

The Dog Crate

The dog crate has long been accepted, trusted, taken for granted by dog show exhibitors, obedience and field trial competitors, trainers, teachers, groomers, veterinarians, and anyone else who handles dogs regularly. Individual pet owners, however, often reject the idea of using a crate because they consider such enforced close confinement unfair, and even harmful, to the dog.



The Pet Owner Sees It:

It's like a jail – its cruel – I'd never put MY dog in a cage like that! If this is your first reaction to using a crate, you are a very typical pet owner. As a reasoning human being, you really value your freedom; and since you consider your pet an extension of the human family, it's only natural to feel that closing him in a crate would be mean and inhumane, would probably cause him to resent and even to hate you, and might well result in psychological damage. **But** – you are not a dog!!

The Dog Sees It:

“I love having a room of my very own; it's my private special place, my security blanket, and the closed door really doesn't bother me.” If your dog could talk, this is how he might express his reaction to using a crate. He would tell you that the crate helps to satisfy the “den instinct” inherited from his ancestors and relatives, and that he is not afraid or frustrated when closed in. Canines have a definite instinct to hide out in dens. If they do not have one available, they will make their own. That is why they will crawl under desks, the dining room table, or coffee table, if they can fit. He would further admit that he is actually much happier and more secure having his life controlled and structured by human beings – and would much rather be prevented from causing trouble than be punished for it later. To you it may be a “cage” – to him, it's “home”.

A dog crate, correctly and humanely used, can have many advantages for both you and your pet:

The Owner:

- 🐾 Can enjoy complete peace of mind when leaving your dog home alone, knowing that nothing can be soiled or destroyed and that he is comfortable, protected, and not developing any bad habits;
- 🐾 Can housebreak your dog more quickly by using the close confinement to encourage control, establish a regular routine for outdoor elimination, and to prevent accidents at night or when left alone;
- 🐾 Can effectively confine your dog at times when he may be underfoot (meals, family activities), unwelcome (guests, workmen), over-excited or bothered by too much confusion or too many children, or ill;
- 🐾 Prepares the dog for crating at the vet's office or a visit to the dog groomer.
- 🐾 Can travel with your dog without risk of driver being dangerously distracted or the dog jumping out of the car and getting lost;
- 🐾 If you have other pets, you do not have to worry about their interaction while you cannot be watching.



The Dog:

- 🐾 Can enjoy the privacy and security of a den of his own to which he can retreat when tired or stressed
- 🐾 Can avoid much of the fear/confusion/punishment caused by your reaction to problem behavior;
- 🐾 Can more easily learn to control his bladder/bowels and to associate elimination only with the outdoors;
- 🐾 Can be spared the loneliness and frustration of having to be isolated (basement, garage, outside) from comfortable indoor surroundings when being restricted or left alone;
- 🐾 Can be conveniently included in family outings, visits, trips instead of being left behind alone at home or in a boarding kennel.

What kind of crate is best?

The most practical dog crate for use by the pet owner is the collapsible wire mesh type, available in a variety of sizes. Lightweight and easily handled, it allows total ventilation and permits the dog to see everything going on around him. A wooden, metal, or plastic airline crate will certainly also serve the purpose, but it restricts air and vision and is less convenient to handle, transport and store.

What size should a crate be?

A crate should always be large enough to permit any age dog to stretch out flat on his side without being cramped and to sit up without hitting his head on the top. For a fully grown adult dog, measure the distance from tip of nose to base of tail and use a crate close but not smaller to that measurement. For puppies, measure as above and add about 12 inches for anticipated growth.

Where can I get a crate?

Crates can be purchased at pet stores, feed stores, WalMart, thru pet supply catalogs, from vendors at local dog shows, and even from eBay.

The most expensive dog crate is a bargain when compared to the cost of repairing or replacing a sofa, chair, woodwork, wallpaper or carpeting.

Where should I put the crate?

Since one of the main reasons for using a crate is to confine a dog without making him feel isolated or banished, it should be placed in, or as close as possible to, a people area – kitchen, family room. To provide an even greater sense of den security and privacy it should be put in a corner; if using a wire crate a light blanket or sheet can be draped over the top and sides.

Use - But Don't Abuse!!

