



RAINY DAY ACTIVITIES

Pit Bull Hall's dedicated team of handlers came up with this list of 47 ways to keep our adoptable shelter dogs entertained on those long, rainy days.

1. Have indoor play parties with the agility equipment. Tunnels are fun!
2. Walk the dogs in the rain and take photos of them looking miserable (It might help them get adopted, right?)
3. Catch up on old issues of People Magazine with a dog on your lap or on a tie-down. Give him a chew toy to gnaw on while you read.
4. Bounce ten tennis balls off the walls of an empty room for crazy fun.
5. Practice enforcing 'Sit' up and down and up and down the lobby.
6. Play 'Find it' - Hide kibble under blankets and towels.
7. Practice long down stays in the kitchen while stuffing Kongs.
8. Use a mini Flirt Pole or teaser pole. Same rules would apply as when you use the Flirt Pole outside.
9. Bring a basket full of hats, wigs, boas and clothes for the dogs and let the public play dress up with your dogs in the lobby. Photos, photos!
10. Place little piles of treats on the ground and practice leave-it as you walk by them.
11. Teach a dog to pick up toys. Once he has it down, tell him to "Go get the toy", then call him over to the toy bin & tell them to 'Drop' for a treat. Repeat.
12. Blow bubbles! Dogs love trying to pop them. If you want you can tell the dog to "wait." give a release command & then let them go for it. When they've popped them all, ask the dog come sit by your side & start all over again. Stand on a chair to get maximum bubble-height.
13. Play soccer in the rain using a soccer ball, jolly ball or basketball.
14. Work on getting perfect Sit-Stays while you open the door and put the leash on. Turn and walk and make sure they stay put until released!
15. Teach the basic touch command & then get the dog to touch various things around the shelter.
16. Expose dogs to everyday items like crutches, wheelchairs, umbrellas that open.

[More Rainy Day Ideas on Back](#)

More Rainy Day Ideas:



Rainy Day Tip #13

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17. Tug-rope play: Reinforce 'Leave it!' 'Take' 'Out' and 'Sit.'
18. Recall/Stay game. Put dog in a sit/stay, walk away a short distance & call them just as you start to run away. When they catch you they get a reward. If the dog breaks the stay, no treat or reward & the dog has to start all over again.
19. Bring a dog with you to fold towels in the laundry room. Fun for them, warm for you.
20. Make 'kibble cubes:' Hide kibble in an egg carton, duct tape closed, put carton in a box, duct tape closed and then in a bigger box. Let dogs rip them to shreds and make a photo-worthy mess.
21. Teach them to weave through your legs using a food lure.
22. Work on the 'Look' command while sitting near shelter cats or barking dogs.
23. Teach dog to spin by luring them around in a circle.
24. Work on potty training. Reward with special a food treat for going outside and put a cue to it like, "Go potty"
25. Tickle-Me-Pitty! Wrap the dog in a blanket when you put him to bed and give him a good tickle.
26. Water Bottle Hockey. Drop some kibble in a couple of water bottles, screw on the caps and let dog have a fun and rowdy hockey game.
27. Teach dog to catch a treat. They're usually really bad at this but you'll have fun watching treats bounce off their nose as they try their hardest.
28. Put the dog in a down stay and practice having him stay with distractions; Run around him, jump over him, crouch down, do jumping jacks, etc.
29. Take a dog on a field trip to the pet store to pick out a new toy.
30. Give a dog a bath and work on good bath time manners.
31. Hand feed them their dinner or breakfast and make them earn it by doing sits and downs and other commands for each piece of kibble.
32. Work on having the dogs respond to down and sit without food lures.
33. Fill a baby pool full with stuffed animals and let the dog dive inside.
34. Bring a snack along and work on having the dog do a down stay at your feet while you eat your snack.
35. Pick up a book on T-Touch or dog massage and try out the techniques.
36. After you've taught a dog a cute trick, bring them to the lobby to perform for shelter visitors.
37. Teach them to play dead by luring them on to their side from a down position.
38. Put a dog on your lap and work on handling them everywhere with no mouthing.
39. The Leave-it Hand Game - Fun way to teach a dog to give you good eye-contact, teach "leave-it" & take treats from your hand softly.
40. Work on having the dog greet people at the front door without jumping up. Have visitors treat and pet for sitting nicely.
41. Examine their mouth, run a finger on their gums, lift up their lips and play with their ears as a way to make them comfortable with routine vet checks.
42. Teach the dog to go to his bed in his run on command by giving the command "Go to bed" and luring him to the bed and then into a down on the bed for a treat.
43. The Crate Game: Great way to train a dog to fly into the crate when told. Leave door open on crate, have dog sit next to you (unleashed), throw a treat inside, tap the front of the crate with your finger and say "Crate!" After the dog has eaten the treat tell them to stay & then tell them to come to you & sit for a treat. Repeat the process & soon the dog will be flying into the crate for a yummy treat.
44. Try a Crate Race between two dogs!
45. Teach the Army Crawl by putting them in a down and using a food to lure them forward.
46. Rainy days are a great excuse for a pedicure and ear cleaning. Find a big puddle for crazy mud fun then come back inside for a bath. Share those before and after mud photos on the website with dog's bio!
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For more information, visit www.BADRAP.org and www.AnimalFarmFoundation.org