

Tips for Understanding Dogs

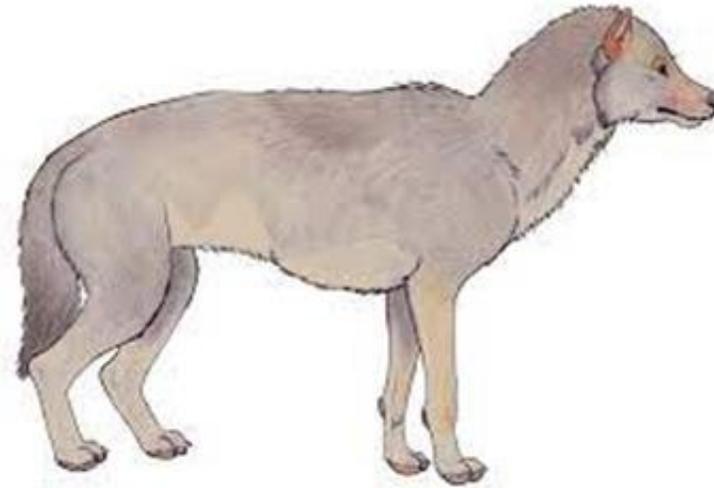
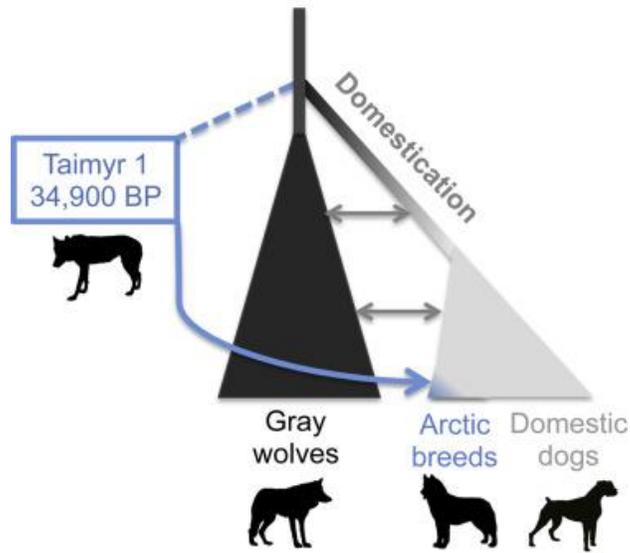


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HISTORY OF DOMESTICATION

- Who is the ancestor of dogs?
 - Gray wolf and dog - Relatives
 - Common ancestor of wolf and dog: Taimyr wolf
 - About 30,000 years ago, the wolf and dog separated from each other. (Freedman et.al. 2014).



Domestication Theories

- **Ice Age:**
 - Starving wolves began to scavenge around human resources
- **Old theory - Human influence:**
 - Man noticed wolves...
 - However:
 - People did not tolerate carnivorous competitors at that time
 - Wolf hunting is the indicator of power until recently
 - Probably friendly wolves approached and were tolerated by humans
 - Result: Wolves started the domestication process!



How difficult can domestication be?

- Dmitry K. Belyaev managed to turn silver foxes into dogs after 40 generations (1959-).
- From the 6th generation on, dog-like reactions have started to be observed.
- All of the genetic changes were to socialize with humans.



Dogs in human life



What about stray dogs?

- Home dogs of their origins
- They lack the ability to obtain food by hunting!
- They depend on people and human resources to survive!



Integration ability of urban free ranging dogs into humans' life

• Results:

- They can be trained easily
- They are compatible with human beings
- Salgırlı Demirbas ve ark. (2014). Integration ability of urban free ranging dogs into adoptive families' environment. J Vet Behav
- Salgırlı Demirbas ve ark.(2017):Rehabilitation program for urban free-ranging dogs in a shelter environment can improve behavior and welfare. J. Vet. Behav.

