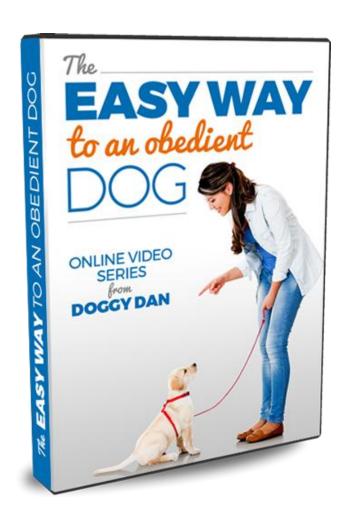
The EASY WAY To An Obedient Shih Tzu

Everyday Dog Training Tools - Free Resource Guide





"What I use every day to train the dogs that people love"

- Doggy Dan

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Introduction

There are literally thousands of Shih Tzu lovers all over the world who are struggling right now with their puppy and dog problems due to a lack of knowledge. It's actually very sad to think that all of this could have been avoided if owners had known some simple techniques and been given some of the secrets that the top dog trainers know and understand.

Unfortunately, because humans and dogs are biologically so different to each other, there are certain things that we do that can actually cause these problems rather than solve them. Of course we love our Shih Tzus, and we want the amazing relationships that other people have. But the reality is that our actions are actually often causing the dog problems we are experiencing... and it doesn't have to be this way.

That's right – if you had known what I am about to share with you early on, when you first got your dog or puppy, then none of these issues that you are facing now would ever have started. You would instead be enjoying life with your amazing dog as we speak.

However if things are not going well with your dog or puppy don't feel that all is lost. There's still hope that you can turn everything around and it's actually easier than you think. Even if you've tried everything you can think of, tried several dog trainers and read lots of books, deep down you know that there is something missing.

You see the real problem is that we are not taught about how dogs think, so it's a mystery to most people how we should work with them. We're stuck trying out tactics that we think make sense to humans without ever considering what it actually means to our dog.

This guide will explain some very important areas to focus on that will give your Shih Tzu a completely different view of you, their owner and get them to start listening to every single word you say. Plus I've included some of the tools I use every day with my clients.

Are you really ready to stop all those unwanted behaviors? Are you ready to get your puppy or dog off onto the right track and build that relationship you always dreamt of?

Then let's get started... To take a free look around my complete dog training solution:



Become The Pack Leader 1.



Of all the things that's going to help you to stop any unwanted behavior and develop the relationship with your Shih Tzu that you have always dreamt of is understanding how to become the pack leader. This is the fundamental principle of my dog training method, and must be in place to experience the full impact of my everyday tools and techniques.

Dogs are pack animals, so they understand that there are leaders and followers in their pack, which includes you. Knowing how to communicate to your Shih Tzu the clear message that you are the pack leader and you make all the decisions is not difficult however it is something that is not widely taught.

Without this basic foundation in place you could spend the rest of your life trying to train your dog, reading books, going to different trainers and wondering what is going wrong. You may even think that your Shih Tzu is stupid or deliberately trying to annoy you. When all along in your dogs mind you were simply not the pack leader and so they did not see why they should listen to you. Thus any training was really a waste of time.

Now before we get started it is really important that I emphasize that when I talk about being the pack leader I am talking about a loving leader, more like a parent to a child than a mean boss! Using my method there is absolutely no place for shouting, hitting, kicking your Shih Tzu or causing any fear or pain.

In fact this method is so gentle and amazing that it is fully endorsed and used by the SPCA of New Zealand, so you can rest assured that everyone in the family is going to be happy to implement it.

So how does it actually work? Well it's all about thinking like a dog rather than a human – in a way it is sort of dog psychology. Let me give you a quick example of what I am talking about and show you a quick glimpse through the eyes of a dog rather than our own.

One of the most common misconceptions is that an old bone (or any edible chew for that matter) lying around in the house or the garden has no meaning for your dog. It's just a treat that you, the loving owner, have given to your dog and they don't want it...

