

## How to Tell if a Dog is Upset

The picture on the cover shows Spot when she is angry. If Spot is barking, growling or snarling with her teeth showing, she is getting ready to bite. If her ears are laid back, or her legs are stiff and her tail is up, she is warning you. The hair on her back will also stand up.

If you continue to do what you are doing, she will get more angry and bite you.

### Do's and Don'ts

If Spot is acting like she may bite, follow these rules:

- Do not stare Spot in the eyes.
- Do not turn your back and run away.
- Do slowly walk away sideways.
- Be firm. Say "No!" to Spot and act like you're the boss.
- If Spot is angry and jumps on you, stand very still until she ignores you.

### What to Do if You are Bitten

**Tell** an adult you know right away.

If you are bitten by a strange dog, remember:

- If it had a collar or tag.
- The type, size and colour of the animal.
- The direction the animal went.

**Wash** the wound with soap and water.

**See** the doctor at once.

**Report** the bite to your local Animal Control Department.

### Important Things to Remember

Just as there are good ways and bad ways to behave with people, there are good and bad ways to behave with animals. Always be kind and gentle with animals. They have feelings too.



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# Spot and You:



# How To Avoid Dog Bites

An Animal Control Services Presentation



KPMG  
ISO 9001  
Registered





This is Spot. She is a fine dog who lives with a family that loves her and takes good care of her. Spot has never bitten anyone, but there are dogs that have bitten people. If someone was not nice to Spot, she might bite too.

Dogs bite people when they are afraid, or angry, or hurt.

Lets take a look at some things that might make Spot bite.

### Spot May Feel Scared

Would you be scared if a stranger suddenly came into your house? If you surprise Spot by coming into her house or yard, and Spot doesn't know you, she may feel scared. If Spot is scared she may bite.

When you see a dog that you don't know, remember the dog doesn't know you either and may be afraid. Do not go into a yard to pet a dog you don't know. Do not try to pet a dog that is chained. Never reach through a car window or fence to pet a dog you do not know. If the owner of the dog is there, always ask first if you may pet the dog.

### Spot May Feel Left Out

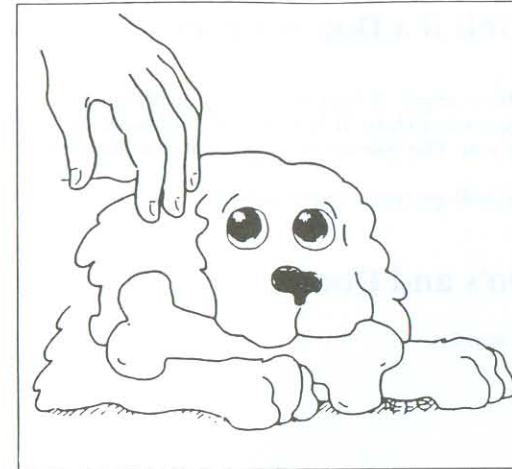
Do you sometimes feel left out? Spot can feel left out too. When there is a new baby in the house or a new dog or cat, Spot may feel like no one cares about her any more. When Spot doesn't get enough attention, she may feel angry and she may nip or bite.

A dog needs extra attention and love when there is a new baby or a new pet in the house.

### Spot May Get Too Excited

Do you like to be teased or yelled at? When you tease, chase or yell at Spot, she may get too excited and then she may nip at you. Don't pull her ears or tail, either. You may be having fun, but Spot is being hurt.

When you play with a dog, always be kind and gentle.



### Spot May Not Want To Share

Do you always want to share your food or toys? You might get angry if a person grabbed a toy or sandwich out of your hands. Sometimes Spot may not want to share her things either. Spot might not want to share her food, bones, balls, sticks and other toys.

Remember that dogs have their special things. Never grab anything from a dog.

### Spot May Bite Accidentally

If Spot got into a dog fight, you might want to help her. But people can be bitten accidentally when they try to stop a dog fight. Never stick your hand into a fight. You may be bitten accidentally.

When dogs are fighting, find an adult to stop the fight.

### Spot May Want to Protect Someone or Something

Do you have special things that you want to protect? Spot has special things too. Some special things to Spot are her owner and her yard and house. If Spot wants to protect her things, and you come too close, she will growl at you.

Respect a dog's feelings about the special things it wants to protect.

