

Tried these simple tips and are still experiencing excessive barking?

You could try consulting with your veterinarian or engaging with a dog behaviourist to assist in identifying and resolving the matter.

Let's make our dogs as happy as they make us!

Persistent barking

Council has a process for dealing with excessive barking. If a report is received, a friendly letter will be sent advising the dog owner.

There will be no further action taken at this time until documented evidence has been provided, at which time we will work with the owner to assist in identifying triggering factors to resolve the matter.

Remember, continuous, persistent barking is an offence, if the dog creates a noise that continues to such a degree that is unreasonably interferes with the peace, comfort and convenience of a person.

If Council do not seek co-operation from the dog owner to resolve the matter, next steps could be to issue an expiation notice, place a barking control order on the dog or in rare cases seek legal action.

Our aim is always to find the best solution for everyone involved!

Your dog, your responsibility.

For further information on barking dogs or responsible pet ownership, please call The Barossa Council on 8563 8444 or visit www.barossa.sa.gov.au or dogandcatmanagementboard.com.au



Barking dogs



The Barossa Council



Dogs bark — it's their way of talking!

But if your dog barks a lot, it might mean they're feeling stressed or are unhappy.

We all want our dogs to be happy. So it's really valuable to uncover why your dog might be barking more than normal and figure out what's behind this behaviour.

Taking time to observe your dog's actions and maybe even checking in with your neighbours can provide some great insights.

The good news is that in many instances, making small adjustments to your dog's daily routine and surroundings can usually help resolve or at least make better the situation for you and your dogs overall happiness.

Useful links

www.dogandcatmanagementboard.com.au

www.rspca.org.au

www.barossa.sa.gov.au

awl.org.au

Why do dogs bark?

There are many reasons that could cause your dog to bark excessively, such as behavioural issues, alerting owners, aggression, illness, recreational reasons or for comfort.

Behavioural

- Boredom due to lack of exercise and stimulation
- Separation from their human may cause anxiety
- Seeking attention from their owner
- Lack of socialisation with people outside the family
- Stress due to a change in family such as a new baby
- Communicating with other dogs nearby and afar

Alerting

- Guarding or protecting their family and home
- Intruders such as people, cats, possums and birds
- Provoked or teased by children, neighbours, passer-by's or other dogs
- Movement from outside the home
- Strange or new sounds such as construction work

Recreational

- Lack of physical activity
- No mental stimulus such as games
- Small yards
- Lack of interaction with other dogs

Comforting

- Inadequate shelter and being too hot or too cold
- Lack of food or water, or simply a poor diet
- Untreated illness or disease
- Fleas, ticks and other skin irritations
- Dementia or other ageing conditions
- Lack of human companionship

Tips on how to help

Here are some tips to help improve your dog's happiness and reduce excessive barking.

Regular exercise and activities

- Daily is best
- Street walks and park runs are great
- Chasing ball in the back yard is a good alternative
- Find a play-mate-date for your dog
- Change routine or direction of walks
- Attend dog obedience classes and training
- Take the dog with you on short trips away from the house such as to the shops
- Chew toys, bones and treats are good for both physical and mental stimulation

Safe environment

- Ensure your dog has protection from extreme weather conditions
- Bring them indoors to share human companionship
- Feed your dog a nourishing, balanced diet, and clean cool water
- Remove your dog from trigger areas, and separate yards if need be
- Create sight barriers to the street or neighbours to reduce reactivity
- Leave a radio on low when no one is at home

Health and wellbeing checks

- Ensure your dog is regularly vet checked for good health and wellbeing
- Treat anxiety issues - extreme cases may require medication
- Regular brushing gives the dog affection, contact (and reduces your blood pressure)

Reward good behaviour

- Re-enforce positive behaviours with rewards
- Teach your dog to stop barking on command by rewarding them when they do