Now your Shih Tzu may not have touched it in months, or they may have buried it in the garden or down the back of the couch, and to us it is rubbish, worthless and irrelevant. In our human minds it has no bearing at all on the dog behavioral issues that we are experiencing and so desperate to fix. Yet to your Shih Tzu this bone is their PROOF that they are the pack leader. In their minds, since they control the food, which is one of, if not the most important resource in their world, they must be the leader!

So in a nutshell, as long as that bone is lying around under their control, nothing that you do can convince them that you are their master. To them that bone is like the King's crown, the treasure chest and the golden goose all rolled into one.

Very often people are actually told by trainers who do not know any better to leave bones and food toys lying around to try to keep your dog content when they are left alone. Now you will understand that whilst this all sounds very good in theory, if you think like a human, the truth of the matter is that to a dog this will cause you a lot more issues in the long run. You could in fact be setting yourself up for a lot of trouble.

It's amazing really that such a simple thing as leaving bones around for the Shih Tzu can lead to such huge issues because they think they are the pack leader. And remember that this is just one tiny little example of the way your dog views things. The good news is that is so easy to rectify – simply pick up the bones when your Shih Tzu has finished eating them! Easy.

So hopefully that gives you a good idea of what I mean when I say that to help a dog you have to think like a dog, and stop expecting them to think like humans.

I have developed 5 Golden Rules to Becoming the Pack Leader which, when applied consistently, will remove as much as 95% of the problems you're experiencing with your dog. If you'd like to learn more about them, please visit my site, The Online Dog Trainer, which shows you exactly how to become the pack leader without any fear or aggression:



In the following chapters we'll look at just some of the tools and techniques that I use every day to help people train puppies and dogs.

Reading The Situation (Tool: The Energy Meter) 2.



One of the most important tricks of the trade in dog training is learning to pick up on the very subtle message that your dog is giving you when you are working with them.

Shih Tzus - just like humans - have emotions, however they are unable to communicate the way we are used to. So when they are stressed, bored, frustrated or scared they exhibit signs expressing these emotions but obviously can't use spoken English. This presents a problem for them if we simply ignore them and plough ahead regardless with our training.

Learning to read your Shih Tzu means that you are able to adjust anything you do in training to suit their specific situation. Now this may sound quite straight forward yet one of the big issues that I have found with people's training routines is that the dog is simply not coping with the situation.

When your Shih Tzu becomes too excited, fearful, or focused, something happens that means that nothing that you do is going to work. Put very simply, you could say that the adrenalin kicks in.

Adrenalin is produced in your Shih Tzu's brain during stressful times leading to the flight-or-fight response that they have. Either they will try to run away or it's time to stay and fight. Neither of which are very helpful when you are trying to train your dog!

So one trick when working with your Shih Tzu or puppy is to avoid this state no matter what. And one way that helps is if you think of what I call an Energy Meter, which goes from 1 up to 10. I call it the Energy Meter because when your Shih Tzu is asleep they are down at a level 1 and when adrenalin kicks in they are up at around 8-10. Now the problem is, in many situations people are trying to train their dogs and alter their behavior when the dog's energy level is up at around 6-8. This is simply too high.

As soon as your Shih Tzu gets a blast of adrenalin everything goes bang! Breathing rate increases, heart rate increases, muscles tighten and go to work overtime... The leash goes tight and you are almost pulled over, their eyes are on stalks, they start barking and running around out of control. If you are inside the house your Shih Tzu could be barking madly at the window, barking or shaking under the bed...

The bottom line is that their behavior is not good. It has suddenly changed. This is

their flight or fight response kicking in. If your Shih Tzu is not on a leash at this point then they are off and out of control.

As you can imagine, none of this is pleasant to watch. So what happens? Well we start to become frustrated, angry, and annoyed with the situation and sometimes our dog and our reactions simply make things worse. It is a viscous cycle and our training goes nowhere or backwards.

