



CINDERLAD KEESHONDEN



It's All About The Dog

Keeshond Kapers

My Chaotic Life with Pets

By Roseann Vorce



As you all know, I share my life with multiple pets. Currently, we have 6 dogs, 4 cats, countless tropical fish, and a single gerbil (the replacement for the last of our inadvertent gerbil breeding program initiated by failure of the pet store staff to correctly identify the sex of a baby gerbil; speaking of which, if you go on the internet to find out how to sex gerbils yourself in attempt to stop the incessant production of baby gerbils, you will discover web sites you never wanted to know existed - think about it!).

In addition to our own dogs (3 Keeshonden, 2 mixed breeds, and a Pug), we have 2 extra dogs. Lowell is our ancient foster Keeshond wannabe - completely deaf, partially blind, stiff, creaky, and crabby. Keeper is our visiting California girl, a happy-go-lucky bitch leased to breed to Galen. Keeper has been living with us since October, and although she has teased us many times by becoming completely irresistible to Galen, she repeatedly has failed to come into heat. My hypothesis is that she wants to stay here and become a permanent house dog (that girl **really** loves her couch!), rather than have puppies and return to her previous life as a kennel dog afterward. So, when Galen became VERY

"I had nightmare images of a wet, mad cat completely encased in a concrete-like shell. "



*One Wish?
Get rid of
the cat!*



Grooming Your Keeshonden



The Keeshond is a double coated breed. Their coat consists of a n undercoat with longer guard hairs. Other than when your dog is blowing it's coat, the Keeshond needs relatively little grooming. When you brush your Kees make sure that the brushing penetrates the outer coat and that you're removing the undercoat. Always brush the coat up towards the dogs head. A long pin brush and a comb are really the only tools you will need.

Trimming needs are minimal, and if done should be done so that it looks natural and uncut. The body coat should never be clipped or trimmed except for medical reasons. Their nails should be checked and clipped regularly.

NEVER clip a Keeshond for the summer. After the undercoat has been "blown out," the outer coat provides insulation from the heat and protection from the sun. Exposed skin will be very sensitive to the sun, and will sunburn very easily; this can lead to skin cancer.

Regular grooming and constant access to cool water are particularly important in the summer, especially in warmer climates.

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interested in Keeper again last week, I didn't get my hopes up. Besides, if Keeper came into heat in mid March, it would screw up my plans to attend the Keeshond National in May. In addition, Sally's recent bath had made her irresistible to both Galen and Elton, the latter of whom is neutered. While out in the yard yesterday, Galen and Elton took turns trying to mount Sally, who protested loudly and vigorously at this indignity. BTW, Sally is 11 years old and spayed. She has no interest in being bred.

The matriarch of our tribe is a 16 yo cat named Luna. We adopted Luna from the Nebraska Humane Society in Omaha in December 1994, and she's been with us ever since. A few months ago, Luna was diagnosed with hyperthyroidism, a condition that has caused her to become quite thin and to neglect her personal hygiene. She is on meds and has gained back some weight, but her grooming habits are not what they were in her prime. Last night, I noticed some, uh, "residue" under her tail, and it was obvious that a paper towel wasn't going to do the trick. I had been thinking about bathing her for quite some time, and I used this opportunity to give her a bath, with Paul's help. As expected, this did not make Luna a happy cat. Those of you with cats will recognize this for the understatement it is. One of the problems with bathing a cat is getting the cat dry before allowing it anywhere near a litter box filled with clumping litter. I had nightmare images of a wet, mad cat completely encased in a concrete-like shell. So, we put several towels, an empty litter box

(which she sometimes prefers to one containing litter), and a very wet, mad cat in the downstairs bathroom. When I checked her a couple hours later, she was still extremely wet. And extremely mad. I decided to use my personal hair dryer to dry her. Upstairs I went to the master bathroom, carrying Luna. Of course, I was escorted by the 4 Keeshonden, who never let me go anywhere in the house by myself. As expected, Luna was not thrilled about the hair dryer. In fact, she expressed her displeasure loudly and incessantly, punctuating her yowls only occasionally with breaks to try to bite me. Luna has no upper canines and only managed to bite my clothing, so I suffered no injuries. Her fur was so clumpy that I decided to try combing as I was drying, which further enraged her. Since hyperthyroid cats usually have hypertension and an extremely high heart rate, I was worried about the stress causing her to have a stroke or heart attack, but I couldn't leave her wet.

