



Teach an old dog new tricks.

How to get your dog used to using the bArk

As with many new things- getting in the car for the first time, going to a new house, or visiting the vet, your dog will initially be unwilling to go in the bArk. Soon he will associate getting into the bArk with a great time out with you, and you will find him eager and willing.

Introduce the bArk to your dog first as an open dog bed, then as a kennel, and finally introduce movement whilst he is inside the trailer. This way your dog can begin with something he has become familiar with- their bed, and work towards something new and exciting- a trailer. The following advice will be of additional help to you:

1. It's easy to get your dog used to the bArk when it is a dog bed. Remove the lid wheels and handle, and place the trailer where your dog normally sleeps, putting his blanket and toys inside. With familiar smells and location your dog should be happy to use this as a bed.
2. Now your dog is comfortable the next step is to put the lid on, and encourage him to go in as usual. Close the door for short intervals whilst talking to him to assure him he is safe. Do not leave him unattended with the lid on and door closed, let him out if he becomes stressed.

3. Assemble the trailer and hitch it to your bike. Practice cycling with the trailer, maybe filling it with shopping to learn how it feels laden, before you try to cycle with your dog.

4. With the trailer on the bike persuade your dog into it with treats and encouragement. Walk the bike and trailer around slowly, leaving the door open for the first few times. Gently reassuring your dog that everything is fine and you are there

5. Now ride up and down a level driveway or level area in front of your house for the first few times letting him get used to the movement and turning motions. Make the sessions short at first and gradually lengthen as he becomes more comfortable (this should be done by the best rider in the family). If you are not a strong rider just take it much slower and make the sessions with the dog shorter.

6. Find a bump or rough spot like you would normally encounter while riding and go over it telling the dog at the same time "here's a bump". Warn him each time until he is able to anticipate what is going to happen and seems to be more relaxed about it.

7. Try to anticipate things that might scare or excite your dog and expose him to them slowly and with your reassurance and praise each time. Riding near loud

traffic, encountering large dogs, cats or squirrels and riding very fast are examples.

Riding behind a bicycle is not natural for your dog, but if exposed properly your dog will love it as much as you do. Remember how long it took you to learn to ride a bike properly as well as learn all the rules of the road! Your dog loves being with you and everyone enjoys seeing your dog in the trailer on the bicycle with you. Good luck and happy trails!

If you have any further questions or any problems just ask.

Visit www.carryfreedom.com or phone +44(0)845 456 0928 for more information