Understanding that you need to keep your Shih Tzu well away from level 8 where the adrenalin kicks in is crucial. And here is the secret. When you take things slowly to start with, and your Shih Tzu gets used to things at a slightly slower pace, then the pay off later on is huge.

Learn to work with your Shih Tzu in the calm zone from 1-5 and take things slowly to start with. If you are in this zone and your Shih Tzu sees something that gets them excited they will be aware of it however they will only end up at say a level 6 or 7. Since no adrenalin kicks in they will calm down really quick again for you – ready to carry on with your training.

If you are really serious about helping your Shih Tzu, learning to read them in every situation and setting them up to win in every situation then I recommend you take a look at my video series on the Energy Meter, which will help you do just that:

All of this is inside my video website which you can take a quick tour around from here...



The Power Of Calm Energy (Tool: The Calm Freeze) 3.



Nowadays it seems like everyone is talking about calm energy, but very few people actually have any advice on how to apply it to dogs. In this chapter I want to tell you about one of the most talked about techniques on my website because people are just stunned with how powerful this is when done correctly.

I call it the Calm Freeze, but first let me put it into context by describing a scenario that many of you will have experienced where this technique is so useful.

You are calmly walking down the road with your Shih Tzu or puppy when suddenly another dog comes into view and grabs their attention. Immediately they become too excited, overly aggressive or maybe very fearful. It is important to point out that every dog will respond differently yet the calm freeze technique will work whatever their emotional response. On the energy meter your Shih Tzu is heading rapidly up the scale and is at say, a 7. The adrenalin has not yet kicked in but we need to do something fast to calm them down and avoid a complete melt down.

Now usually what happens at this point is that we then mirror our dog and we too become highly energized, with a tug on the lead, quickly correcting our dog with a "leave it" command. To which our dog responds with more energy and barks or pulls even harder resulting in an increased response from ourselves and before we know it their adrenalin has kicked in and we might as well all go home to calm ourselves down.

So here is where the calm freeze technique comes into play. At the point at which you detect an increase in your Shih Tzu's energy due to the sighting of another dog, calmly walk your dog a couple of yards away. Then with your back to the other dog as a distraction, crouch down and without a word take your hand palm up, under your Shih Tzu's chin and lightly hold the collar.

Here are a couple of other important points to make sure that you are doing it correctly. Firstly, you do it all in silence, no talking. Secondly, you hold as lightly as possible, this is not about causing your Shih Tzu pain. And thirdly, you look away from your dog, down at the ground with a relaxed expression. Your Shih Tzu will read you like a book and will very likely be stunned into silence! Once they are calm then you simply loosen your grip and gently let go, stand up and carry on walking, leaving them in that calm state of 2 or 3 on the energy scale.

Now if you try this and they take no notice of you then that is because they are the pack leader and not you. So it's time to get the basics put in place first.

So you may be thinking, is that it? And the answer is absolutely Yes! But remember, the beauty of this technique and this whole method lies in its simplicity. You see our thoughts, our words and our actions are all important and when we align all three we become very powerful. If you only shout the words "Calm Down" at your Shih Tzu but you are still stressed and pulling aggressively on the lead your dog will not respond calmly – they will reflect back your energy.

So by putting your own mind into a calm state, by staying silent, demonstrating a calm behavior by crouching down and turning away, your Shih Tzu will understand your communication very clearly. As they say, actions really do speak louder than words.

This is just one technique which when used in conjunction with all the other tools can be part of that magical moment when your Shih Tzu starts to take notice of you. The great thing about the calm freeze is that you can do it anywhere both inside and outside and it doesn't require another piece of equipment. Just your hand and your dogs collar.

There are so many situations where you can use the calm freeze with dramatic success such as when your Shih Tzu is barking in the house at somebody outside or if your Shih Tzu is shaking and scared of the fireworks.

Now I have done my best to describe how to do this technique, but actually watching me do it will make it much more real. You'll really 'get it'. Plus you'll also be able to see for yourself how the dogs I apply it to respond.

