

The Use Of Electronic Training Collars.

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It is maintained that several thousand collars have been supplied in the U.K. to dog owners and that the collars are quick, efficient and humane. The first author has never known a dog to be detrimentally affected by one provided they are used carefully and with consideration for the dog, and as a last resort after traditional methods have failed. They cure bad habits, such as sheep killing and aggression and in many cases have saved dogs lives. Many people have been desperate to save their wayward dogs from the alternative of euthanasia. The only way that a dog could be hurt would be where a collar has been used incorrectly and contrary to the instructions provided by the supplier.

The equipment consists of a small collar and a transmitter. The treatment can be given either on the disobeying of a command or just before or at the time the dog misbehaves. The button is pressed and a signal sent to the collar which gives the dog a low electrical impulse. There are 5 settings, the lowest of which is a tingle and the highest setting would be necessary for a large determined dog. The batteries have a voltage of 3.6 and the impulse can last only 0.9 of a second

Indications

Typical problems that are correctable are as follows:-

Barking

Continual barking can be a severe problem often when the owner is out during the day or at night. Neighbours become annoyed and aggressive and a short spell of treatment on the dog will correct the fault. Local authorities have an obligation to prevent excessive barking and owners are sometimes warned that their dog will be destroyed if the barking continues. Local authorities have been supplied with the collars so that owners can be helped.

Aggression

When a dog acts aggressively towards the handler, another individual or a dog, the miscreant can be threatened with destruction. The collar will cure the problem very quickly.

Sheep worrying and killing

The dog is taken to the sheep and the button pressed when the dog shows interest in the animal. Dogs may be shot for sheep worrying and this threat is lifted.

Eating faeces

This is a common problem that few people are aware of. It is often considered to be extremely unpleasant. It is very difficult to stop with traditional methods but easily and humanely cured with the collar. The dog can be made severely ill with excessive faeces eating and some owners have been forced to have their dogs taken away.

Escaping

Roaming dogs cause great problems and danger and the collars or fences can be easily used to prevent escaping. With an electronic fence a wire is laid on the ground and as the dog approaches the magnetic field from the wire he gets a warning buzz from his collar. If he ignores the warning he receives the electrical impulse which is adjustable. He is kept within the area of the wire. Alternatively the mobile collar can be used as the dog approaches the area through which he is escaping.

Quarry Killing

Sometimes dogs will chase and kill cats, birds, deer, cattle, horses etc. and obviously this is very difficult to control by traditional methods. The collar will sort out the problem within a few days.

Training of working dogs

When a dog that is being used for livestock work cannot be controlled by the handler it is common for the dog to be put down. The careful use of the collar will prevent this drastic action.

Control of gun dogs

There is a problem at present with some Springier Spaniels that are virtually impossible to control. As a last resort the handler is able to ensure his dog obeys his command without having to revert to harsh "traditional methods"

There are many other areas in which the collars can be used. A collar has never been known to fail when guided by the supplier's support team.

Training is of course important and the problem clearly identified. Considerable time is spent explaining to the handler the best use of the collar. A free advisory service is given day time and evening. The owner is advised NOT to use a collar if the dog is ill or pregnant or if the dog is not yet fully grown.

Enquirers should be carefully "vetted" and if the problem is not correctable with a collar they should not be supplied. Collars and fences obviously should be sent out with comprehensive instructions and handlers asked to read these carefully. Collars should be applied quite firmly to the dog and assistance sought if there are any problems.

Some people maintain that the collars may be used to mistreat a dog or other individual. However, it is perhaps far more likely that a dog will be mistreated with a stick or other implement, when "training" a dog by traditional methods. Some of these, for example, a "choke chain" can be seen as being far more inconsiderate to the dog than the use of a collar. It is highly unlikely a person will go to the expense and trouble to acquire a collar just to harm a dog. Similarly a person who intends to hurt a human being by electrocution will be more likely to use a 13 amp socket rather than acquire a dog training collar for the purpose.