The use of a dog crate is NOT recommended for a dog regularly left alone all day, though some individuals may learn to tolerate it. If you must crate your dog regularly for long periods of time, the dog must be well exercised both before and after crating, and given lots of personal attention. It is also most important that the crate be large enough to permit him comfortably to stretch out fully on his side and have ample freedom of movement. It must also be equipped with a clip-on dish for water. Ideally, someone should come in during the day to provide a period of attention and exercise.

Crating the puppy

A young puppy (8-15 weeks) should normally have no problem accepting a crate as his own place. Any complaining he might do at first is caused not by the crate, but by his learning to accept the controls of his unfamiliar new environment. Actually, the crate will help him to adapt more easily and quickly to his new world.

Place the crate in a people area, away from drafts. For bedding use an old towel or piece of blanket which can be washed in case of an accident; and a piece of freshly worn clothing (such as a tee shirt). Avoid putting newspaper inside or under the crate as its odor may encourage elimination. If you have purchased an adult size crate – reduce the space by placing a reversed carton in the back, or a moveable partition made of wire, wood or masonite. A crate too large for a young puppy defeats the purpose of providing security and promoting bowel control, so his space should always be limited in the beginning.

Establish a crate routine; leaving pup within the crate, the door closed and locked for his safety, at regular intervals of 1 to 2 hours during the day. The puppy's nap times can be used as a guide.

When the puppy is removed from the crate, take him to whatever outside area is designated as his toilet and allow him approximately 3 minutes to eliminate. If he does, praise enthusiastically. When teaching the pup to eliminate on command the pup should be on leash. He should be brought to the same spot every time, and then the owner remains there. Thus walks in the town or neighborhood are not consistent with eliminating at every tree. When the dog has performed use a particular word every time consistently. Bend down and look at and point to the urine or feces till the pup come to see what you are pointing to. Then look at the pup and praise him using the same word.

Separate elimination time from play time initially by immediately returning to the house for a moment, then taking pup out for playtime. The puppy can also now have free run inside without danger of soiling carpets etc. If the puppy did not eliminate, return him to the crate for about another hour and repeat. The purpose of short term, close confinement is to inhibit elimination so that when the puppy is released he will eliminate in the designated, correct area.

Whenever he must be left alone for 3-4 hours, or when you are not nearby for supervision, remove collar with tags which could become caught in an opening.

Increase the space inside the crate as the puppy grows so that he remains comfortable. If you do not choose, or are not able, to use a crate permanently, plan to use it for at least 5 or 6 months or until the dog is well past the teething stage – then start leaving the crate door open at night, when someone is at home during the day, or when he is briefly left alone.

Should any problem behavior occur, the decision whether or not to use a crate longer, or perhaps permanently will have been made for you.

Even after a long period without a crate, a dog which has been raised in one will readily accept it again should the need arise for travel, illness, behavior, and may really welcome its return.

The crate is a dog owner's second best friend. ■

Breeding Your Own Litter ~ What you should know

There is a great deal of work that goes into breeding a healthy litter of puppies. It takes a great deal of time, effort and money. A litter of puppies that you breed requires a lifetime commitment from you. Before breeding, health tests for genetic disorders; the extensive review of pedigrees; and buyer/seller contracts need to be completed.



Breeding dogs is **not** simply a matter of putting a male and female together and raking in the cash when you sell the puppies. The most important aspect of breeding a litter of puppies is why you want to breed. Maybe you have had people say that they want a dog just like yours. Do they really want one? Perhaps you want your children to experience a litter of puppies. This is an unrealistic expectation and will be much more work and money that it is worth. It is important to consider what you will do if not all (or even none) of the puppies sell. Dropping them off at the shelter or dumping them on the side of the road is not a responsible option. Are you willing and able to keep all the puppies that do not sell? Breeding takes time, dedication, and money.

There are several health tests to look for genetic disorders that are needed before a dog is used for breeding.

- Checking, by x-rays in some cases, for orthopedic conditions should be completed and the results registered with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals. Some tests require the dog be at least 2 years old, so breeding should wait until tests have been completed.
- Testing for brucellosis should be done before each breeding as it is highly contagious, can cause sterility, and can be passed to humans.
- There are also breed-specific tests that should be investigated. Genetic disorders exist that are specific to different breeds of dogs, and some of these disorders do not appear until the dog is older.
- Eyes should be evaluated by a registered ophthalmologist and the results registered with CERF.

