

# 5 Common Mistakes That Make Your Dog Ignore You

(And How to Fix Them Starting Today)

Discover the proven strategies that transform stubborn, disobedient dogs into well-behaved, reliable companions who listen the first time—every time.

# Transform Your Training Today

Fix These Critical Mistakes for Instant Results

## 1 Inconsistency in Commands and Rules

Using different words for the same command or allowing different household members to enforce different rules creates massive confusion for your dog. When one person says "Sit" and another says "Sit down," your dog doesn't know what you really want. Dogs thrive on routine and clarity—without it, training falls apart.

### ✓ ACTIONABLE FIX:

Hold a family meeting and agree on ONE specific word for each command. Write them down and post them where everyone can see. Consistency is the fastest path to compliance.

## 2 Repeating Commands (Cue Nagging)

Every time you repeat a command that your dog ignores, you're actually training them that they don't need to listen the first time. This "cue nagging" poisons your commands and teaches your dog to wait for the third or fourth request before responding.

### ✓ ACTIONABLE FIX:

Say the command once, then get your dog's attention before trying again. If they don't respond, guide them into position rather than repeating yourself. Make the first cue count.

## 3 Ineffective Reinforcement and Punishment

Using aversive methods like yelling, shock collars, or harsh leash corrections creates fear and anxiety—not obedience. Worse still, mistimed rewards or low-value treats fail to reinforce the behaviors you actually want to see.

### ✓ ACTIONABLE FIX:

Switch to positive reinforcement with high-value treats (real chicken, cheese, or premium training treats). Reward immediately after the desired behavior—timing is everything.

# The Final Two Mistakes

Plus Your Next Steps to Total Transformation

## 4 Training Sessions That Are Too Long

Dogs have short attention spans. Training sessions over 15 minutes lead to frustration and mental fatigue for both you and your dog. A common failure is attending weekly classes but never practicing between sessions—learning doesn't stick without repetition.

### ✓ ACTIONABLE FIX:

Keep sessions to 5-10 minutes but practice multiple times per day. Short, frequent sessions build habits faster than marathon training blocks.

## 5 Ignoring Fear and Anxiety Signals

When your dog shows signs of stress—tail tucking, pinned ears, cowering, or lip licking—continuing to train is counterproductive. Fear inhibits learning and can escalate to reactivity or aggression if ignored.

### ✓ ACTIONABLE FIX:

Learn to read your dog's body language. If you see stress signals, take a break or adjust the environment. Training should always be a positive experience for lasting results.

# Ready for a **Total Transformation?**

These 5 mistakes are just the beginning. Our **Total Transformation Programme** provides everything you need to create a well-behaved, reliable dog who excels in

real world situations. Smart Bark Academy | [contact@smartbarkacademy.com](mailto:contact@smartbarkacademy.com) | Page 2