Hürriyet Gündem Dünya Ekonomi Spor Arena Video Seyahat Kel

ANKARA HABERLERİ

Kömür'ün önlenemez yükselişi

Hürriyet Haber

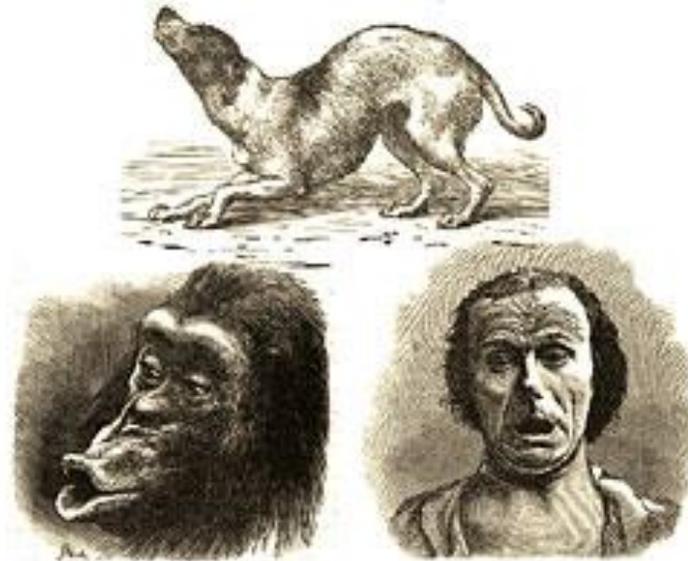
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Sokakta doğan ve AKUT Arama Kurtarma Derneği Ankara K9 Birimi Sorumlusu Veteriner Hekim Tarkan Özvardar ile Çankaya Belediyesi'nin barınağında tanışan Kömür, her gün bir başka başarının altına imza atıyor.



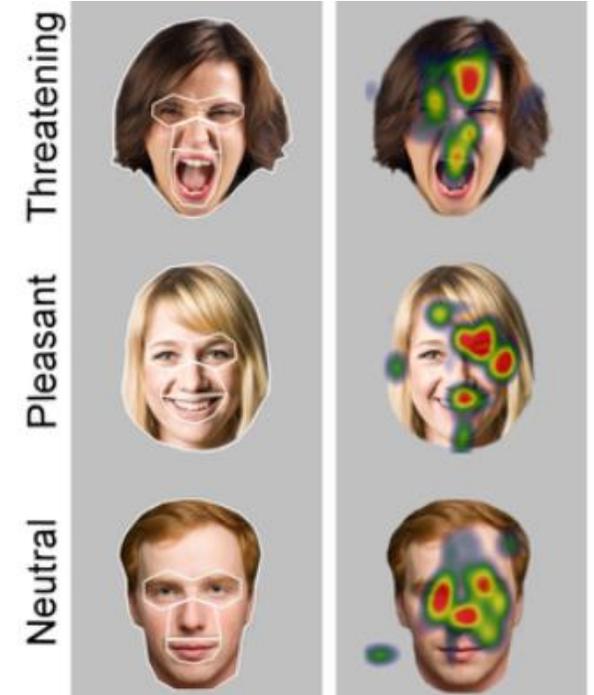
Understanding Emotions

- There is an emotion under every expression.
- The ability to interpret expressions is important for social relationships.
- In humans, facial expressions are important for understanding emotions.
- How much can two different species understand each other?



Dogs' ability to understand humans

- Dogs' ability to read humans is better than chimpanzees and bonobos.
 - Dogs are similar to infants in paying attention to adults.
 - Dogs show "left gaze bias" - only looking at human face
- ❖ Sanni Somppi, Heini Törnqvist, Miimaaria V. Kujala, Laura Hänninen, Christina M. Krause, Outi Vainio. **Dogs Evaluate Threatening Facial Expressions by Their Biological Validity – Evidence from Gazing Patterns.** *PLOS ONE*, 2016; 11 (1): e0143047 DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0143047](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0143047)
- ❖ Guo ve ark. (2009). [Left gaze bias in humans, rhesus monkeys and domestic dogs.](#) *Animal cognition.*



