

Brief Description:

Our group is delving into the research group of Dog Owners. Dog owners seem to have many different aspects that can present either intriguing ideas or problems that we can further address in our project. Each Owner might be completely different, but they all have similarities when it comes to their four-legged companions.

****CONDESED AND SHORTENED FOR CLARITY****

Questions:

Dog Breed: Corgi/Cattle Dog

Number of dogs in home: 2 (2 cats as well)

Q: How many dogs do you currently have, and how long have you had them?

A: One and for five years.

Q: How do you define a good dog owner?

A: Able to take care of them as if it was a child because it depends on you for survival. Letting them out, feeding them, exercise.

Q: What adjectives would you use to describe yourself as a dog owner?

A: Active, Loving, Adventurous

Q: How would you describe your dog?

A: Sweet, Dependent, Anxious, Optimistic, always down to do anything. Her best quality is that she's respectful. She follows rules like not going to the bathroom in the house and understands me even when she doesn't listen to me. Her worst quality would be her anxiety. Its off the charts. Random things make her anxious like brooms and separation.

Q: Is your dog social? (With humans) (With other dogs)

A: YES, but moderately. Depends on who it is. Social with cats and kinda social with dogs. She shows submissiveness with people but is defensive when around other dogs. She doesn't like other forward dogs. I think it's a good quality because I'm that way as well and if she shows that, it can tip me off that I wont like the person or the dog as well.

Q: Is your dog well trained?

A: Yes, she's even paying attention in a sploot. She was trained formally and informally. I think putting her in a class was a good choice.

Q: What is the biggest thing you wish you could do as a dog owner?

A: Spend more time with her or not work so many hours at a time. As it is now, my mom can take care of her if I am not home that night, but if it was just me then she would be locked up a lot longer than I want her to be because of work.

Q: Have you considered doggy daycare?

A: No, her anxiety and her mood would not let her. I cant even get her nails done. Not because she isn't friendly, but she's just anxious.

*Q: *multiple answer categories* What is one thing you think you do as a dog owner that has the biggest impact on your dog and/or yourself? (in terms of health, social activity, etc)*

A: I'm pretty active and happy, which I think me being happy seeing her at the end of the day has got to be a benefit. I'm also active so that helps her a lot. It goes both ways. With my social life, its also an impact to have with other people. If you meet someone with a dog and they have similar interests, then the dogs also have a great time. We could even go for a walk with two dogs. Its gotta be fun.

Q: What is your dog like when you aren't around?

A: I would say she's similar to how she is when I'm around. I can't tell her stress level but I think she has passive stress. She's happy but not sure where I'm at.

Q: When do you think your dog is happiest? When do you think your dog is least happy?

A: On my days off. I'm usually home then and take her with me. We can sleep in together and do everything together. Its great. Obviously, something like a camping trip would be more fun but she's still happy. When I'm gone for multiple days when I'm gone or some loud event when I'm not there is when shes the least happy. Mostly when I'm gone.

Q: What toys or tools do you use with your dog?

A: I have a brain toy for her, kinda like a puzzle. She's gotta knock it around to get a treat out. But she doesn't like toys that much. She likes to tug on my sleeves but I'm not sure if its because she enjoys it or I enjoy it. She does like chasing things though. OH, I also have a Kong toy. I think she's gotta be stimulated. She's mostly free of collars and leashes at home. Out in public she's got stuff on.

Q: What toys or tools do you wish you had for your dog?

A: I wish I had more brain games for her. The ones with the hatch and treats that makes her think, you know? If she was able to chase things with an objective, I think that would be the best thing for her, but I don't have access to that.

Q: How has your life changed (positively or negatively) since having a dog?

A: 100% positive! She's been my best friend through everything and knows everything that has gone on. Whenever I'm sad she knows and acts different. Its something to come home and to have someone who is happy to see you no matter what, its great. I'm pretty sure she's more honest than I am with people so if she doesn't like someone I wouldn't and that's that. But its been 100% positive. The only negative is that I don't get to spend enough time with her. It's a mild stress, like an extra responsibility.

Interesting things that came up During conversation.

- Possible allergies to her dog food
- She doesn't like to share anything
- Spends about 20% of money towards her dog
- Monthly subscriptions boxes seem interesting.
- Traveling with her dog is a breeze but not sure if that's from anxiety or anything especially in planes.
- Grooming is monthly but should be weekly and whenever she smells bad.
- Typical feeding schedule (2 times a day)

References:

Eley, A., & Wickwire, E. (2017, March 21). 6 things I wish I knew before getting a dog. Retrieved January 17, 2018, from Today.com website: <https://www.today.com/series/things-i-wish-i-knew/adopting-dog-what-know-t109481>