

Questions to Ask When Searching for a Dog Trainer



Not all trainers are created equal. Every dog and every situation is unique. Find the trainer that best fits your needs.

Notes

Use this space to add any additional questions and/or observations.

🐾 TRAINING TIP: Decide what type of training you and your dog need. A basic obedience trainer will most likely not be your best option for severe behavior problems.


Trainer Company Name	
Name of Trainer	
Phone, Email, Website	
What method of dog training do you use?	<input type="checkbox"/> Reward-based, clicker training, positive reinforcement dog training <input type="checkbox"/> Balanced training <input type="checkbox"/> Board and train <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
What dog training services do you offer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Obedience <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior problems <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy or service dog training <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
How long have you been training dogs professionally?	
Have you had any educational training, behaviorist training, do you have any special certifications?	
What type of tools do you use when training a dog?	<input type="checkbox"/> Treats <input type="checkbox"/> Clicker <input type="checkbox"/> Harness <input type="checkbox"/> e-collar <input type="checkbox"/> Prong collar <input type="checkbox"/> Choke chain <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
How large are the group classes?	
What is the trainer to dog ratio?	
Do you have assistant trainers in the class?	
If so, what are their qualifications?	

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<p>How involved will I be in the training?</p> <p>Are the classes directional and I do all the work, or are you hands-on?</p> <p>Do you take the dog for X amount of weeks, then train me?</p>	
<p>What can I expect to learn in the time frame of one class?</p> <p>Will I need to take multiple classes?</p>	
<p>Where are the training classes held?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> At your facility (inside or outside?)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> My home</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Board and train (how many days/weeks?)</p>
<p>Can I observe a training class before signing up?</p>	
<p>Can I contact a few references by phone or email?</p> <p>Ask for at least 2-3 references.</p>	
<p>Do you offer private lessons? If so, how much do they cost?</p>	
<p>What type of follow-up training is provided, what if I have questions after the class is over? Or if I need a refresher in a particular area.</p>	

 **TRAINING TIP:** Trainers are like teachers. Even if the school is highly rated, doesn't mean ALL of the teachers are great. If interviewing a training school, learn more about the actual trainer you will be working with.



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