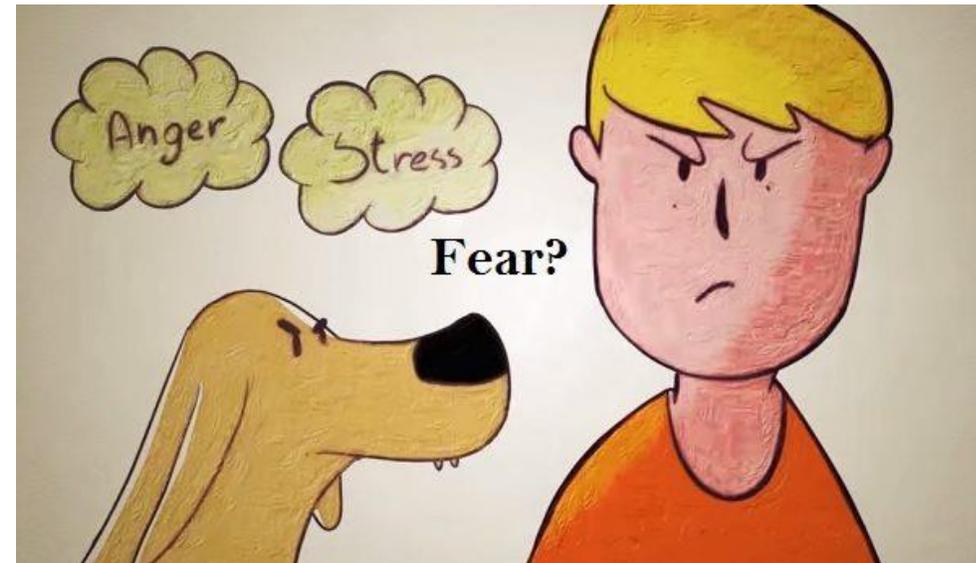
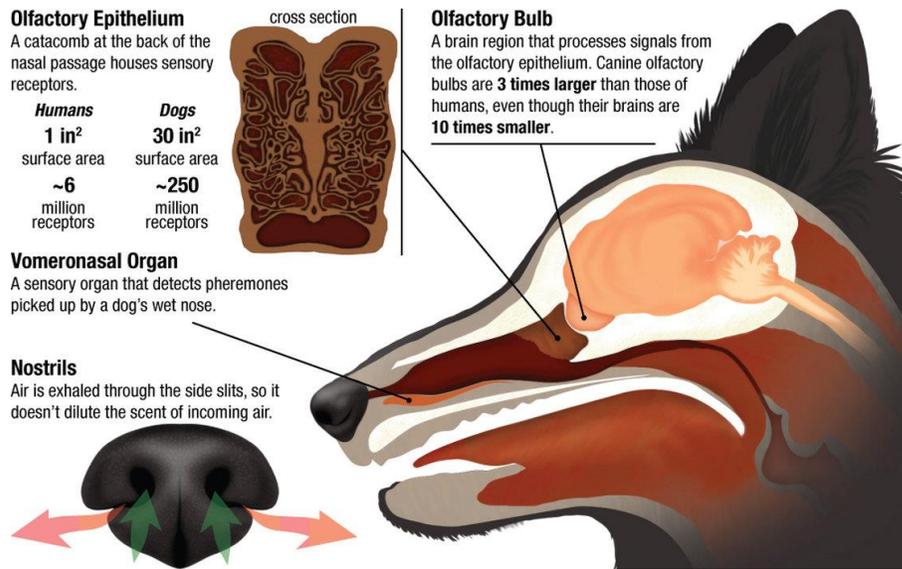
Can dogs understand our feelings?

