



# **Dog Sitter**



# Dog-Sitter

A dog-sitter stays with a dog in their home while the owner is away for the day or for extended periods of time like vacations or business trips. A dog-sitter interacts and plays with the dogs in their care in the same manner as their owners would. The sitter maintains the routine of the dogs to minimize stress when the owner is away.

A dog-sitter's duties include:

- Feeding and watering one or more dogs
- Grooming the dogs as necessary
- Administering medications if necessary
- Exercise and enforcing any training schedules
- Providing emergency care if necessary

Dog-sitters may also offer additional services such as litter clean-up, picking up the mail, and watering the plants. Some dog-sitters offer training services along with their dog-sitting services, and will train the dog while the owners are away.

Many dog-sitters are self-learners, beginning by offering services to family and friends. From there they grow their business by referral or advertisement. A basic understanding of basic canine behavior and communication skills is helpful. Some additional skills that can boost their credentials are dog training classes or a pet-first aid class.

Dog-sitting is a relatively new concept, but has the potential to provide a comfortable income. Those who choose this career field need to have a flexible schedule and be open to work holidays, weekends, and during peak summer vacation times.

Dog-sitters need to be reliable and trustworthy with their client's property and dogs. A background check may be required.