

Private Training

Our private training program is a good fit for those who want to be very involved in the training process



About us

We are a family-run business located in Anacortes, Washington. Stephanie, our head trainer and founder, learned from her mentor, Theodore Mark Stover, how to understand dogs and communicate with them from a place of loving confidence. For the last fifteen years, we have continued that mission at TMS; focusing on fostering healthy connections between dogs and their owners. This commitment is at the core of everything we do; helping people and dogs to communicate and connect in a beneficial way for both.

Our Training Method

Our training philosophy at TMS K-9 Connections is centered around connections. First, we set the dog up for success both in training and during socialization time. To set clear behavioral boundaries we utilize simple corrections using a prong collar or e-collar. When the dog is compliant we lavish them with love.

Here at TMS, we do not reward dogs with food. We want our dogs to be excited about working with their trainers; not getting fed. We have found that what makes dogs happy is lots of love, a tummy rub or playing ball. Knowing this, we use these moments of connection as a reward instead of food. Training is designed for each individual dog depending on their strengths and weaknesses as well as the age and needs of the handler.



Private Training

Our Private Training programs are available on a limited basis and during the week only, we are closed to the public on Saturdays and Sundays. Private sessions are available by appointment only between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm.

During each session, clients will learn or enhance a new skill alongside their pup. Progress is dependent on the client's willingness to do an hour of homework a day to accomplish commands and the dog's willingness to learn.

It's important to note that our on-leash only program addresses the basics for on-leash only behavior and does not address functional skills which are generally off leash skills. The whole program; on and off leash combined, produces a fully trained dog while on-leash is only the rudimentary skills.

Training Program Details

Private Training On-Leash

Available for dogs 5 months and older

4-Weeks of 1 hr Private Sessions

On-Leash Program Includes

- Pinch and Leash Training for the following;
- Behavior changes
- Training through hormone surges
- Manners
- Proper heeling while walking
- Heeling with an automatic sit
- Come
- Down
- 30 minute down stay
- Walking down
- Down on a recall
- Come with an automatic sit and heel around
- Quiet command
- Crate Training information

Private Training Off-Leash

Available for dogs 5 months and older

4-Weeks of 1 hour Private Sessions

The 4-Week On Leash Program is a necessary pre-requisite for this program.

Off-Leash Program Includes;

- Remote Work for the Following;
- Long and Short Line Training
- 25-foot minimum come from a down
- Come with distractions
- Tight heel and automatic sit-at-heel with distractions
- 30-minute off-leash down with distractions
- Down while the handler is not present
- Short distance down on a recall with distractions
- Come on up command
- Come with a Heel around
- Schutzhund turn
- Running down
- Running heel
- Controlled Ball Play

Private training programs are prepaid and must be used within 6 weeks of the start date.