- **Dogs can link human facial expressions and emotional sounds.**
 - ❖ Albuquerque N. ve ark. (2016). **Dogs recognize dog and human emotions.** *Biology Letters*
 - ❖ Corsin A. Müller, Kira Schmitt, Anjuli L.A. Barber, Ludwig Huber, (2014). **Dogs Can Discriminate Emotional Expressions of Human Faces.** *Current Biology*



Can dogs smell fear?

- ❖ D'Aniello, B., Semin, G.R., Alterisio, A., Aria, M., Scandurra, A.(2017). Interspecies transmission of emotional information via chemo signals: from humans to dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*). *Animal Cognition*,



Our ability to understand dogs' emotions

- We cannot understand stress related-facial expressions in dogs
- Bloom T(1), Friedman H..**Classifying dogs' (Canis familiaris) facial expressions from photographs.** Behav Processes. 2013





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Adults' Ability to Interpret Canine Body Language during a Dog-Child Interaction

Yasemin Salgirli Demirbas, Hakan Ozturk, Bahri Emre, Mustafa Kockaya, Tarkan Ozvardar & Alison Scott

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To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08927936.2016.1228750>



Results of the study

- **When the dog and the child are together:**
 - Dog's emotional state?
 - The dog's behavior?
 - Why?
- **Expert panel:**
 - Behaviors associated with anxiety / fear / emotional conflict
 - Most of the participants (68.4%): Dogs are relaxed and happy
 - Dominant behavior: Play behavior and friendly behavior



Another Research:

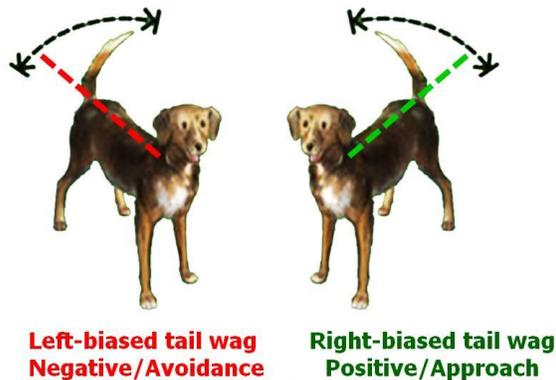
Kaminski J. (2016) Paedomorphic Facial Expressions Give Dogs a Selective Advantage. PlosOne

- 27 shelter dogs
- Behavior during visits
- Adoption rate
- The link between one facial expression and adoption
- **Human interpretation:**
- If at shelter: Sad
- If at home: Guilty



Why are we making mistakes?

- Context specific approach
- Anthropomorphic approach - have you really tried to listen to your dog?
- Established-taboo misinformation
- Ignorance



BASIC ERRORS IN COMMUNICATION

Why do dogs bite?

- If he cannot communicate by talking
- (except redirected aggression, learned context, and no pathological problem)
- Education is essential to prevent biting cases!
- **Education:**
- Teaching the correct communication with dogs
- Teaching the warning signs
- Choosing the right strategy in case of any attack



