



**CANINES CAN CARE
COURSE ON
THE BEHAVIOURAL ASPECT OF
KENNELLING AND PETSITTING DOGS**

So you've decided to set up a kennelling business or to start pet sitting from home. You have the place, a love for dogs (and the money) and would love to invest in a lucrative business. Well, you are not the only one – kennels and pet sitting facilities are sprouting up like mushrooms all over the country. Anyone even remotely connected to canines is setting up a kennel or becoming a pet sitter. Sure the business is lucrative and there is a huge demand. But few of these budding entrepreneurs realise that operating a kennel or pet sitting facility requires more than a place and an affinity for dogs. Many a kennel or pet sitting facility has opened up with great fanfare only to shut down in a couple of months.

A good kennel owner or a pet sitter must have an intricate knowledge of canines and their behaviour. Without the knowledge, a boarded dog can become unhappy, bored or even develop serious behaviour problems - leading to complaints against you and your business in the long run. If you want to stand out from the other businesses, be renowned for your care and expertise in kennelling or pet sitting, then join this course and learn how to keep your canine - and human – customers satisfied; and be the proud owner of the 'yappiest' canine boarding facility in India!



WHAT WILL THE COURSE TEACH YOU?

The course will guide the students through every behavioural aspect that can crop up when kennelling or pet sitting a dog. The topics include:

KENNEL DESIGN AND ITS IMPACT ON THE BEHAVIOUR OF DOGS

Few kennel owners comprehend that a poorly designed kennel can, in fact, be the cause behind aggression in a dog, or can cause a puppy to get stressed and in some cases, can even lead a dog to develop an obsessive compulsive disorder. Learn which kennel designs can help reduce stress and unwanted behaviours in dogs.

Pet sitters on the other hand struggle with keeping dogs at home, which rooms to allow the dogs in, how to manage and juggle dogs in an apartment will be discussed on the course.

STRESS IN BOARDED DOGS

A dog that is not used to being confined can get depressed and unsettled in a kennel or a dull home environment. Learn how dogs show stress and what you can do to help. This topic will cover:

- Different stress behaviours in dogs and how to recognise them and take steps to eliminate them.
- The symptoms of stress
- Measuring the levels of stress in a dog.
- The physiological aspect of stress.
- Displacement behaviours
- Stereotype behaviours
- Obsessive compulsive behaviours



CANINE SPEAK

Like any other pack animal, dogs communicate without the benefit of a language; and though canine communication consists of many woofs and wags, dogs prefer to rely more on subtle body language cues - a raised eyebrow, a frown or even a stare - to gauge what the other person or dog is saying. When communicating with our dogs, many of us continually use mixed cues to get a message across. Most often, dogs usually read our signals correctly. But sometimes, a dog gets perplexed if he receives conflicting messages. The constant presentation of unclear and confusing messages to a dog will make him anxious, bewildered, and less likely to obey; and, in certain cases, result in a bite. On this course students will learn to speak the fascinating language a dog speaks. Once you learn its language, your communication with dogs and the way you interact with them will change forever.

This topic will include:

- Reading canine body language and learning how to communicate correctly with any dog.
- Calming signals and how to use them to reduce stress in a dog
- How to speak to a dog without verbal communication
- How to tell when a dog is unhappy or angry - and never get bitten again

The students will be taught the behaviours using videos and pictures.

BEHAVIOURAL AND EMOTIONAL MANAGEMENT OF DOGS IN THE KENNELS OR PET SITTING FACILITIES



A dog that has never been kennelled before will find it a stressful, unhappy experience; in addition, it has been separated from its family and is depressed about the situation. IN a pet sitting facility, if the dog has never been outside of its own home or is missing its family, you are likely to see problems. Learning how to prevent these issues and tackle them can make a difference in a dog that has settled into your home or is unhappy. Learn how to deal with behaviour problems that can crop up in a kennel environment or with dogs that come to your home with pre-existing behaviour problems. This topic will include:

AGGRESSION

Aggression within a kennel environment or when a dog stays at your pet sitting facility is a common problem faced by most boarding businesses. Many of them deal with it in their own way, often making the problem worse whilst the dog is boarded and when it returns home to the owner. A professional that is knowledgeable about aggressive dogs will make an informed

decision when aggression arises and will be able to educate the owner too.

It will cover:

- Aggression towards humans – preventing dog attacks
- Aggression towards dogs in a kennel/ pet sitting environment
- Nervous aggression
- Food aggression
- Territorial aggression
- How to pair two dogs together in a kennel or in a home facility to minimise aggression and behaviour problems.

