

FOR DOG OWNERS CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS

The first step in obtaining peace and quiet in the neighborhood is to realize that lots of barking is caused by the dog being lonely, bored, frustrated, or frightened. Barking is a dog's natural means of communication and as such, is not considered a behavioral problem unless it occurs in excess.

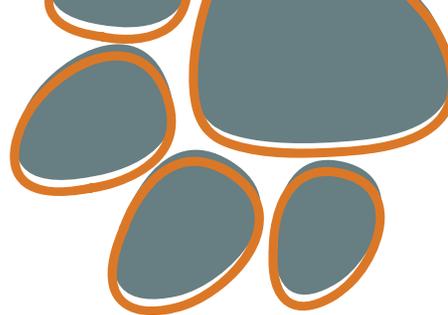
FREQUENT CAUSES OF PROBLEM BARKING

Improper confinement. This might include leaving a dog alone in a locked room, a too-small kennel, restricted tethering outdoors, or in a setting without proper shelter. All can cause frustration which may lead to excess barking.

Environmental sounds. These might include perception of potential danger such as an intruder, people walking on the street, loud noises such as thunder, construction, or other barking dogs.

Other causes might include separation anxiety, the dog's own temperament, over-aggressiveness, being strongly territorial or needing food or water.

Inadequate exercise can easily result in a dog that has pent-up energy and barks out of frustration. A well-exercised dog is more likely to sleep when you are not there.



CONTACT US

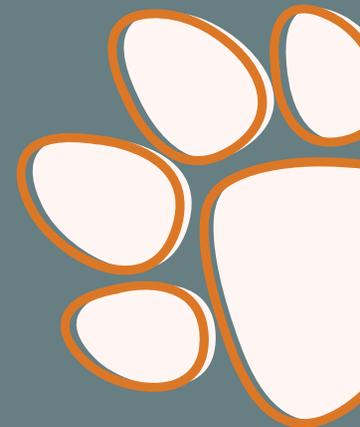
Hawaii Rainbow Rangers
808.666.9589 | info@hipets.org
www.hirangers.org

CONTACT HPD

NON-EMERGENCY
808.935.3311



SAVE
THEM
ALL



Hawaii Rainbow Rangers

SOLVING NOISY DOG ISSUES

Resources provided in partnership with the Hawaii Police Department and Best Friends Animal Society.



WHAT CONSTITUTES A NOISY DOG?

Without provocation:

- A dog barking continuously for 10 minutes or
- A dog barking intermittently for 20 minutes within a 30-minute period.

REMEDIES

Step One:

NOTIFICATION TO DOG OWNER

- By letter, email or in person
- Document the notification and all attempts.
- If the dog continues to bark and proper notification was made or, all reasonable attempts to notify the owner fail, go to Step Two.

Step Two: (Optional, but highly recommended)

SOLVE THE PROBLEM

Contact the Hawaii Rainbow Rangers at, 666.9589. An enforcement officer will meet with you, then the owners of the dog to assess the situation and suggest solutions so that long drawn-out court appearances can be avoided. If the problem persists, go to Step Three.

Step Three:

ENFORCEMENT

In accordance with Hawaii County Code §4-24 and 4-25, when the dog is actively barking and exceeding the time limits, report the incident to the police non-emergency number, 935-3311. Be prepared to present documentation of notification and to give a statement for court purposes.

Fines for keeping a noisy dog are \$25 for the first offense, \$75 for the second, \$100 for the third, and \$200 for any subsequent violation(s).

DOGS BARK FOR DIFFERENT REASONS

Though people find barking annoying and want to stop barking dogs, it isn't annoying to dogs.

Rather, it's one of a variety of ways that dogs express themselves. Each bark has a tone that communicates something specific and significant.

WHAT IS YOUR DOGS BARK TELLING YOU?

IS YOUR DOG A WATCHDOG?

IS THAT A "REQUEST" BARK?

IS YOUR DOG "SPOOKED"?

OR ARE THEY JUST BORED!

TIPS FOR DOG OWNERS TO HELP CONTROL BARKING

The key to solving the problem of excess barking in your dog begins with an understanding of what is causing this behavior.

Once you have determined a cause, you have a greater chance of choosing the most effective solution or behavioral modification.

Always ensure access to fresh water, shade, shelter, and exercise. Feed once per day, at minimum. Enrich your dog with something to do with lots of toys such as balls and chewy toys.

If your dog is seeing or hearing something that is causing him to bark, move him to the other side or back of the house. If inside the house, close the curtains and leave a radio on for company.

If your dog is barking in response to environmental noises or the barking is simply due to its temperament, behavioral modification methods can be used. These methods can include reconditioning using a verbal reprimand such as "No!" and leash correction. Correction should be performed only while the barking is occurring for your dog to associate the unwanted behavior with the punishment. Reward your dog immediately when they stop barking.

Indirect intervention methods can also be applied. These techniques work by directing your dog's attention away from whatever is causing them to bark. Techniques can range from using a water bottle to quickly spray your dog with water while it is barking or using a "pet corrector" which creates a loud hissing sound.