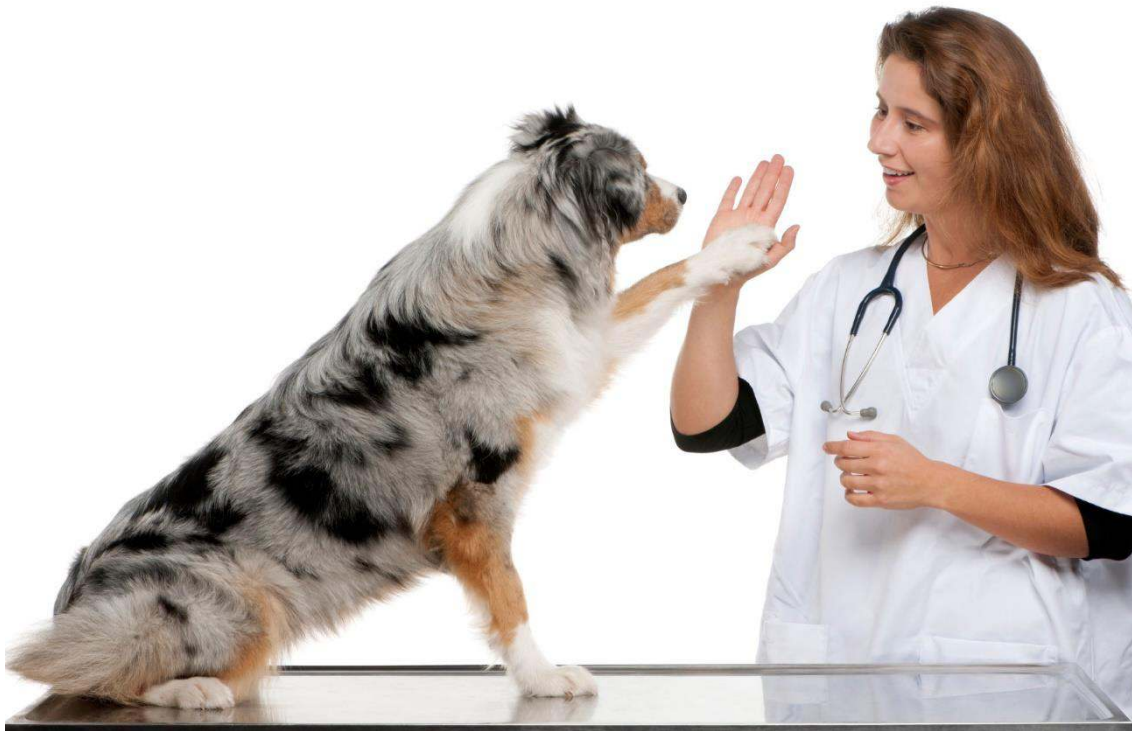


Here is your Top Tip number  
5..



**Top Tip #3**

## **Prevention is better than cure.**

*Hello again. Today I would like you to see something from your dog's point of view. And today's tip will not cost you a penny, it is easy, and it can save you (and your dog) from what can sometimes be an unpleasant experience.*

*Regards... Glen Stanford.*

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## *The UK Dog Whisperer.*

Top Tip number 5 is short and simple, but valuable all the same.

It is reasonable to assume that every dog has to visit the vet at some time in its life. After the initial trip to have your new puppy vaccinated, there will be inevitable further visits due to either illness or accident. (Make sure you have insured your dog, you will be thankful you did!!!)

Obviously, dogs are not born with a fear of visits to the vet, but it is understandable that they sometimes experience stress and discomfort as a result of being handled by a stranger, in a rather personal kind of way. Add to that the waiting room experience, which can also be a little tense, and it doesn't take long for our dogs to decide that they would rather 'give it a miss'.

Remember when your mum took you to the dentist? The smell, the anticipation, and of course, the sound of the screaming dentist drill? It doesn't bother some, but it can strike enough stress and worry into others, that they would rather lose all their teeth or live in pain, than experience the fear of visiting the dentist. And let's be honest, it is rarely a pleasant experience, sometimes bearable, but rarely pleasurable. And bear in mind that your dog's senses are far more tuned into smells and sounds than yours, so it's not surprising that it can be all a little overwhelming.

So, why not ease the stress for your dog by building its confidence, enhancing its trust in you, and giving your dog the best chance to cope with a visit to the vet.

It is easily done, and quite obvious when you think about it. Visit the vet for no reason, other than to let your dog experience the visit without anything happening. Neither good nor bad. Just a visit.

There is no doubt a veterinary practice within a reasonable distance from where you live. Maybe you could include a visit while on a walk, but if necessary find one you can drive to that has a local park close by, and then the vet visit will be

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merely part of a normal day out. The objective is very obvious. To acclimatise your dog to all the sensory input that it will encounter, and not make a 'big deal' out of it. The point is, it becomes a '*non-event*', just as if you were on your walk, and stop to chat with a friend. I do not see much point in offering endless amounts of treats because your dog has maintained normality, but I suppose it cannot hurt to make the experience that little bit more pleasurable by associating something good with the sensory input, and the experience in general.

So there you are. Pay a visit to your vet for no reason at all, except you are being understanding to your dog's emotions and mental state.

Well done you...



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