

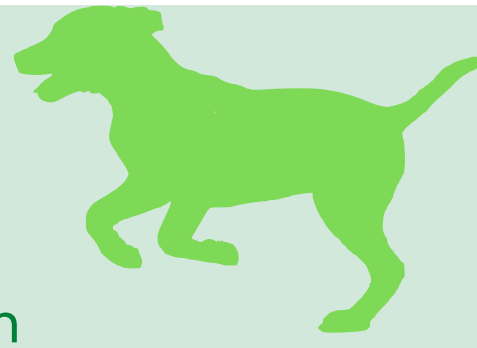


Walking with Shy Dogs



Some of us are quite shy and may need more time to open up, so please be patient with us! Here are some tips for you!

How to know when your dog is feeling nervous?



Subtle signs:

- Looking away
- Lip licking
- Yawning (when not tired)
- Panting (when not hot or thirsty)
- Moving away, trying to hide
- Pinning ears back



Obvious signs:

- Crouched & lowered body position
- Tucked tail
- Whites of eye showing
- Stiffened body posture
- Teeth showing
- Growling



DO's

- Give us space! We may need some time to get used to you. Stay at a comfortable distance between us. We will come to you at our own time.
- We love treats! You can try kneeling down and offer us treats, so you don't look like a giant to us. But if we are not taking your treat you don't have to force us! Feel free to try again after our walks!
- Try to talk to us in a more gentle and positive tone! We may feel more comfy and safe.
- Keep your movements smooth and slow – jerky or fast movement is scary.
- Let us approach you. Don't reach out to us – being too impulsive can scare us.



DONT's

- Avoid aggressive or agitating movements towards us.
- Avoid making eye contact or stare at us. Instead, take a submissive stance, looking away.
- Avoid standing over us while trying to approach us! We might get more frightened with someone so big!
- Please try not to pet us if we don't look comfortable, or did not beg for attention; we might still be getting used to you. You can pet us later when you gain our trust.



Some useful tips

- Food and toys are great motivators. Try to put some dog snacks or toys on your palm and let us approach you slowly.
- Understand that some of us are just shy in nature. Be patient and just leave a comfortable space.
- Let us smell you, don't be scared – we are very sensitive in smelling, and often recognise you by your smell.
- Let us walk with another confident dog! We will acknowledge that the situation is safe and will feel more comfortable.
- If you need help, don't hesitate to ask our friendly humans!

