

HOW TO READ YOUR DOG'S BODY LANGUAGE

Happy/Relaxed

Posture: Loose, head held high.

Tail: Neutral or held high, waving back and forth

Eyes: Wide open, relaxed brow

Ears: Held up, neutral position

Mouth: Open in a smile, tongue out



Alert

Posture: Straight and stiff, leaning forward

Tail: Held straight out from body

Eyes: Wide open, unbroken stare

Ears: Held high, turned straight forward

Mouth: Tightly closed



Stressed

Posture: Cowering, low to the ground or pacing

Tail: Low, limp

Eyes: Wide open, unbroken stare, avoiding eye contact, whites showing

Ears: Held low and slightly back

Mouth: Frequently licking lips, panting or yawning



Assertive

Posture: Stiff, leaning forward, raised hackles

Tail: Stiff, held straight out from body, fur bristled

Eyes: Hard unbroken stare, brow furrowed

Ears: Held high, turned forward, spread slightly in a V

Mouth: Open, teeth bared, nose wrinkled in a snarl