GOLDEN RULES

1. Ask permission and use an appropriate body language

- Dog owner???
- Dog

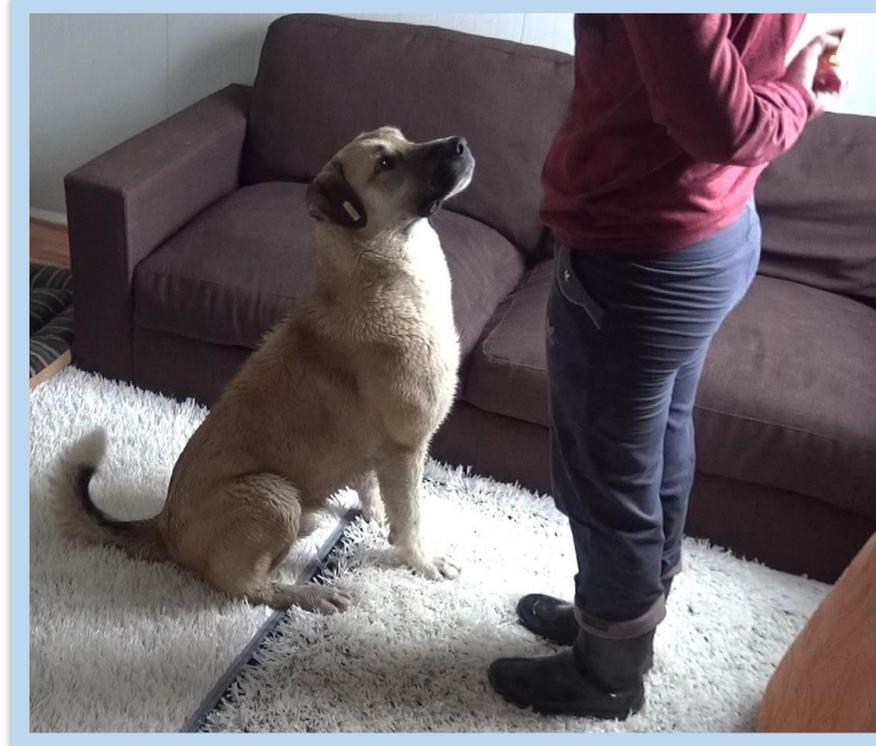


GOLDEN RULES

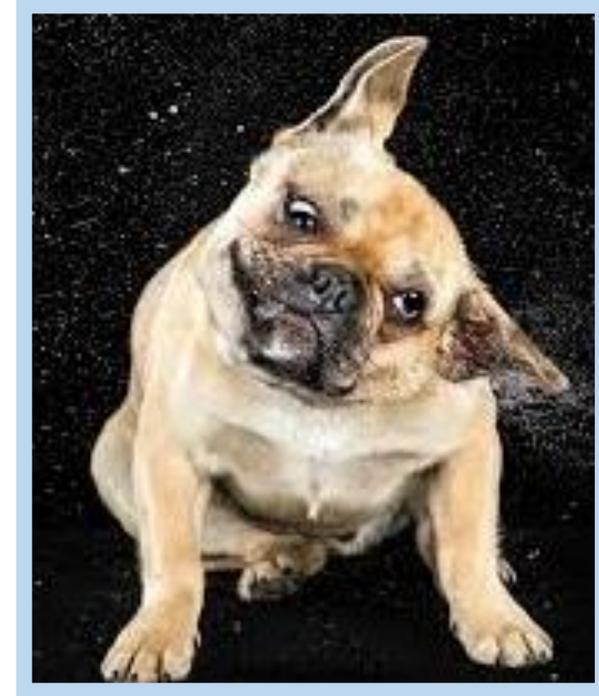
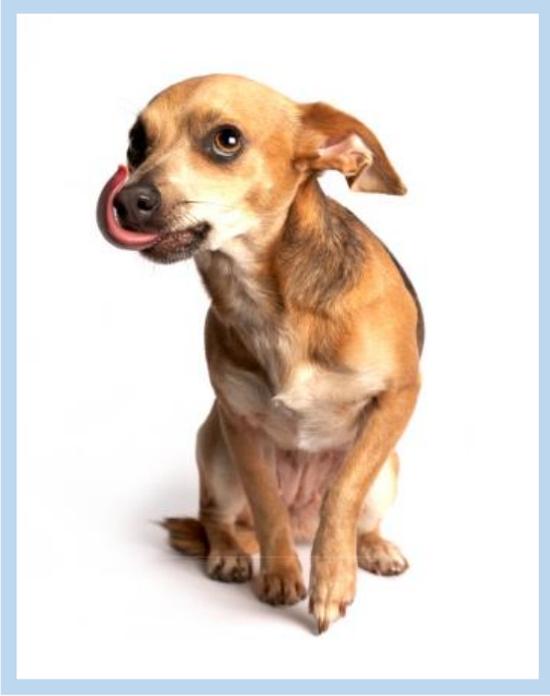
2. Stress signs



