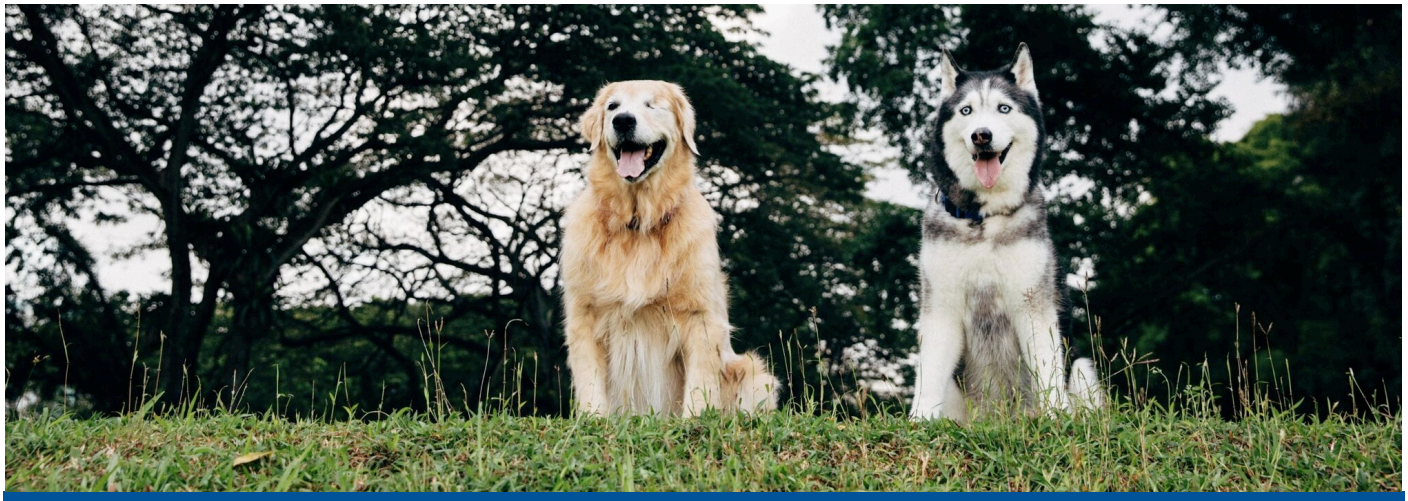


To walk with a dog… is to share his world. What sights and sounds he encounters. What past and present smells he reads. To stretch his legs, to bask in the sun, to discover and wind his way through this brave new human world.

cheerfuldogs chronicles

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Issue 40

Tips & Tools: A Harmonious Multi-species Household

Cats and dogs can live peacefully together, but getting off on the right paw is much easier than trying to smooth out already ruffled fur. Here are a few tips…

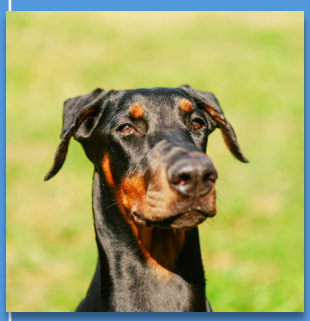
Go slow. For the first week or so, let your cat and dog coexist without meeting, getting used to each other's presence and smell. Then take many small, short, interim steps working towards an actual meeting, all the time ensuring the interactions between your cat and dog are safe and good. You can, for example, make the first several introductions with your dog and cat separated by a puppy gate,



Dog In the Spotlight: Doberman, the Origin Story

The Doberman is a medium-large, highly trainable breed with a colourful origin story dating to the 1880s. While running the dog pound in Apolda, Germany, Karl Friedrich Louis Dobermann began mixing breeds, looking to create an intelligent guard dog to protect him in his other role as local tax collector. There's no consensus on which breeds ultimately resulted in the handsome, intelligent Doberman, but most experts cite Beauceron, German Pinscher, Rottweiler, and Weimaraner. It is also commonly thought that the old German Shepherd made a major gene contribution.

The Doberman has enjoyed popularity and honour throughout its history. After the US Marine Corps adopted the breed as its official war dog, a Dobie named Cappy saved 250 Marines by alerting them to Japanese soldiers, and was the first dog to be buried in the WWII War Dog Memorial. Today Dobermans brighten many dog lovers' lives as affectionate pet dogs.



cont.

....multispecies household

then with your dog on lead, allowing your cat to approach and leave at will. Keep meetings brief, graduating to a dragged leash if all goes well. Seek the help of a professional dog trainer for help.

Give kitty and doggie a safe space. Maintain a cat-only zone that your cat can access at all times. Put her food, water, and litter box in this room so she can relax dog-free as desired. In the same vein, provide your dog with an equivalent cat-free zone where he can be away from feline company.

Keep an eye on it. As their relationship grows, continue to monitor interactions. Offer praise and treats for calm, polite behaviour toward the other, and redirect to other alternative activities if you notice tension.



Dog Sports Around the World: Tracking

A dog's world is dominated by smells — their olfactory sense is acute and primal. Little wonder, then, that dogs so love to put their noses to good use. Teaching your dog to track objects is a fun training challenge for people, and a great mind-and-body workout for dogs. Tracking as a sport has been around since the early 20th century and titles can be won from many different participating dog organisations and clubs. However, lots of people undertake the activity purely for fun. The only equipment needed to get started is a tracking harness, an 11-metre line, training treats, and toys.

In a tracking test, you and your dog are tested on her ability to follow a track and indicate to you that she has found the item, usually a glove or wallet. As your dog advances, tracks get longer, cover more difficult terrain, and are left to "age" longer. The challenge, as with much dog training, is not to go too fast, but to use repetition and small steps so your dog stays motivated.





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