

Many people ask me, what's the best way to become a behaviourist or dog trainer, dog walker?



1. My personal journey

There are many fantastic courses and accreditations out there. My personal journey was a combination of university, hands on at a local rescue, work overseas, shadowing others and my experiences with my own pets. A combination of counselling, teaching, animal handling skills, knowledge of welfare and business marketing have all helped me in my current businesses. I also recommend if you are a trainer, having a go at training a variety of animals. My skills were heightened by working in zoos and at farms. I also say you can't ever learn about body language; I frequently just observe dogs in the park, watch YouTube videos, CPD for free!

2. Pain and behaviour

A sound knowledge of the link between pain and behaviour is so important or specific signs to look out for, animals hide pain well and it's therefore so important to liaise with medical professionals too. Look at 'Dynamic Dog' or make sure you have a good network system with local physios and vets.

3. We never stop learning

We never really stop learning but don't be fooled to thinking that you can learn from one course provider, or from just a few books.

Learn from a variety of sources, further your learning of different ethical training methods or handling, so you can form a sound opinion. Remember for many of us online is more accessible, no travel, no leaving the pets for days.

Remember if you want to know more about a particular course or membership, ask us too. We have a list of Affiliates on the footer of our website and many of our members have a variety of courses they can recommend. We also have our Distinctive Dog Trainer course, packed with learning theory, real life case studies and the best support to really push your business forward!

So much good stuff, but remember...

Just do what's right for you and your journey.