

How to Show Your Dog Real Love – The Right Way



This guide is a companion to our full article on how to love your dog — not just with affection, but through trust, choice, and calm connection. Print it. Stick it on the fridge. Share it with your dog-loving friends.

1. Learn their language

Tail wag ≠ always happy. Yawning, lip-licking, turning away = discomfort.

2. Respect consent

Let them say no. Avoid forced cuddles or kisses.

3. Create routines

Predictable walks, meals, and rest help dogs feel safe.

4. Prioritize enrichment

Sniff walks. Puzzle feeders. Lick mats. Scent games.

5. Make training joyful

Short, reward-based, fun. No yelling. No pressure.

6. Let them choose

Who to greet. When to play. What to sniff.

7. Adopted dogs love deeply

Their trust is earned — and it's everything.

Bonus: 3 Ways to Build Connection Today

- Offer a choice — Let them pick the walking route or toy.
- Be still — Sit quietly near them. Let them come to you.
- Celebrate curiosity — Let them sniff that weird bush for 5 minutes.

♥ Turn love into action

You can adopt, foster, or sponsor a dog at Wigglestail Animal Sanctuary. Every act of kindness helps a rescue dog feel safe & seen.

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