Many owners have been very pleased that their dogs have been corrected and a current survey shows overwhelming support for the collars.

Client handout:**TRAINING TIPS FOR PAC DOG TRAINING COLLAR MODEL 250X**

When you first receive the collar and transmitter they must be charged up. Whilst you are doing this put the dummy collar on the dog loosely to get him used to the feel of the collar. For the first few days confuse the dog by removing the dummy collar from time to time and replacing it. This will prevent him from working out that the collar has something to do with his treatment - Do not use the collar if the dog is pregnant or ill or until it is fully grown. Speak to us about the correct strength for your dog- Charge the collar and transmitter as per instructions Make sure the dog gets used to the sight of the transmitter. Keep it near the dog at all times when not in use. Alternatively never let the dog see the transmitter. Carry it with you, when walking the dog or keep it hidden in your pocket. Do not suddenly produce it just before treating the dog- he may well realise it has something to do with the treatment! When dog acts unacceptably, (see below) press button FIRMLY. If the collar is shielded by the dog's body it may not pick up the signal. Be sure you can see the collar before you press the button. The dog will return to you for protection. It is most important that the collar is used carefully and with every consideration for the well-being of the dog. The dog must associate his treatment with his bad behaviour (i.e. disobeying commands, chasing or escaping). Stay calm and pretend that you are unaware that the dog has experienced anything unusual. Always carry out the training in a controlled and calm atmosphere in a 1 to 1 situation. If possible do NOT train the dog in a shoot situation with other dogs about (possibly themselves uncontrolled).

Disobeying Commands

1. Make sure you can see the dog, if possible within 100 yards.
2. Blow stop whistle loudly or shout instruction.
3. If the dog fails to react press button.
4. As the dog returns blow return whistle, or call him.
5. Heel the dog, get eye contact and tell him to behave himself in future.
6. Repeat until the dog learns that he must obey. Praise him when he returns without use of the collar.

Chasing Sheep etc.

1. You may take the dog to the quarry on a normal lead or extending lead or rope.
2. Press the button as the dog approaches, scents or fixes visually on the quarry. It is not advisable to give any warning to the dog. It is important that the dog associates the quarry with the treatment.
3. When the dog returns to you lecture him and then warn him.
4. Repeat until he learns

Leaving Yard /Garden etc.

1. Do not shout or warn as he approaches his 'boundary'.
2. Press button as the dog is in the vicinity of the fence, gate etc.
3. Repeat until the dog learns that he is not permitted to go near the area through which he has been escaping.

Barking

Say nothing to the dog. When he starts to bark or whine press the button. It is best to keep out of sight when treating the dog. If you want the dog to bark in a security situation you must treat him "on command" so that he associates the treatment with the disobeying of your instruction.

General

If you need any help please do not hesitate to contact us. If the dog's antisocial behaviour is something he may do when you are not about, don't shout or whistle to stop him when you are using the collar. If the dog is doing something you can always control by voice or whistle (i.e. training for retrieving) you can use the whistle or voice in conjunction with the collar. It is important that the dog understands the meaning of a command before the Training Collar can be used to reinforce your instructions. It is most important to use the collar sparingly. Do not be tempted to keep pressing the button. REMEMBER TO PUT THE COLLAR ON THE DOG TIGHTLY AND PRESS THE BUTTON FIRMLY.

WARNING

Do not press button if collar is within 3 metres of transmitter without removing aerial as damage can result to receiver. Check to make sure the dogs neck does not become sore. Contact us immediately if you are concerned.

TO TEST COLLAR

Make sure collar and transmitter are fully charged. Take collar 50 yards from transmitter and hold it to your ear (be careful you do not touch the electrodes -the "prongs") Ask someone to press button on transmitter. You should hear a one second unbroken buzz. This will mean the collar and transmitter are operating satisfactorily.