Before making a decision to breed, you should be familiar with the dogs in the pedigree of both the male and female. What were their good points and what were their faults? What health problems did they have and what did they pass on to their puppies? What health problems did the littermates of the dogs in the pedigrees have? What were the temperaments like?

In addition, there are a few color genes and patterns in certain breeds that can have harmful effects on offspring if dogs with these are bred together. It is important to read the breed standards before you breed and be prepared for the potential defects that can be caused by certain colors. For example, the gene for merling pattern in certain breeds causes dilution of the coat color. When both parents pass this gene to the offspring, the resulting puppies can possibly be born deaf, blind or both.

Breeding requires a lot of research and should not be taken lightly. Even experienced breeders, if they get a dog of a different breed, will go to an expert for advice because they don't have the knowledge to make good decisions in new breeds.

Visit the AKC website for more information on responsible breeding or to find National Breed Clubs where you can begin your research on breed standards and breed-specific health issues.

There are points to consider when leaving your dog intact to use for breeding. Between breedings, the owner of a male dog has the responsibility of keeping the dog from roaming, being a nuisance, destroying property, or causing fights. Male dogs can climb or dig out of fences when a female is in heat in the vicinity. Some will mark in the house when a female is in heat, whine constantly, or become aggressive with other dogs. Females will come into heat on an average of every 6 months, and the cycle lasts for about 3 weeks. Besides the obvious bleeding and discharge to clean up, there is the confinement and isolation from other dogs necessary to prevent an accidental breeding.



If you are prepared to continue with the breeding, there is more to learn. The pregnant female will need additional food to maintain her body weight and nutritional needs while puppies are forming and growing inside her.

Preparations will also be needed for a nursery, a quiet place for her to deliver the puppies. You should also be informed and able to recognize signs of distress during labor, and be prepared to assist in the delivery or be able to contact a vet for assistance.

Once the puppies are born they will benefit from gentle handling. At 21 thru 28 days all senses are functioning; they need to be exposed to different

sights and sounds. They should be handled several times a day. Do simple exercises like clipping toenails to get them used to it. A good idea is to have other people (and children as the puppies get older) play with the puppies. Children should only handle the puppies under adult supervision. Make sure they have not been around other puppies (or any sick dogs) that day, have them wash their hands, and either remove their shoes or dip them in a Clorox solution. For more information on raising puppies see "[The Critical Stages of Puppyhood](http://www.ncraoa.com/training.html)" at www.ncraoa.com/training.html.

Puppies should be sold with contracts specifying what is expected of the buyer and seller. This includes the health guarantee and what will happen if the puppy should develop a health problem with a genetic link. Breeders should be honest about what health testing was done. Puppies should be sold on a spay/neuter clause and limited registration.

If, for any reason the original buyer of the puppy can no longer keep him or her, an agreement that the puppy will be returned to you or placed in a home of which you approve. This part of the contract is to keep your puppies from ending up in a shelter, in a bad home or with an abusive breeder.

Remember - You Are Responsible For The Lives You Help Bring Into This World.

“OFF” Means What?

One of the reasons most often given for surrendering a dog to a shelter is that it jumps on people. Especially, jumps on children and the elderly. Those of us who are “dog people” don’t find jumping on people a problem. We either allow it or not. If not, then we know how to stop the behavior. Unfortunately, not everyone has our experience to solve the problem.

Jumping on people can be aggravating, annoying, frightening, loveable and dangerous. It is no wonder that many dogs end up in shelters because of this behavior. If you are one of those people who feel that jumping up is a way for your dog to express its love for you, I’d advise putting the behavior on command instead of allowing jumping to be spontaneous. First teach the dog not to jump. Then teach it a command that means it’s alright for them to put their paws on you. You might even use the words “dance with me” as the command. We never know what life holds for us. If our dogs ever find themselves in a shelter or in need of a new home, a dog with “four on the floor” will be easier to re-home.

