



Barrier Miner
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WORST DOGGY HABITS REVEALED

JUMPING up, barking and digging up the family garden are some of the most common doggy habits but they can be easily fixed, according to celebrity dog trainer, Steve Austin.

“Many dog owners despair of their dogs behaviour and see their bad habits as unbreakable but it really only takes a little patience and dedication to conquer their naughty ways,” said Austin.

With over twenty years experience training dogs, Austin knows every dog trick in the book and says the first part of overcoming any vice is to ensure your dog receives plenty of physical exercise and mental stimulation.

“Without regular exercise and mental activities to occupy their mind, your dog will become bored and this will often lead to problems such as barking and digging up the garden,” he said.

Another reason dogs may dig is to find

a place to keep cool. The best way to avoid this happening is to create a special area in the backyard for your dog that is always damp and contains a few of their toys.

Steve Austin also suggests owners teach dogs basic commands, such as sit, come and stay using verbal communication and hand signals. These communication techniques are vital when reprimanding dogs for jumping on family and friends, or for behaving inappropriately around other dogs.

“Once your dog understands the basic commands (sit, come and stay), teach these ‘manners’ to family and friends and emphasise that they can only talk to or pat the dog when it obeys the orders. The dog will soon learn jumping up is not rewarded and the only way to get attention is by responding to the commands,” said Austin.