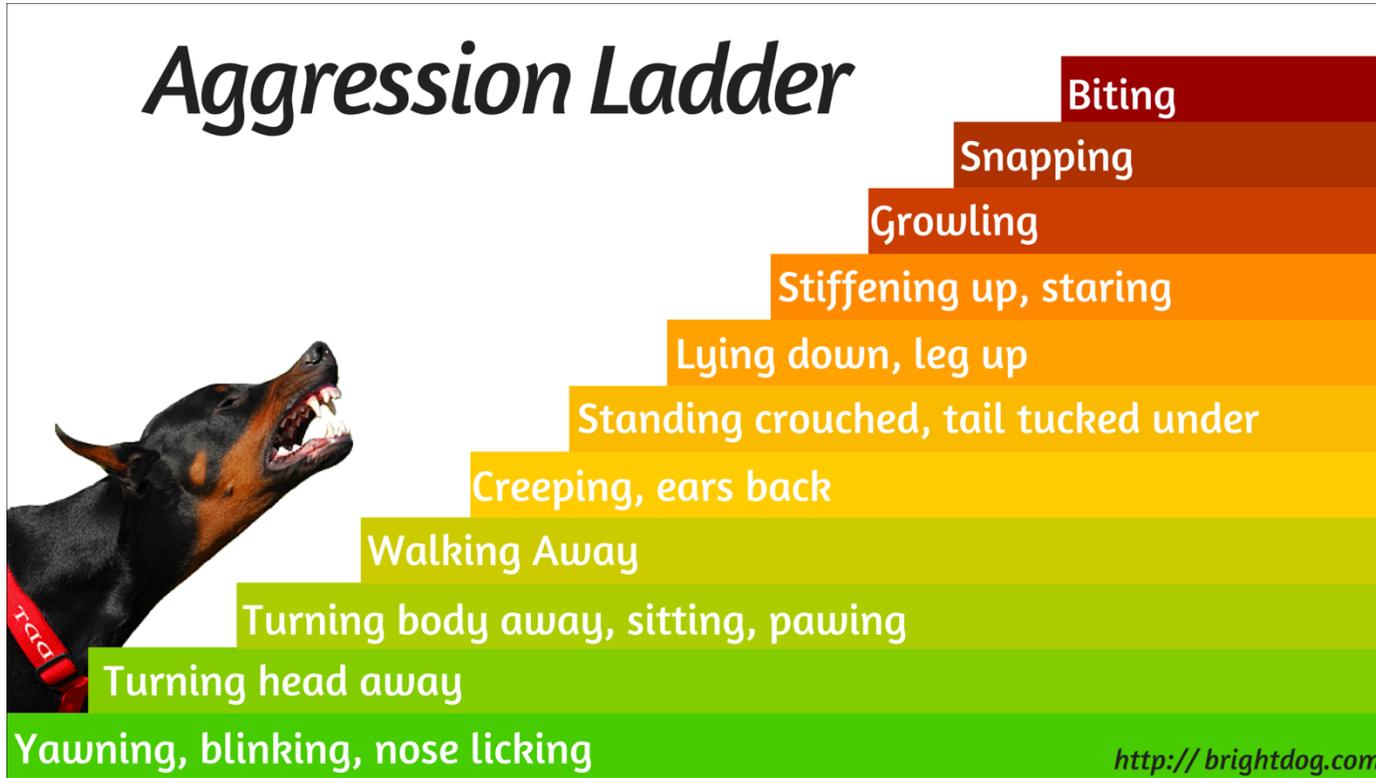
RELAXED BODY LANGUAGE



STRESS SIGNS



AGGRESSION LADDER



HAPPY DOG?



GOLDEN RULES

3. Do not run and make sudden movements and reactions when you meet the dog:

- Dogs love to chase moving objects!
- Sudden movements can frighten dogs!



IF AN UNFAMILIAR DOG APPROACHES YOU?



Stop



**Fold in your
branches**



**Watch your roots
grow and count
in your head**