As a pet dog obedience instructor, I often hear my students telling their dogs “OFF.” What exactly does that mean to the dog? To the dog it means get your paws off of me. To the owner it means don’t jump on me. See where the confusion lies. Okay, most dogs learn very quickly to get off. But, the dog has no idea not to jump on you in the first place, only to get off of you. Some people use the word “down” for getting their dog’s paws back on the ground. That word is to confusing if you are also using it for lie down on the ground. There is nothing wrong with using “OFF” if you want their paws off of something – you, furniture, bed, and great-grandma – but it will not stop them from jumping up in the first place. Whatever word you use, make sure it doesn’t have a dual meaning. When I refer to jumping, I am meaning a dog actually putting his feet on you without being invited.

If you are going to stop the dog from jumping on people, what is the dog suppose to do instead?

The dog needs to know an alternative behavior. Do you want them to sit when approaching or just to keep all four feet on the ground? Decide which you want and work towards that goal. Starting with “four on the floor” might be the first step. Now, just how are you suppose to accomplish this, especially with a dog that already has an established jumping habit?

Several methods come to mind. Some are instructive and some just aren’t worth the damage they may cause. Many, many years ago, I learned to knee the chest of a jumping dog or to jerk them over backwards – don’t do either anymore. Have heard of grabbing/pinching the dog’s front feet or stepping on their back toes – never tried either. Don’t think I ever would because I question their effectiveness. Such tactics could cause the dog to be hesitant or fearful to approach a person. Besides, I’m just not that coordinated. But, I am coordinated enough to either just stand still or walk into the dog.

One of the most effective ways to stop jumping is simply to reward the behavior you want and ignore the behavior you don’t want.

With a puppy this method is a piece of cake. With a confirmed jumper you have to be ready to take some hits. Dress appropriately with a long sleeve shirt or jacket because you are going to get mauled. When the dog approaches totally ignore it. Of course the dog is going to jump. Depending on its size might seem to be trying to crawl all over you. When you ignore the dog it will sometimes escalate the jumping behavior trying to gain your normal response – some kind of attention. Be ready, because of gravity or sheer exhaustion, at some point the dog will drop all four feet to the floor. That instant, I meant that very instant, praise and have a treat in the dogs face at his level or slightly below. Praise quietly. Repeat again and again, as often as needed. The dog will quickly get the idea that to get attention he has to have all four feet on the ground. Now you escalate the distraction by moving around a little. Only praise/reward when the dog has his feet off of you. Listen to the dog.

If he is not jumping then keep upping the distractions until you can hop, skip, jump all around while praising in a happy voice and the dog is still not putting its feet on you. If the dog starts jumping again you have escalated the distractions too quickly. You do not verbally correct the dog. At this point you are only using your voice to praise the dog when his feet are on the floor. No verbal corrections or commands. Once the dog can handle the ultimate distractions then you can ask him to sit if you like or just accept four feet on the floor.

There are some dogs that think the above method is a hoot. That it's a really cool game. They don't seem to get the idea of what you want them to do. One certain Boxer seems to come immediately to mind. For those dogs, I try walking into their space. Be careful not to tip them over or actually step on them -- again, dress appropriately during the initial training sessions. Our goal is to reclaim our space not hurt or frighten the dog. When the dog jumps, I will shuffle my feet (or maybe a little stomp -- depends on the dog's reaction), stand up tall, lift my shoulders and advance on them rather quickly only as far as it takes for them to back off. If I'm lucky my shoes will even squeak on the floor. The instant, I mean the instant, the dog has four feet on the ground take a step back (stepping back draws the dog back to you), praise and reward. You have to be careful when doing this because it can frighten a soft dog if you are too bold.

If the dog actually spooks then you need to back off on the force of your correction. Take a minute, let the dog relax, play with him and convince him that you are not a two-headed monster. Once the dog is comfortable with you, try again, just make the correction much softer. Adjust the correction to the reaction displayed by the dog. You only want to establish your space nothing more. If you find a dog that keeps his feet on you and doesn't get off you have to continue advancing while making more noise with your feet. You are not using any verbal corrections, just movement and body language followed with verbal praise and reward for taking his feet off your body.

There was one very sweet, playful, young adult Boxer in one of my classes that danced around the entire training building with me for what must have been 20 minutes before he finally figured out I wasn't playing and what I wanted were his feet on the ground. He never took his feet off me the whole time. He just hopped around backwards on his hind legs as I advanced on him. Our second dance only lasted about 10 minutes. Before long he was happily rushing all around me, with his feet on the floor, being told what a smart boy he was. I was exhausted, but he didn't jump on me any more. Of course as soon as I handed him back over to his owners they were letting him jump all over them. Jumping was one of their major complaints. I could only give them the tools and hope they decided to use them.

