



The Spectrum of Dog Sociability



Do YOU love EVERYONE you meet??

Dog Social

- **TRULY** appreciates the company of **almost every other dog**
- **Most Puppies start here**
- Enjoys and seeks out other dogs; tolerates or encourages rude behaviors from other dogs (humping or barking in their face)
- With maturity, **nearly all will** → **move to the right** of this trait
- **Quite rare** in Adult Dogs
- **Unfortunately, we expect all dogs** to exhibit this trait, even though it's **fairly abnormal** in most mature dogs

Dog Tolerant

- Gets along with **most other dogs**.
- May be **playful or neutral**
- Generally has a pretty long fuse and good communication skills
- Tends to **do well on leash** around other dogs
- Require **normal supervision** and limited direction from humans
- Puppies who grow up to become Dog Selective or Dog Aggressive may start here →
- A **very common** place for **adult dogs** to end up **after maturity**

Dog Selective

- Has a small circle of **"approved" dogs or types of dog**
- Scuffles may break out quickly
- Often has very short fuse (less tolerant)
- May **dislike certain play styles or types of dog** on sight
- **Less than stellar on leash** with other dogs.
- May seem like the "fun police" or "instigator" in group situations
- Requires a lot of supervision and positive direction from humans
- Rare, concerning in well-socialized puppies with **ONLY** good dog-dog experiences
- **Very normal** for an adult dog at maturity

Dog Aggressive

- Has a very limited circle of dog friends
- Perhaps only one or two housemate dogs
- May have **no dog friends** at all
- **Very poor social skills**
- Quick to **spark up on leash**
- May appear social, then change when close
- Needs skilled, knowledgeable support, patience, and direction from humans to succeed in dog-dog interactions
- **Highly abnormal in puppies**
- **Fairly uncommon** in adult dogs who have no history of bad encounters