



Digging

If your dog is digging in the yard and it is causing problems, first ask yourself why your dog is digging.

Out of Boredom

If your dog seems to be digging just for fun or because they are bored, make sure they have plenty of alternative activities. If you need ideas, please see our sheets "Activities for Your 'Home Alone' Dog" and "Activities for You and Your Dog Together."

To Escape

If your dog wants to dig under the fence to go exploring in the neighborhood, make your yard escape-proof. You may try burying the bottom of the fence line (at least one foot underground), or you may install a barrier (such as plastic sheeting topped with rocks, or chicken wire covered with bark or gravel) around the inside of the fence.

Breed Characteristic

Some breeds are more prone to digging. If this is the case with your dog, you may decide that you will allow your dog to dig, but on your terms (when and where you allow). For example, you could fence off a designated area in your yard where you allow your dog to dig. To help keep your dog cleaner, replace top soil with heavy sand.

The Austin Dog Alliance, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, provides the following programs:

- Rescue: Our foster parents provide a nurturing home environment for dogs.
- Youth Outreach: Dog-related educational programs for area schools and youth groups.
- Deaf Community: Uniquely tailored youth and adult dog training taught in sign language.
- Dog Training: We provide a wide variety of fun and educational dog training classes.
- Pet Therapy: We provide seminars, classes, evaluations, placement, and support to therapy teams in local schools, hospitals, and nursing homes.

