

DogWise Ireland

USING A HOUSE LINE

The House Line (light weight lead) is a very useful tool to stop unwanted behaviour without giving unnecessary attention to your puppy/dog. It can be used to help with general training such as the recall and stay exercises. A House Line will also help you to take control of your dog around the house - when you open the hall door – greeting visitors properly etc. (See Jumping up document)

Attach the line to your puppy/dog's collar and allow it to trail around behind him/her. However, do not leave them unsupervised with the line on as it may become tangled.

To stop Chewing – If you see your puppy/dog chewing on something he/she shouldn't have, pick up the end of the line and guide him/her away giving him/her an alternative toy or treat to chew on. If he/she goes straight back again, repeat the exercise as often as required. If they are chewing on furniture, you can buy anti chew products to help. Try putting a small amount of Vicks, Olbas Oil or aromatherapy oil (eucalyptus) on the area they are chewing, this will help deter them.

To stop Stealing – Many puppies/dogs steal in order to get a game of chasing. If your he/she steals something, pick up the end of the line to prevent him/her running off with the item, call them to you using the line if you need to, praise him/her for bringing the item to you, and then gently remove the item (avoid a tug-of-war game) giving your **GIVE** command.

If you have a puppy/dog that like to pick things up, it is a good idea to teach the retrieve on many household items, not just their toys. Keep your puppy/dog on the lead or house line and play **FETCH** with items such as socks, dish cloths, old remote controls. It will teach them that it is rewarding to bring things to you rather than run off with them.

By Judith Owens Poole, DogWise Ireland.