

TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS:

American Humane Association's Training workbook Bark...Stop, Drop, & Roll™ : www.americanhumane.org, 866-242-1877.

Doggone Safe: Dog bite prevention for workers, children, and families, and dog bite victim support: www.doggonesafe.com/ 1-877-350-3232.

Peninsula Humane Society, 12 Airport Blvd, San Mateo, CA 94401, 650.340.7022: www.peninsulahumane.org. Maria Jose Eguren/Behavior/Training Manager.

ORGANIZATIONS:

American Academy of Pediatrics: www.aap.org

The American Veterinary Medical Association, 191 N Meacham Rd, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173 847-925-8070, ext 6667. www.avma.org
Brochure "Don't Worry, They Won't Bite" features helpful tips on how to prevent dog bites and what to do if your dog bites someone or you are bitten: www.avma.org/publth/dogbite/dogbitebroc.pdf

Humane Society of the United States : www.hsus.org

International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants: www.iaabc.org/

Nat'l. Assn. of Letter Carriers: www.nalc.org/depart/safety/dogbite.html

Prevent the Bite Program: www.preventthebite.org

Preventing Dog Bites - Safety Tips from Life Essentials by Zee: www.lifeessentialsbyzee.com/zee/safety/zLifeE_safety_outdrs_010.html

USPS - Dog Bite Awareness: www.usps.com/communications/community/dogbite. Detailed dog bite prevention information as part a Postmaster's media kit: www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/bulletin/2006/html/pb22179/pb6ktx.html

Clicker Training with Karen Pryor. Training methods that do not promote aggression in dogs: www.clickertraining.com

Dog Bite Law- For dog bite victims, dog owners, parents, journalists and others to learn about the legal rights of victims, how to protect children, and other aspects of the dog bite epidemic: www.dogbitelaw.com

Turid Rugaas, Calming Signals Community: www.canis.no/rugaas/

Dog Bite Prevention - prevent needing a plastic surgeon in the emergency room: www.plasticsurgery4u.com/procedure_folder/dog_bite.html

Dr. Michael Bermant, MD, plastic & cosmetic surgery. Bite prevention, treatment, and surgery options: www.plasticsurgery4u.com/procedure_folder/dog_bite.html

About THE LATHAM FOUNDATION for the Promotion of Humane Education

Founded in 1918, the Latham Foundation is a producer and distributor of affordable videos and publications, publisher of the *Latham Letter*, and serves as a clearinghouse for information about:

- Humane issues and activities
- The human companion animal bond (HCAB)
- Animal-assisted therapy
- The connections between child and animal abuse and other forms of violence

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For a complete list of affordably-priced products and services and a searchable *Latham Letter* archive, please visit www.Latham.org.

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Dog Defense Avoiding On-the-Job Dog Bites



RESOURCES AND REFERRALS



THE LATHAM FOUNDATION
For the Promotion of Humane Education

DOG DEFENSE: Avoiding On-the-Job Dog Bites

Dog Defense bases the following suggestions on the research and real-world experience of respected bite prevention experts. The experts offer detailed training programs and materials. We suggest you contact them for additional information. (See **TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS**.) Your local humane society or SPCA may also offer training.

In the meantime, whether you make daily or occasional home visits, you can improve your chances of avoiding a bite by following these tips. Some of them may be different than the things that you currently do or have heard about, and some may even seem like the opposite of what you should do (such as standing still when approached by a strange dog), but they are all based on the latest understanding of dog behavior.

Although we cannot guarantee that the following strategies will protect you from every dangerous dog, they will certainly stack the odds in your favor.

- **OBSERVE**
- **DIFFUSE**
- **FREEZE**
- **PROTECT/SHIELD YOURSELF**



If possible, avoid a confrontation by **OBSERVING**:

- The setting for signs of a dog's presence,
 - The dog's body language for signs of stress and likelihood that it will bite. Look and listen.
- Do not approach a strange dog, especially one that's tethered or confined.
 - Leave, rather than risk a bite.

If you are taken by surprise or a dog threatens you, **DIFFUSE** the situation.

Distract the dog by tossing a hat or a treat underhand.

If the dog continues to approach, **FREEZE!**

Stand like a statue facing the dog but with your head turned away. Don't turn your back and don't run and scream. Believe it or not, this is your best option because movement encourages a dog to attack.

If attack is imminent, **PROTECT YOURSELF.**

Block the oncoming attack by putting something such as a mail sack or a package between you and the dog.

If the dog knocks you to the ground, curl up, face down, and cover your head and neck with your arms. Stay like that until the dog leaves.