As self-appointed policemen of all things she deems wrong, Sally contributed to the pandemonium by barking at Luna, a habit she exercises whenever anyone is protesting anything involving grooming. Galen and Elton continued their previous attempts at breeding Sally. Keeper kept a low profile, lying on the floor at my feet. She is such a good girl!

So, here's the picture. I'm sitting on the toilet lid, holding a wet, mad cat who is screaming bloody murder and making peri-

odic attempts to bite me, trying to alternately dry her with a hair dryer and comb her. Cat fur is flying everywhere. Sally is barking furiously, scolding Luna, while Galen and Elton are desperately trying to mount Sally. It was complete and total chaos.

At one point, I looked down and noticed blood on the floor. My first thought was that Luna had popped a blood vessel, so I quickly looked her over. Yes, I know that a stroke involves *internal* bleeding, but the presence of blood on the floor precluded rational thought. Nope, no blood on the cat. My second thought was that Luna has managed to bite or scratch me, although it would be hard to miss a wound severe enough for blood to drip on the floor. Besides, I had experienced no pain, so that didn't seem likely.

Finally, my brain shifted into gear and focused on Keeper. Could it be, after all this time, that she really was in heat? Even though Galen had "eyes" only for Sally? A quick check was encouraging, and the kleenex test confirmed my suspicion. Yes, Keeper is in heat!! Finally, after nearly 5 months! Happy day, happy day!

So, keep your fingers crossed that the Keeper-Galen breeding will take place soon and produce a nice litter of puppies. And that Luna never needs another bath.

Oh, and Galen no longer is interested only in Sally - *now, he's also trying to breed Luna!*

Teaching your Dog Not to Jump

By Unknown Author

Does your dog jump on your visitors as they come in the door? Have you tried to stop this behavior without results?

Trying to communicate with a determined dog to prevent jumping is often an act of futility. How you stop the dog from jumping is a universal problem, but having a better understanding of what is motivating the canine's behavior can go a long way toward addressing it.

So why does the dog jump up on people?

As simple as it sounds, dogs literally jump for joy. Over-excitement is often the answer. Jumping behavior is partly instinctive. Puppies will jump over one another for their mother's attention. Dogs will lick each others' faces in greeting. A lower-ranking member of a wolf pack would instinctively lick the faces of the higher-ranking wolves returning from the hunt.

This is a carry-over behavior ingrained from pack ancestry when puppies would target their mother's face, as she would typically regurgitate food for her litter, another reflection of the wolf pack

.We often positively reinforce the behavior, however momentarily.

People become excited when they greet their pet companions after an extended

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Dog's in the News

Toby's New Home

Congratulations to Katie, who is the proud foster Mom of young Toby. Katie was looking for a keeshond and Toby was desperately looking for a new home as his home was being foreclosed on. His Dad lost his job in Chicago and couldn't care for him anymore. Toby now lives with 3 cats, a bunny and Katie and he loves it. He's spent his first week getting to know the cats & he thinks the bunny is pretty cool!

He appears to be settling into his New home very nicely & *loves* his new Mom!



Cinderlad Barefoot in the Park Wins 1st Place in Open Dog Class at KCA National

Owner: Leslie Meyn
Handler: Charlie Zimmerman



Cinderlad Puppies Pele & Donder

Pele & Donder regularly get together for play dates. You can see how well they share! Pele is far and away the best in his puppy class and Donder begins his training very soon! Training does make all the difference!



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absence, as well as when they are met by their jumping dogs. We immediately offer praise, treats, walks and/or play activity with enthusiastic engagement right after getting jumped on in the greeting process. In this way, jumping becomes part of the routine, and is rewarded and reinforced.

Stop the dog from jumping

Anticipate the dog will jump & put both hands out in front of you & stand still. With repetition, the dog will learn this gesture as a signal not to jump on the door or you. Don't verbalize any commands UNTIL the dog has demonstrated the correct behavior. When your dog gets down on its own accord use the "down" command to accompany the behavior. This is how the dog learns the command.

