these changes can cause challenging behavior



The teenage stage generally starts at 5-6 months old and generally ends around 18-24 months or your dog reaches social maturity

COMMON TEENAGE BEHAVIORS

- Forget what they have learned
- Doesn't respond to cues / come when called
- Easily Distracted / lost focus
- Lack impulse control / frustrated
- Over stimulated / excited / persistent
- Excess energy / sleeping less
- Sudden urges to chew things
- Urge to wander off / explore more
- Become fearful at things that didn't bother them before



HOW TO MANAGE

- Be consistent / patient / understanding
- Keep building trust & working on the relationship
- Keep rewarding behaviors you like
- Provide outlets for exercise - Walks / hikes / activities
- Increase mental stimulation - Scent work / puzzle toys / long lasting chews
- Continue socializing - Places / people / animals / situations - make sure they are all positive experiences

Many dogs are surrendered to shelters or rehomed during this time period as it is not common knowledge that this is a passing phase



Awesome Dog
Academy