



CHEWING

Dogs chew. That is non-negotiable. All you get to choose is what your dog chews.

- ❏ First ask yourself, "Have I met my dog's basic needs today?"
- ❏ Did my dog get enough exercise?
- ❏ Is my dog's food loaded with sugar? (Beet pulp, sorghum, corn syrup, grains. Trainers call food that is high in protein & sugar "rocket fuel". It might be good for sled dogs, but is it good for your pet? Probably not.)
- ❏ Do I have enough toys? You should have at least 6 toys, and a wide variety such as squeaky toys, balls, rope toys, stuffed toys, bones (as in a piece of a cows leg sterilized and packaged for sale at the pet store).

To Interrupt Chewing:

- ❏ On objects, say "Oops" and redirect the chewing to a toy. Keep your house puppy proofed, with everything up and out of the pups reach.
- ❏ On You, if your pup is chewing on you and bites too hard, yelp (really go for an Academy Award here) and freeze. When your pup let's go redirect to a toy. Playing with other friendly dogs is a great way for your dog to learn "bite inhibition" and it does transfer to humans. Gentle guidance will leave you with a soft mouthed dog.