Patience and consistency are required; results are not immediate.

To train your dog not to jump, it is important to know what *not* to do. Do not get overly excited when greeting your dog, thereby getting your dog more excited than it already is. Do not forcefully push the dog away from you. This will be interpreted as playful engagement. Turn away from the dog & calmly give the command to sit. When he has calmed down, and ideally responded to the sit command, you can turn and greet the dog. If he starts jumping again, repeat the process. To keep a dog from jumping, people will often put a knee up, but turning your back to the dog is better.

Who is the alpha dog, is it you?

Establish your position as the dominant member of your pack. Give a calm and firm "stay down" warning in advance just before you open the door for a visitor. Your dog will

sense your composure and assertiveness, and start to understand that there is no reason to "freak out" every time the door opens.

Try to greet the dog at its level.

A non-threatening posture is to squat or kneel down, and open your palms toward the dog. This is interpreted as kindness. We appreciate when others meet us on the same level and your dog is no different. Just be sure it's acting properly and has earned the gesture.

If all else fails

If you have not made progress in stopping the dog from jumping on the door and people, the solution could well be a need for an energy outlet that is not being met. Dogs need plenty of exercise and if they have no other outlet for their energy, they will find one, and that may include jumping up and down, be it on the door or people visiting. A walk will do you both good.



Cinderlad 2010

By Deb Leonard

www.cinderlad.com

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As most of you know, Charlie, Sandra and I continued in Pat Tocalis's footsteps when she passed away in 2009. We knew we had pretty big shoes to fill and it was important to us to continue breeding dogs that she would be proud of.

Pat had always wanted to take one of her dogs to Westminster. Hannah had been invited to attend when she was showing but circumstances didn't allow her to go at that time. In February of this year, Charlie and Sandra (I stayed home with new puppies) took Champion Cinderlad Mama Mia to Westminster. Mia was in the last litter that Pat bred before she passed away. Pat's daughter's Becky and Theresa both went to cheer them on from the sidelines. **Champion Cinderlad Mama Mia won Best of Opposite Sex in that show.**

Did we get a little help from above? Maybe! We like to think that Pat was up there looking down and cheering us on. Mia is a beautiful girl who has gone on to win multiple Best of Breed and Group Placements. She will finish her Hall of Fame and go on to breed beautiful Cinderlad puppies. I believe Pat would be proud.

Charlie & Mia
**Best of Breed & Group
Placement**
Clinton, Iowa



Nutrition for your Dog

By: www.callofthedog.com

Nutrient requirements for dogs are published by the National Research Council of the National Academies (NRC) and the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO). Requirements for proper dog nutrition are the percentages of the 6 organic components of food to meet a dog's daily allowance: protein, fat, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals, water.

For good dog nutrition, **protein** should comprise 21-26% of the food. The difference between active, low-active, lite and puppy foods is the percentage of protein. Proteins are critical in the proper development of bone, muscle, blood, tissues, hormones, enzymes, and for the proper function of the immune system.

In dog nutrition, the protein ingredient is the most expensive component. The **source** of

this protein is critical. There are 22 amino acids that make up proteins and 10 are critical for daily dog nutrition.

Meat protein is closest to human quality!

The source of the protein determines its quality. **Meat protein** is closest to human quality. **Animal protein** can be any part that contains protein including skin, hoofs, hair and lips, so it is often not digestible. Lower digestibility of protein means a lower amount of nutrients available to the dog for growth and maintenance of cells. Pick food with at least 2 animal sources of protein in the first 5 ingredients listed. Best sources are whole meats or single-source meats (i.e. chicken meal versus poultry meal). **Vegetable or grain protein** (soy, meat byproducts, crude pro-

tein, anything with "gluten") is often unusable protein that can stress the kidneys. Low-quality ingredients are not absorbed well and can produce loose stool. Generally, the better quality protein sources have higher digestibility along with higher cost.

A better quality product is more cost effective since you get better dog nutrition for the dollar spent.

For good dog nutrition, **carbohydrates** should comprise 42% of food and include rice, potatoes, pumpkin, corn, barley and pasta. Both carbohydrates and fats are sources of energy. Fiber is a carbohydrate that aids in nutrient absorption, bowel regulation, and controlling caloric intake by providing satiety.