To find out more about my website, and watch The Calm Freeze videos inside:



4. Success Starts At Home (Tool: Time Out)



Sometimes the simplest things are the most powerful and it is so true of this dog training technique that I am about to share with you now. It is such a simple tool and we all have it already set up in our homes ready to use, however very few people actually use it properly. Let me describe the situation where it can be used so effectively.

Your Shih Tzu jumps up on your new couch. You shout very calmly "FIDO OFF" to which Fido obeys. However a few seconds later he is back up on the couch staring straight at you. "FIDO OFF" you reply in your now rather stressed voice. Somehow you know that it is not working, however there seems to be very few alternatives. Over the course of the next few minutes Fido succeeds in winding you up like a grandfather clock resulting in you shouting your head off at him and chasing him all over the room. Sound familiar?

Well the great news is that it doesn't have to be that way and here's why. One of the biggest reasons that dogs do not change their behavior is that we are actually training them to continue the old patterns. Let me explain. Fido very likely did not actually want to sleep on the couch as much as he wanted some attention. And our technique of shouting at him, getting frustrated and chasing Fido around the room gave him all the attention he could have wished for and more!

Now when you become the pack leader your Shih Tzu or puppy is going to be far more respectful of you. Put very simply they are not going to jump all over the couch knowing that you do not want them up there. However when your Shih Tzu thinks that they should be running the show you will run into more areas of contention than you could possible would wish for.

So what is our alternative option for dealing with our dog when they jump up on the couch? Here is the solution. The first time they jump up, take them very calmly and place them on the floor without a word being spoken. If they jump up again you take them by the collar and put them in Time Out. Close the door on them and walk away. When they are quiet you can let them out, but make sure you ignore them.

It's as simple as that.

A couple of points to cover off some questions you may face.

Firstly, if you are concerned that you can't catch your Shih Tzu because they are too fast then carry on reading. In the next chapter I shall explain how to ensure that your Shih Tzu no longer has the upper hand on you in the speed department!

Secondly. Your time out room needs to be safe for your Shih Tzu and secure. Usually a bathroom or toilet works well as they have few windows and are quite small. Remember when your Shih Tzu is in Time Out they are not supposed to be having fun, so sometimes outside in the garden is not the best option.

Thirdly. If your Shih Tzu is barking you really want to wait until they stop before letting them out. If they are quiet then a couple of minutes is usually long enough first time round for them to think twice about doing it again.

The beauty of time out is that you no longer have to enter the cycle of becoming stressed, shouting and frustrated. Let's face it, nobody enjoys shouting at their dog. In fact shouting your dog's name when they have done something wrong can quickly ruin your chances of them coming to you when you call them at the park.

Time Out can be used effectively for so many training issues as I demonstrate in my videos. It is simply a better choice of deterring unwanted behaviors than physically becoming aggressive to your dog or shouting.

Take a look around my complete puppy training and dog training solution:



Control The Environment (Tools: the Long Line and the Short Line)



In the last section we talked about Fido running rings around you in the home. I have seen it so many times and it is often quite funny to start with. From little fluffy white dogs to great big clumsy dogs, they have this knack of staying out of our reach when we want to grab them.

In this chapter I want to talk about the importance of controlling the environment when we are training our dogs. It is equally true when we are outside and we want to change a behavior or stop our dogs doing a certain thing. If they are out of our control there is not a lot that we can do.

Have you ever heard the saying "there is no point in shutting the gate after the horse has bolted"? Well this applies to dog training too. Once your Shih Tzu is off the leash and is refusing to come to you there is not a lot that you can do. Similarly inside the home the Shih Tzu that does not want to be caught will not be caught. Well at least not without a lot of effort.

So here is the simple tactic that all good dog trainers follow. Keep control of the environment. What does this mean to you? Well here are a couple of key tips.

