

Find out what is making him bark and then if you can, prevent him from seeing, hearing or even smelling it in the first place.

- Don't leave your dog alone in the garden, if this is where he does most of his barking.
- Try to get him used to sounds that make him bark by putting them onto a cassette and playing them quietly whilst he's calm and relaxed.



- Make sure that he has a toy that he can take his frustration out on and encourage him to play with it at times that he is likely to bark.
- Male dogs that haven't been neutered can smell a bitch in season up to 6 miles away. If this is the problem then talk to your vet.
- You and your family members should also make him sit before saying 'hello' to him when you come home.

- Put a pot of treats by the door and ask your visitors to get him to sit and be quiet for 30 seconds before giving him the treat. You can increase this over time.
- Get your dog a toy that can be stuffed with treats, so that he has to work to get them out, this will also give him something to do if you have to leave him alone. If he's not bored, he won't bark
- Give him attention only when you want to but make sure that it is attention that your dog will really enjoy - lots of fuss, games and training. Give him 100% of your attention at least an hour every day.

If you require any further information about how to help your dog or if you have a problem with a neighbour's dog, please contact the Environmental Health Unit.

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16 Church Road
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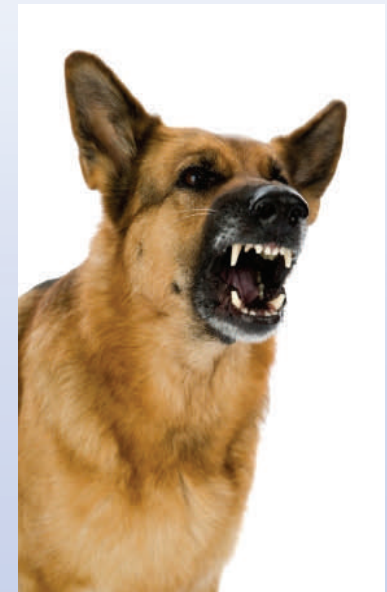
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Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environmental Health

BARKING DOGS



Telephone No:
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Barking Dogs

All of us are sometimes bothered by noise - usually other people's noise. It can annoy us, irritate us, disturb our peace and quiet and our sleep. Noise can cause problems depending on loudness, how long it lasts, how often it occurs, when it happens or whether it is high or low pitched. All of us make noise which affects others, and a lot of this noise can be avoided.

The whereabouts of our neighbours is important. People living adjacent, above or below can be more affected because of party walls, floors and ceilings, than by neighbours in detached houses. Even basic precautions such as closing your doors and windows (quietly) can reduce noise levels significantly.

Many dogs like to bark! It's a totally natural thing for them to do and in most cases it doesn't cause any problems.

However, sometimes a dog may bark a lot, disturbing neighbours, keeping you awake at night or frightening visitors to your home.

You don't want to get into trouble because of your dog's barking – so what can you do?

Firstly find out why he is barking and then do something about it. Your dog could be barking because:

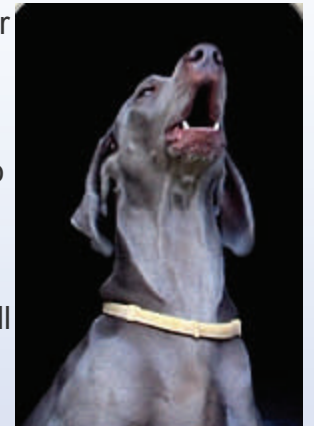


- **He is excited**
- **He is frustrated**
- **He is guarding you and your home**
- **He is bored**
- **He is trying to get your attention**
- **He is scared**
- **He can't cope with being left alone**

Hints and Tips

- Don't let your dog bark or whine for long periods or leave him alone.

- Keep your dog indoors if he barks constantly when unattended or disturbed. If your dog still barks when indoors make arrangements to leave him with a neighbour or friend or get somebody to call in, leave his favourite toy or put the radio on at a very low volume.



- Try to give your dog more exercise. If your dog doesn't run about enough on his walks then teach him to retrieve and throw a ball or Frisbee for him to really get him moving.
- Brush up on his obedience training. Make sure that he can 'sit', 'down', 'stay' or go to his bed when you tell him to.
- When he starts to bark, command him to do something else instead and he should become quiet.