

Life Lessons from Your Pet

You can learn a lot from being a pet owner and the lessons begin from the first day your furry family member steps into your life and continue after you say your final farewell.

1. **Live in the present and celebrate every day.** Dogs don't regret or worry about the future. For pets, every day is the best day, every walk the best walk, and every meal the best meal.
2. **Trust your instincts.** Animals don't care about words. They recognize what's going on beneath the surface by paying attention to body language, tone of voice, and energy.
3. **Communicate clearly.** Any relationship, whether it's with pets or people, depends upon direct, concise, and consistent communication.
4. **Listen carefully.** Lend an ear to those you love, but don't try to fix their problems or take them personally.
5. **Resolve disagreements and then move on.** Animals don't hold grudges or hang on to negative feelings.
6. **Live with purpose.** When dogs are bored, they can develop anxiety or aggression. These issues can be resolved when they are given a way to contribute to the pack's well-being. Ask yourself how you can make the world a better place, whether it's at home, at work, or in the community.