

BARKING DOGS (Buy the right one: drjohnson.com/barkcollar)

Anxious dogs, dog-aggressive dogs, frantic dogs, kid-crazy dogs....

There's SO much *more* to the barking dog than ***just the noise***. Unchecked barking contributes to a lot of other issues with a dog including heightened anxiety and even airway damage. In nature, there are factors that prevent natural dogs from constantly engaging that behavior and for good reason:

First, barking dogs can (amazingly) threaten a bigger dog and get themselves attacked. Sometimes a small dog barking its head off would do better to just put his head down and scoot on by the threat, ***quietly***.

A stout no-bark collar even interrupts dog-aggressive behavior (especially for small dogs) because if your dog engages a "woof" as it tries to charge another dog, it gets a static zap in the neck that tells the dog: "Uh, no!" in a super effective "cause and effect" rapid lesson. It takes about 1-2 minutes to teach a dog to stop freaking out at other dogs. And you didn't even have to use a clicker or your hand. You didn't even have to yell at them. When *doesn't* this work? When dog aggression isn't associated with barking their heads off: Also known as never.

This does NOT mean your dog will abandon dog-aggression. It will just be quiet when presented with another dog that would otherwise start the barking-fireworks.

Sometimes frantic barking allows a dog to gather a good head of steam for a full-blown, all out tantrum as part of **separation anxiety**. Unchecked barking worsens an anxiety attack because there's no "interrupt" to bring them back to earth. Sort of like a person slapping someone and saying "Get aHOLD of yourself, man!!!" For separation anxiety the best remedies are **NOT** usually drugs. A combination of a no-bark collar and a tight **Thunder Shirt** (Applied nice and snug!) can work wonders.

(See also: drjohnson.com/thc)

Not only does endless barking while you're gone **annoy your neighbors** (living in an apartment especially) but it probably **annoys you**, too. So, if you can see that there are SEVERAL good reasons to use an anti-bark collar at least for a while around trouble-spots in a dog's development; what do you get?

Amazon.com sells a **rechargeable training collar**. Pictured here. Nowadays, the best of these have **sensitivity** and **intensity** controls. Choose high intensity with lower sensitivity. Charge the battery, put the collar around the pet's neck with the working unit hanging at the throat. NICE AND SNUG. When your dog barks or roars or woofs at other dogs it gives a little pleasant sound and vibration, which warns the dog. THEN, it provides the equivalent of a 'static electric' "pop" like a doorknob in winter. It stings a very small amount but it's enough to stop a particular behavior. And it works fast! (Because dogs are very smart and they understand "cause and effect" better (and faster) than humans do)