If neither of the above methods were successful then I'll put a leash and collar on the dog and use the standard "AAAH" and a leash correction. If I have to use a verbal and leash correction, I will still immediately praise when the dog's feet are on the floor. I find with this method works best when the verbal and leash corrections are given in unison or the verbal given a micro-second before the leash correction. Again, measure the corrections with the dog's response. You use the least amount of correction necessary to achieve the maximum response. The absolute best time to give this type of correction is when the thought of jumping enters the dog's mind. At that point, only the verbal "AAAH" may produce the desired results without having to use the leash correction.

As far as your dog jumping on others, it is your responsibility not to put him in the position to jump on them. If the dog jumps on others then you must supervise his behavior until you have trained him not to jump. Then you must proof your training. If he can play with your child without jumping but will jump on the neighbor children then only allow the dog around the kids when you can supervise and correct the inappropriate behavior. **The responsibility is yours; not the kids, the neighbors or strangers.**

No matter which method you try (I suggest trying them in the order they are written) your timing must be incredibly swift between stopping the negative (correction) and issuing the positive (praise/reward). Above all, listen to the dog, he will tell you if you are doing things right. By right, I mean that the dog has a clear understanding of what you expect without damaging a quality relationship.

With a puppy, try to prevent a jumping problem from the very beginning. Meet the puppy at his level.

Usually a puppy, just beginning to jump on people, will quickly learn a different approach if you just ignore the unwanted and praise/reward the wanted behavior. Puppies are a clean slate. Their pages are only filled by what you write. Stopping future unwanted behaviors in puppies is always easier than trying to change an established behavior. Give your puppy a long, happy life in a permanent home from the very beginning by molding it into the dog you want it to become.

If you feel you are not experienced enough to handle some of the problems involved with raising a puppy or rehabilitating a dog with “issues,” PLEASE, seek the advice of a professional. Instructors and trainers can be located at the National Association of Dog Obedience Instructor’s web site, through veterinarians, local dog clubs, parks & recreation departments, neighbors, friends, coworkers and total strangers. If you see a dog whose behavior you admire, talk with the owner, perhaps they can direct you to an appropriate source. Don’t give up. Most problems have a solution.

If the person you are working with doesn’t feel right then find someone else. Once you take a dog into your life it is your responsibility to find the answers to what ever problems arise.

Once a puppy/dog enters the throw away system of neglect and surrender the final outcome is often death. There are times when a dog must be re-homed. If that dog has a good set of manners then the chances of finding another home are improved. Too many puppies and dogs are killed in this country every day because someone wasn’t responsible enough to mold them into the dog they could have become.

Linda Tilley - NCRAOA

Endorsed - National Association of Dog Obedience Instructors # 1005C

Why do pets eat grass? Do dogs eat grass to aid digestion or do they just like the taste. Often they vomit afterwards. The age old question is – were they not feeling well and eat grass to vomit? Or did they vomit because they ate the grass.



It is believed that cats eat grass to clean out their stomachs by vomiting (to get rid of furballs??). If your cat does not have access to grass, house plants or anything similar will be used by your cat. Vomiting will occur soon after the cat has eaten grass. It has also been said that cats eat grass to obtain Folic Acid, something that cats need in minute quantities for its well-being. Folic Acid cannot be obtained from meat.

There are many theories about pets and grass, but if your pet exhibits an odd appetite (eating non-food items regularly, called pica), or regular vomiting, please contact your vet as soon as possible. Changes in appetite or vomiting can also indicate gastrointestinal blockages or internal disease (kidney failure, hyperthyroidism, etc.), toxin ingestion, or infectious disease, just to name a few possibilities. Always best to check things out with your vet.

The Companion Animal Behavior Program at the University of California at Davis School of Veterinary Medicine is currently conducting a study of grass and plant eating behavior in dogs (and cats). By taking a 20 minute, on-line survey, you can help them learn more about this behavior. The survey can be found online at <http://intercom.virginia.edu/SurveySuite/Surveys/PlantDog/index2.html>

In-Field Disaster Training

Noah's Wish will be presenting 3 days of volunteer in-field disaster training February 23, 24 & 25 at the North Carolina Mountain State Fairgrounds / Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, Fletcher, NC.

