***Dog Trainers, Job Description: What Does a Dog Trainer Do?***

These days, more and more people have pets, dogs are the most popular pet animal within the family.

Families keep them in their homes. Misbehaving is something people do not seem to be expecting. It is at this point many families reach out to dog behaviourist and trainers.

That is the moment when a dog training career becomes invaluable.

**Dog Trainers their Duties & Responsibilities**

This is actually a career that combines knowledge of animal behaviour with practical teaching skills.

To be able to perform this job successfully, the individual needs to possess patience, consistency, and excellent communication skills, both verbal and nonverbal.

A dog trainer has the aim to effectively teach the family pet. It’s owner along with every member of the family, the responsibility that comes with owning a dog. A job that should not be taken lightly, as with teaching children you are about to teach a part of the family.

Most dog trainers are self-employed. However, there are some dog trainers who work for a head trainer or as a part of a pet store’s obedience training program.

Workplaces are numerous for these professionals. Trainers may also be employed by animal shelters, veterinary clinics, or boarding kennels and they may offer group lessons, private lessons, or home visits.

Furthermore, they may choose to specialize in obedience, behavioural modification, aggression management, therapy or service dog training, puppy training, trick training, and a variety of other areas.

Specialization in working with specific breeds is also an option that will lead to better job prospects and higher salaries.

Love towards dogs in an inevitable characteristic of any person who wants to become a Dog Trainer.

However, his/her daily duties and responsibilities are numerous, causing them to possess many other skills and qualities.

Dog trainers’ jobs generally requires the ability to do the following:

* Operant conditioning
* Positive reinforcement
* Clicker training
* Hand signals
* Voice commands
* Reward systems

These are all techniques used to teach new, or improved behaviour.

Their job is to take a closer look at the progress of the dog. Evaluate each dog, advise owners on how best to teach the methods, the trainer decides to use. Either at home or even provide the owner with additional exercises such as training classes.

So that the dog training sessions are successful, dog trainers need to be sensitive, patient, careful, strong and physically fit.

They will also need to meet the needs of the owner as the owners are frequently unaware of the important role they play in the training of their dog. This would be where a skill in human and family management has to be within the dog trainers’ skills.

**Job Outlook**

According to a National Pet Owners Survey, 42% of families owned a pet, or about 28 million people owned a dog. With about 16 million owning more than one.

What is even better, this number keeps rising, resulting in the job growth for dog trainers. It is worth mentioning that job growth will be highest in some areas such as Yorkshire, Lincolnshire where larger numbers of dog owners live. It is also worth mentioning that city areas although more densely populated there are less dogs per head, than in outlying districts

**Guide to Becoming a Dog Trainer**

Step 1, Get Some Experience

There are a lot of ways that you can get this experience, but one of the easiest ways is to get a dog yourself. When you own a dog, it will give you some experience, and help you learn what responsibilities comes with a dog. In addition, when you own a specific breed type, you can understand that breeds need. If you cannot own your own dog because of where you live, you can also volunteer at a shelter or dog kennel.

Step 2, Take Some Dog Training Classes

In some cases, dog trainers will take courses at a dog training class, or through organizations. These kinds of courses often are more generalized. Other courses are more specialized, such as training service dogs. These types of programs often will include kennels, which means you interact with the dogs. The good news is that usually these kinds of courses do not have any academic requirements. Most are volunteer based offering no salary. They also in most cases do not require you to pay a fee and are open to everyone. There are also a variety of dog training courses or programs. Some are focused on studying a dog as a species instead of dog training, it can help you with your dog training career.

Step 3, Get Your Dog Trainer Certification CPD.

Outside of the K9 units in the police and military, which have been certified as handler and canine teams. Other kinds of trainers do not need certification. However, taking courses and getting your certification will help in your career. One such certification is the happy dog training academy and designed by our team. To give you a CPD certification. Getting this certification can help with increasing employment options and recognition.

**Step 4 Decide on a Dog Training Area**

Step 4, Decide on an Area of Training

There are a lot of different types of dog training areas of expertise.

Some areas are:

* Drug sniffing to work with law enforcement officers.
* Obedience trainers work with many ages of dogs and owners individually or in groups.
* Dog performance
* Hunting
* Puppy obedience training
* Aggression
* One to one ‘common behaviour problems.

Step 5, Adding Training and Education to Advance Your Cereer

**Step 5 Add Training and Education to Advance Your Career**

One of the best ways that you can advance your career in dog training is to open your own dog training business.

Taking some courses in marketing, sales, and management of small business is going to help you with finding and retaining new clients, expanding into some new fields like walking and grooming, and maximizing your business’ potential.

In addition, when you add more specialty services like large or small dog training, it will help with capturing some new segments of the market.

