



Pet, Pet, Pause

Have you ever wondered if your dog actually wants to be stroked? Have you ever even thought twice about it? Even the cuddliest dogs can have days where they just don't want to be touched. They could be too hot, tired, uncomfortable, or just not in the mood for physical touch.

Get into the habit of playing this whenever you give your dog a fuss, it gives them the option to opt out if they want to and tell you when they do want to be touched. It's a great bonding exercise and helps you learn where your dogs favourite itchy spots are!

How does it work?

1. If your dog has approached you, pet them twice, then pause.
2. If they stay near by or give you any other clues they want you to continue, pet them two more times and pause again.
3. If they move away, let them and if they show you any signs they are uncomfortable stop immediately.
4. Continue pausing every few strokes to give them a chance to leave if they want to

Top Tips

Dogs usually prefer to be scratched on the chin instead of on top of their head as a hand reaching over them can be scary.

Signs your dog might not want to be touched include; stiffness, showing the whites of their eyes, turning their head away, and licking thier lips.