ENRICHMENT OF THE BOARDING ENVIRONMENT

Most kennel owners feel that a kennel that is kept clean and safe is the best environment for a dog. Many owners do not understand that such a kennel environment is considered inadequate in many countries around the world. An ideal kennel environment should be able to ensure that the pet does not develop behavioural issues whilst housed there.

Similarly, many people who do pet sitting at home, choose to keep the dogs in a room that is devoid of furniture or sensory stimulus in an effort to curb destruction or harm, to the dog. This can cause a dog to become bored and start showing signs of behaviour issues which will continue when the dog finally goes back home. This can lead to complaints against your pet sitting business.

The course will cover:

- Boredom - Enriching the environment using the dogs five senses
- A daily routine to keep the dog's behavioural and emotionally satisfied through the day

- Separation problems
- Fussy eaters
- Handling and grooming problems
- Soiling and toileting
- Destructive behaviour
- Excessive barking

HANDLING PET DOGS

Most of the problems that arise with a dog in a kennel or pet sitting facility do so due to the fact that the owner of the business knows little about the laws and practises that govern kennel management in India. Gleaning the correct information from an owner can make a tremendous difference in how a boarding business will keep and manage a dog. Equally important to maintaining your image as a reputable and responsible kennel or pet sitter is the post-boarding advice given to pet parents.

The course will cover:

- Preparing a questionnaire for a pet owner that will give you detailed insight into a dog's mind.
- Post boarding advice for pet owners – What should an owner do when the dog returns home?

IS THIS COURSE FOR YOU?

The course will offer a wealth of behavioural advice for any dog lover – from a pet owner to a hobbyist to a professional. Even kennel owners or pet sitters who have successfully run their business for years (and think they know it all) will take home a wealth of information. If you want to own the most popular and successful kennelling/pet sitting business in India, this course is a must!

DURATION AND VENUE

The course will be conducted at Dadar, Mumbai from 10 am to 2 pm everyday for a duration of 6 days.

The next course will be held from **20th April to 25th April 2020**

TRAINING FACULTY

'Canines Can Care' is the only canine organisation of its kind in India. The organisation has pioneered not only the concept of Assistance Dogs in the country, but also the concept of Search and Rescue Dogs. In fact, the 'Canines Can Care' search dog team was the only one representing India in the aftermath of the Gujarat earthquake.

Besides the above, "Canines Can Care" also conducts dog training courses for pet owners, offers behavioural advice for problem dogs, holds agility training sessions, runs courses on canine behaviour and is involved in pioneering many more dog related activities all over the country.

The founder of "Canines Can Care" – Shirin Merchant, will conduct the course.

She is the only person in Asia to have an international accreditation from the Kennel Club of England's, Accredited Instructor scheme – the KCAI in Companion Animal training and in Behavioural Training. **The behavioural training accreditation makes her one of 9 people in the world who have achieved it.**

In 2015, Shirin was awarded the International Commendation for Trainer of the Year award by the Kennel Club of England's KCAI scheme at the Cruft's Dog Show in England.

In 2016, Shirin was invited to lecture at the Association of Professional Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) conference in Las Vegas. She is the first Indian to have been invited by this prestigious body to present at the conference.

In 2017, Shirin was invited to present at TEDx Gitam University.

In 2018, Shirin was awarded The First Ladies award and felicitated for being a pioneer in her field by The President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Over the past 23 years, Shirin Merchant has trained over two thousand dogs with breeds ranging from the feisty Pomeranian to the shy Samoyed. She is in great demand with most of India's dog owners with problems regarding their pets. The problems have ranged from dominance, housetraining, chewing, aggression and destruction to boredom and compulsive behaviours.

All through the years, Shirin has worked hard to change the concept of dog training in India.

APPLICATION

The detailed course will include theory, group projects and research at a local dog shelter. No previous dog experience required. The course will be conducted only in English and students are required to have a good understanding of the language. Any dog lover above 18 years can apply. This course is only for those people who genuinely want to learn more about dogs. Only those seriously interested should apply.

CERTIFICATION

Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a certificate.

FEES AND MODE OF PAYMENT FOR THE COURSE

The fees for this course are Rs. 75000/- plus 18% GST – TOTAL Rs. 88,500/-

Payment can be made in the form of cash / cheque / NEFT in the name of 'CANINES CAN CARE'. All payments to be made in full before the commencement of the course. Part payments / post dated cheques will not be accepted.

Registration charges Rs. 10,000/- (non-refundable and non-transferable) to be sent along with the admission form (available on request). Registration amount will be adjusted against final payment.

For more details, or the application form for the course contact us at k9cancare@hotmail.com