

Image courtesy of Rawpixel

## Teach Your Dog New Tricks With These Great Apps

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Adopting a new dog is an exciting experience. There's nothing like those drool-covered kisses to put you in a good mood. But if you never dipped your toe in the dog-ownership world before, the whole experience can be overwhelming. As a new dog owner, you're likely to be bombarded with lists of dos and don'ts, like foods dogs shouldn't eat, and recommendations for the best tools and techniques to keep your dog happy and healthy.

You probably already know the basic equipment, like a snuggly bed, a safe <u>crate</u>, and healthy food, but for new dog owners, your phone can be a valuable tool as well. There are apps to help with all sorts of issues, and you're going to want a phone that has the power to handle those apps, can take great pictures, offers good battery life, and has a large enough screen to show off Fido's big grin. If your current phone lacks features or is too clunky to keep up with newer apps, look into purchasing a newer smartphone that has everything you're looking for. Most providers <u>have trade-in deals</u> for new customers, and you can usually pay for your new phone in installments. With a powerful device, you'll be able to tackle dog ownership head-on.

The <u>Animal Rescue Family</u> is dedicated to finding homes for abused, lost, and unwanted pets. Fill out a <u>volunteer application</u> today!

## A healthy dog is a happy dog

First and foremost, you want your dog to be healthy. As a new dog owner, you'll likely want to give your pet whatever he wants. After all, who can resist that sweet puppy dog face? But remember that list we talked about with the foods that are a no-go, and it's not necessarily convenient to always have a printout on hand. iKibble is a great alternative. App Recs explains iKibble is like an encyclopedia of all the various human foods your dog can and can't indulge in.

Did your dog accidentally get into something he wasn't supposed to? Dogs can be very curious creatures, and you never know what they might experiment with during outings, whether at the park or visiting a restaurant. Animal Poison by ASPCA tells you what to do in the event your new pup sneaks into the chocolate, or er, onions?! Check with this app to find out if Fido needs a trip to the doggy ER, or if you simply need to give him some extra TLC at home.

## Sit Fido, Sit!

Dog training can be, well, let's just say fun. If you've adopted a puppy, it all starts with the fun task of <u>potty training</u>. Some breeds are inherently harder to house train than others, but even with a more challenging companion, you can do it! One of the most important parts of potty training a new dog is making sure they go out often. To help with your quest, <u>Paw tracks</u> not only tracks the distance of your walk but also helps you track when your dog, um, took care of business.

But it's not all about potty training. You'll want to make sure your dog can obey commands, will stay with you on their walk, and won't go crazy chasing after squirrels. Puppr is a great way to train your dog and teach him new tricks too!

Thankfully, it's not all work and no play with apps and a new pooch. <u>Say Bark!</u> is one of the funnest (and addictive) apps on the market. This app allows you to make custom greetings, starring none other than your beloved pup! Say Bark! will draw you in and take up way too much of your time (shh, we won't tell).

Dog ownership is a fun, new adventure, so don't worry if you don't have all the answers. It's okay to get a little help. With so many great apps on the market, you're sure to find everything you need for you to have Fido sitting pretty in no time.