

LEASH REACTIVE DOGS: FRUSTRATED TYPES

What to look for and how to help them

DOGS EXHIBITING FRUSTRATION ON LEASH OFTEN...

1 Are dog social



Typically enjoy meeting new dogs, engaging in play, or at a minimum are highly motivated to acquire more information from another dog that they see

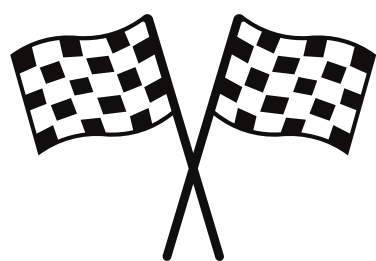
2 Can look like this when they see another dog



Barking, whining, staring, lying down, flailing (jumping and putting tension on leash but not necessarily towards the other dog), lunging, or high pitched vocalizations such as shrieking. Although they are reacting, their eyes and mouths are typically soft.

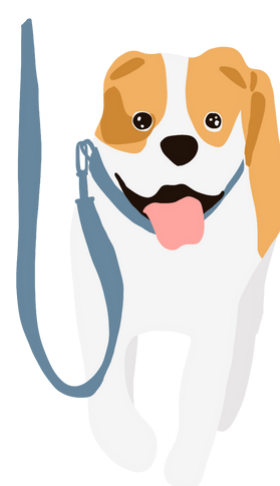
3 Access to another dog...

Stops the reaction



THEY CAN BENEFIT FROM THESE INTERVENTIONS...

1 In general, focus on



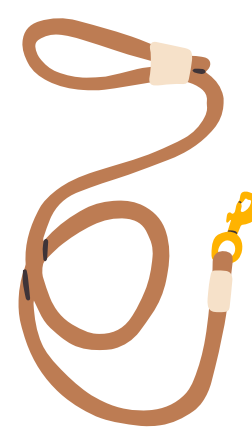
- Impulse control exercises
- Relaxation protocols
- High value rewards
- Body awareness
- Building strong foundation of skills before high level distractions

2 Behavioral wellness includes



- Adequate sleep
- Appropriate outlets for their breed(s)
- Dog friends
- Minimizing exposure to dogs on leash
- Decompression walks

3 Their humans should



- Spend extra time practicing training with distractions
- Learn proper leash handling skills
- Understand dog body language and appropriate dog/dog interactions

SETTING FRUSTRATED DOGS UP FOR SUCCESS

1 Meet their needs



Being on leash is frustrating. Ensure your dog gets off leash exercise (check out www.sniffspot.com) in addition to opportunities to interact and play with well matched dog friends.



2 Teach them HOW to get what they want

Frustrated dogs often don't have an understanding of HOW. Teach them exactly what you want them to do in order for them to get what they want.



3 Be patient

It takes time, especially if your dog has some maturing to do. Small, consistent steps in the right direction will build a solid foundation and allow your relationship to grow.