Training sessions include: livestock handling; livestock intake; animal rescue; understanding cats; community awareness and navigational skills; animal handling; fire safety and understanding; veterinary concerns in a shelter situation; media and communication.

Noah's Wish is a non-profit animal welfare organization dedicated to providing organized, consistent, and professionally managed disaster relief programs. For more information visit their website:

www.noahswish.org.

Auburn University Newest PETA Target

Auburn University is the latest academic institution to become the target of a hidden-camera investigation of its research laboratories by the animal-rights group PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals).

PETA claims Auburn has provided inadequate care, including ineffective pain medication, to dogs used in research experiments, in violation of federal regulations.

PETA opposes all research on animals as a violation of their rights. The group also argues that researchers could successfully use other kinds of experimental methods. Most scientists reject both of those views.

In response to PETA's charges Dr. Timothy Boosinger, dean of the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine, said, "The accusations from this group, an organization often associated with extremist and headline-grabbing tactics, are wrong and unjust and represent a disservice to the faculty and staff who strive everyday to develop advancements in veterinary medicine and responsibly treat the animals in our care."

Canine Kidney disease is not limited to any particular age or breed, but is one of the most common problems of older dogs and is a leading cause of death. Kidney transplants are performed at several universities besides Auburn; survival rates are improving but any dog receiving a transplant must remain on immunosuppressive medications for the remainder of its life.

Dr. Boosinger explains, "Owners whose dogs suffer from end-stage kidney disease literally have few options, all of which are costly and provide little hope of survival. That's why veterinarians and researchers throughout the country, including at Auburn, are working to unlock the secrets of successful dog kidney transplants, specifically how to convince the immune system to accept the new organ. Canine kidney transplant research conducted at Auburn has shown promising signs for several years. Because the research showed potential to treat kidney disease, a number of owners contacted the College asking if we would apply what we learned in our research and perform transplants for their seriously ill pets. Even when informed of the risks, some owners continued to request the procedure, hoping to gain more time with their dogs. It is these operations and subsequent hospitalization that PETA chose to attack after planting an "investigator" in Auburn's Veterinary College."

Dr. Boosinger further stated, “We are proud that the College of Veterinary Medicine is accredited by the highest authority in lab animal care, the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International. The AAALAC promotes humane treatment of animals in science, and Auburn’s voluntary participation in its accreditation program demonstrates our commitment to compassionate animal care and our compliance with local, state and federal regulations. Auburn’s College of Veterinary Medicine has a 114-year tradition of achieving the highest quality and standards in veterinary care. We know that the work, research and study conducted today at Auburn and other responsible veterinary institutions is leading to more effective treatments and better lives for dogs, cats and other animals in the future.”

In the past PETA has filed charges against the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Harvard, University of California at Davis, Johns Hopkins University, Columbia University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. One goal of filing charges is to have research funding pulled by the National Institute of Health if their regulatory arm - the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) - would find severe enough infractions.

In 2004 a PETA activist working in one of the UNC animal facilities violated university rules with the unauthorized videotaping of animals and staff. Tony G. Waldrop, Vice Chancellor Research and Economic Development, stated “Selectively edited videotape taken over the course of many months can easily be used to misrepresent the quality of our program, making isolated incidents seem part of a pattern that does not in fact exist. We also have reason to believe that some of the videotaped images may have been staged.”

Research at UNC advances the knowledge and treatment of human diseases such as cystic fibrosis, cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Much of this research is based on the use of animal models that simulate human disease.

Mr. Waldrop concluded, “In summary, we believe that the PETA complaint represents harassment designed to cripple animal research. If OLAW elects to open an investigation of UNC on PETA’s say-so alone, it will set a dangerous precedent that will jeopardize the future of biomedical research, not only at UNC but across the nation.”

Top Reasons Pets are Surrendered to Shelters

Bad behavior is the most common reason pets are surrendered by owners to other homes or shelters. The most commonly reported behavior problems are hyperactivity, housebreaking problems, biting, destructive chewing when the owner was away, fearfulness and barking.

Other reasons include:

- Dog takes too much time, work and money
- Owner is moving
- Landlord issues
- Owner is ill or allergic
- Inadequate facilities
- Too many pets already
- Personal problems

