

Yard Security

Many dogs are lost and/or killed due to inadequate security measures. Please don't let your new pet become a statistic!

1. Make sure all gates and doors have secure locks.
2. Check fences for any weak boards that a dog might tear down or gaps where a dog might squeeze through. They can get through smaller places than you would think.
3. The size of the dog does not necessarily dictate its ability to climb over or jump over a fence. If your dog is a jumper, extend the height of your fence. Some dogs can climb chicken wire. If so, you can try boards or aluminum.
4. Teach your children to shut doors and gates.
5. If your dog is a digger, you can dig down about a foot and put wire covered by dirt along the fence line. Digging into wire discourages them. A cement or brick base under your fence will also alleviate digging. Balloons taped along the fence might scare the dog temporarily.
6. If you like to leave your sliding glass door open a crack, be aware that dogs can get a paw or nose in that crack and open it further.
7. Dogs can lift unlocked garage doors with their back. Yes, really!!
8. A dog who digs under the fence or jumps over it may be bored. A companion dog may help, may not. You might have 2 bored dogs getting out. A variety of toys helps. Rotating toys so the dog doesn't get bored with them helps. Lots of exercise helps a lot; tired dogs don't want to go anywhere. A doggy door may help.
9. Obedience training is recommended for any dog. Your dog will be less inclined to leave if home is fun, and if the bond with you is strong.
10. An enclosed kennel run is useful when no one is home to watch the yard. When you are home the dog should be with you.
11. **IMPORTANT: Should your dog get out, an ID tag greatly increases your chances of getting it back. You can also talk to your vet about tattooing and microchipping.**