Education Needed to Become a Dog Trainer

**Education Needed to Become a Dog Trainer**

One thing you should know, about becoming a dog trainer is that it does not require any license or certification.

You can take dog training classes to help you with getting a certificate. Even though there are not any requirements. For you to become certified or licensed, having certification will have its advantages.

It can:

* Your clients will trust you more.
* Give you more prestige.
* Open job opportunities.
* Give you credibility.

Job Outlook and Growth for Dog Trainers

**Job Outlook and Growth for Dog Trainer**

The overall outlook for dog trainers is projected to increase 35% between now and 2025, and this is a lot faster than average for all other jobs. Since many people own dogs and want to take good care of them, the need for dog trainers will increase. Dog trainers in other fields, such as law enforcement and service animals, also will be needed.

Having people who are caring and who can train dogs as well as educate their owners on their care is a skill that will always be in demand.

**Employment Growth Projection: 30%**

Should You Become a Dog Trainer?

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**Overall Satisfaction: High**

People who have become dog trainers love their work because they love working with animals. They love helping people who need service animals by training the dogs for them. They love helping the dog owners interact with their dogs.

Seeing how well the dogs and owners do during training gives a dog trainer a true sense of satisfaction in their job.

**Average Salary: Medium**

The amount that you will make as a dog trainer will be based on several factors.

These are things such as:

* Experience
* Type of training
* Where you work
* Certification

The average amount that a dog trainer makes is £24,500, and it has a range of £18,300 to £59,000. The average hourly wage is £16.60, and the range is from £9.81 to £28.51, per hour.

Even though certification is not necessary, it can help you get clients and jobs, so it is worth looking into.

**Job Growth Outlook: High**

It has been said that it is expected that the need for dog trainers is going to grow 22% between now and 2026.

The reason for this is because more people are owning dogs and spending the money to take care of them and understand them.

There is also a growing need for dogs trained to help law enforcement find drugs and weapons.

Trainers are also needed to train dogs to help those who need service dogs to help with mental and physical disabilities.

**Education Duration: 6-12 Months**

There is no formal training or certification required to become a dog trainer but having the training can help your career in a big way. Training and certification initially take 6 months to a year to complete.

Many trainers go on to further their education and learn how to train specialized dogs such as drug detection dogs or guard dogs.

The most important education needed is experience.

**Personal skills needed:**

* Great coaching skills – You will need to be able to motivate clients through tough and easy times.
* Compassion, empathy, and kindness – You will have to place yourself in the client’s shoes.
* Excellent communication – You must have the ability to communicate with many different clients so that they are able to understand. You cannot just communicate in ways that are good for you.
* You should understand human psychology – Ask yourself what will motivate people? How will people learn? What kinds of biases do they have? What kinds of emotions are underlying?
* How important is the dog to the person? There are different techniques that you will want to use for training people based on the way that they learn. It is not possible to use the same tools for dogs and clients.
* Lots of patience for your dogs and clients

Frequently Ask Questions

**Frequently Asked Questions**

***Q. How long does it take to become a dog trainer?***

*Since it does not require any type of certification or licensing, it does not actually take that long to become a dog trainer. But if you take courses, they often take 6 months to a year.*

***Q. How Much Does a Dog Trainer Make?***

*There are a variety of things that can affect how much you are going to make as a dog trainer. However, the average salary for dog trainers is £24,500. If you want to make more money in dog training, the amount that you make will depend on a few things.*

*The things that can help you make more money in dog training are:*

* *Type of training that you do*
* *Your experience*
* *Where you work*
* *Certifications that you have*

***Q. What can a Dog Training Certificate Get You?***

*Some people think that getting a dog training certificate is not worth it, since they can work without one. But others have found that a dog training certificate is a good idea since it can open many great opportunities.*

*A dog training certificate can:*

* *Help you get more clients.*
* *Show that you are professional.*
* *Give you the opportunity to work in other places.*

***Q. What does a dog trainer do on a daily basis?***

*Dog trainers work together with others to help dogs be better trained.*

*The duties of a dog trainer are:*

* *Use many learning techniques so that the behaviour of dogs changes.*
* *Operant conditioning*
* *Desensitization*
* *Positive reinforcement*
* *Clicker training*
* *Hand signals*
* *Verbal cues*
* *Reward systems*
* *Communicate with the owners.*
* *Assign homework.*
* *Work with service dogs*
* *Lead classes for dogs and owners*

***Q. Where do dog trainers work***

*Most trainers are self-employed, even though some of them do work for head trainers or out of pet stores as part of the training program. Some of them also work for veterinary clinics, boarding kennels or animal shelters. Some dog trainers also work with the police department if the dog is being trained to detect drugs, while other dog trainers work to train dogs to become service dogs.*