

# Wagtastic

Jamie Byun

HCDE 318

I2: User Research

## **Brief Project Description:**

Our group has met four different owners. The dog owners seem to have many various or similar aspects. I am hoping to find out the interesting theme from the interview data that we can further discuss. One similarity between owners I found was that they do not have enough time to walk their dogs outside for some fresh air or bring to activities. So I expect our project can deliver a solution that provides dogs enough outdoor experiences without stealing owners' time.

## **Participant's background**

Occupation: College student

Age: 22 years old

Sex: male

Personality: outgoing, nice, and talkative.

Dog Breed: Chihuahua

Details of dog: two dogs (married couple) adopted 14 years ago when they were baby and one another dog adopted one year ago.

## **User Interview: Questions & Responses**

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

3 dogs, 14 years in average

**Q:How do you define a good dog owner?**

One who's able to properly care for dog, in terms of physically taking them out and feed them on time. And giving them an attention.

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

Lenient, lazy, weak(especially when dogs want more food), loving

**Q:How would you describe your dog?**

Very old, gloomy, oldest one is a deaf and almost blind. So he gets crazy and barks randomly in night. The other one is energetic but sick (has an enlarged heart from being aged that causes her to not be able to be active for long, needs medicine).

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

Social with everyone. For strangers, they smell. / Two of three fight with other dogs but they never fight with each other.

**Q:Is your dog well trained?**

Not really. They urinate on the spotted area but sometimes they are not careful about it.

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

Let them go outside more, like park. Make them more outgoing. I want to take them for mostly social activity. For health purpose, they are too old to exercise. Walking is almost enough for them.

**Q: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)**

First thing I do when coming back home is to play with dogs and wash them. So coming back home makes them not lonely anymore. Watching the dogs getting excited to see me makes me happy.

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

Dogs get lazy and sleepy.

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

When they are getting and eating food.

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

Playing around with rope because dogs like to bit it. Nail clipper to cut their nails to avoid bleeding from long nails when walking around.

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

1. Some tool that helps safely dry the dog. When using towel or hair dryer, it could hurt them.  
2. To not overfeed my dogs, I want a tool that helps me control dogs' meal portion. I can't help feeding them more than once because dogs show their expression of hunger by crying or barking. And I feel weak whenever they do that.

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

It has positively changed because it feels nice when I know that someone is already at home. I learned responsibility and how to take care of someone depending on me. I also depends on the dogs whenever he needs accompany.

**Q:What is the thing that you regret about the dogs as a dog owner?**

The fact that I didn't try enough to spend more time outside with them, ex) walking. I mostly spend time outside only in the backyard so...

**Interesting facts found:**

- The owner knows how important to walk a dog and feels bad that he didn't do it regularly but nothing has really changed.
- By playing with the dogs, the owner also get comfort.

- His dog is sick but very energetic so he has to let the dog take medicine to prevent heart-attack.
- The owner can't control dogs' meal portion even if he knows the dogs eat more than they are supposed to.

### **Citation**

[1] "Walking Your Dog: How to Do it Right and Why it's So Important." *Mercola.com*, HealthyPets, 19 May 2011.

[www.healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/05/19/walking-your-dog-how-to-do-it-well-and-why-its-so-important.aspx](http://www.healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2011/05/19/walking-your-dog-how-to-do-it-well-and-why-its-so-important.aspx).