

Barking Dog Collar Hire Agreement

Manawatu District Council, 135 Manchester Street, Private Bag 10 001, Feilding 4743
T (06) 323 0000 F (06) 323 0822 E Dogs@mdc.govt.nz www.mdc.govt.nz



Owner & Dog Details			
Owner Name		Mobile	
Dog Name		Home	
Email		Work	
Postal Address			
Location of Dog(s)			

Hire Details			
Hire Rate	\$15 per week	Bond	\$100 paid in advance
Date Collar Due Back		Hire Period	<input type="checkbox"/> One week <input type="checkbox"/> Two weeks

Hire is only available to registered dog owners in the Manawatu District and for a maximum of two weeks at any one time

Account Name	
Bank Account Number	

Conditions of Hire:

- No guarantee is given that the collar will cure an excessive barking problem
- The owner uses the collar at his/her own risk and without any liability whatsoever on council or its servants
- The owner agrees to replace the collar should it be lost or damaged while in his/hers care during use
- Provided the bark collar returned is in satisfactory condition, the bond will be refunded into your nominated bank account

Owners Signature		Date	
------------------	--	------	--

Office Use Only		
Total Paid:	Contact ID:	Date Returned:
Date Issued:	Condition When Hired:	Condition On Return:
Receipt Number:	Confirmed Bank Details: Y / N	Refund Amount:

Why Dogs Bark and What Can Help

Barking is natural and completely normal dog behaviour. It is one way for dogs to communicate.

However if it becomes excessive it could be a sign that there is a problem that needs to be addressed.

The first thing you need to do is determine what the cause of the barking is. Each cause will require its own treatment plan. You will need to find out when, where and for how long your dog barks.

What is causing them to bark and knowing the sound/pitch/sequence will also help to establish a plan to treat the barking.

Generally, this sort of barking occurs when the dog owner is not at home. You may need to ask neighbours for help.

Maybe drive or walk around the block and watch and listen for a while. You may also like to set up a recording device for when you are out.

These are some of the common causes of inappropriate barking:

Social isolation/frustration/attention seeking

Suggestion:

- Provide adequate mental and physical stimulation/exercise on a daily basis
- Consider a "doggy day care" facility
- Don't inadvertently reward the barking – i.e. by giving attention

Separation anxiety/fears or phobias

Suggestion:

- Desensitisation and counter-conditioning techniques should be used, with the assistance and supervision of a qualified trainer

Territorial/guarding/protective behaviour

Suggestion:

- Minimise the ability to rehearse the behaviour – if your dog barks at passing people/dogs, house them in an area where they cannot see these things, so your dog cannot practise barking at them
- Do not inadvertently reward the barking – i.e. by encouraging them to bark at things they hear or see outside.
- Teach a "quiet" command

Please note:

For additional advice, please contact our Animal Control Officers, your local vet or an animal behaviour expert.

How the Bark Control Collar Works

Please consult your veterinarian before using the Barking Dog Control Collar.

The Bark Control Collar is simple to operate. However, every dog is different. Therefore, be sure to read this guide completely before using.

The Bark Control Collar helps eliminate excessive barking by the following methods:

- When your dog first barks it receives a warning sensation (half the normal correction of the normal shock) following the first bark
- If your dog continues to bark, the correction level will steadily increase after each additional bark up to six levels

There is also a built-in-safety feature. If your dog barks 15 times or more in a 50-second period, the collar will automatically shut off for a period of 3 consecutive minutes.

Leave the red correction caps on the collar for the first day, so that your dog gets used to wearing the collar. After this time, take the caps off, but do not leave the dog unsupervised while wearing the collar. Its initial reaction to the mild shock may be startling. Do not let this alarm you. It is a new experience for both the dog and you.

For best results, we recommend you use the Bark Control Collar for a period of two consecutive weeks. This should not be full-time use, but controlled monitored use.

Important Notes

- Remove any other collars and tags while your dog is wearing the collar
- The collar must be firm – allow one finger width between the probes and skin
- Do make sure that the probes touch the skin, trim hair if necessary
- Do monitor your dog during initial use
- Don't leave the collar on for extended periods of time