Firstly, it means that outside at the park or the beach do not let your Shih Tzu off the leash unless either, you have a good recall and you know that your Shih Tzu will come back when you call them, or leave a line on your Shih Tzu so that you can catch them again easier. The line could be anywhere from 2-30 meters long depending on your Shih Tzu and the situation that you are facing. You attach it to your Shih Tzu and then drop it on the ground. Then when they get too far away you simply stand on it and train them to stay close by you.

Now you may be thinking, Oh no that's not much fun! I don't want my Shih Tzu to be the only dog running around with a line attached to them for the rest of their life, however this is not forever! Inside my site I show you a dog who is never let off leash because he runs away and in less than an hour we have him coming back to us every single time off leash. However you will see that to start with I use a long line to make sure that I succeed and set him up to win.

Secondly, inside your home you also need to be able to catch your Shih Tzu easily and calmly during training. Again, attach a short line to them when you are working with them or trying to stop an unwanted behavior and suddenly all the silly chasing games will stop. Now I would not use their lead as this will be too heavy and the

loop on the end can get caught up on things, rather a thin piece of string will do just fine.

The short line that you should use inside the house will only need to be a meter, or maybe two, long. You attach it to their collar and drop it on the floor. They then drag it around, most dogs will not even notice it's there and suddenly the tables have turned. Trying to catch your Shih Tzu becomes the easiest thing in the world! No more screaming, shouting and chasing them. Instead you can calmly walk over towards them, stand on the line and before they even know it you have them under your control. Again it is only a training tool, and not needed forever, only when they are in the learning phase.

Controlling the environment is a very important concept. It changes things from being out of your control to being under your control. Only then can you start training your Shih Tzu! Of course before any of this training takes place you need to have won your Shih Tzu's mind and convinced them that you are the pack leader and that they are the follower rather than the other way round.

I encourage you to take a tour around my video website which shows you how to do all of this and much more:



6. **Inside Every Shih Tzu Is A Great Dog**

Hi there,

If you are reading this, then some of what I have talked about must have struck a chord with you and that's great news.

I'm Doggy Dan. As a dog trainer with a huge passion for dogs I have a burning desire to share my knowledge to help make the world a better place for us all, including our beloved friends.

I believe that inside every Shih Tzu is a good dog and inside every good dog is a great dog. It is a simple statement, but one that I've found to be true with every dog, every time. Working with thousands of dogs all over the country I have seen the most difficult of situations turn around when we choose to understand our dogs rather than train them through force.

Becoming the pack leader in a kind and gentle way is an absolutely crucial part of this and it is those secrets that I hold close to my heart that I want to share with you. It's these secrets of becoming the pack leader that your Shih Tzu is looking for. Without them in place your Shih Tzu will always see you as a follower and you will always struggle.

Whatever situation you are in there is an answer and it is often so much simpler than you care to imagine. Do not worry that your problem seems to be different from anything else you have seen, that your Shih Tzu is older, or your issue only occurs when you are not home, or it appears to be random, or breed specific. The method that I would like to show you treats the cause of the problem, and when you do this the issue so often simply disappears all on its own.

If you are serious about sorting out your Shih Tzu's behavioral issues and training your puppy up right from the start don't be tempted to try some fancy gadget that will only back fire on you later on. Learn that the real secret to success is YOU and having the skills and knowledge to get your Shih Tzu to trust, respect and love you for who you are.

When you become the best pack leader that you can be they will chose to follow you. There will be no more need for shouting and scaring your Shih Tzu.

When you chose your puppy or Shih Tzu you had a certain relationship in mind. A wonderful, mutually beneficial relationship where things were not a strain and you could both just enjoy life to the max. Keep focused on that because that is exactly what you can have if you chose to.

I hope that you have enjoyed this guide, and find the tools useful. If you would like to take a free tour of my dog training video website which will show you exactly how to do all of this, in step-by-step videos, then I recommend that right now you...

>> CLICK HERE <<

Thanks for taking the time to read this, have a great day and love your Shih Tzu!

Doggy Dan The Online Dog Trainer





