

Sage Advice
From the Master of Mutts

Dr. Sparkus T. Mutt
Canine Therapist

In Dog We Trust

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Any resemblance to members
of the animal kingdom,
living or dead, is purely coincidental.

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Dr. Sparkus T. Mutt

A Trusty Dog



To all my friends, canine and otherwise,
who helped me find my way to fame and
fortune. May the big D. in the sky shower
you with eternal blessings!

STM, C.T.
Panama, 2006, Year of the DOG!

In Dog We Trust

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In Dog We Trust

Who's your daddy?

Dear Dr. Mutt,

There's this cute little mutt who lives across the street. She's rather thin and has a long tail just like mine. When she first moved in, all the guys on the block were after her attention; and I must admit even yours truly lost a couple nights' sleep over her. However, I never made it to first base with her, unlike my friend Onyx, the Rottweiler. And now that she's a mother of six, Onyx is nowhere to be seen, and I'm on the receiving end of a paternity suit. All the little mutts have long tails like mine! What can I do?

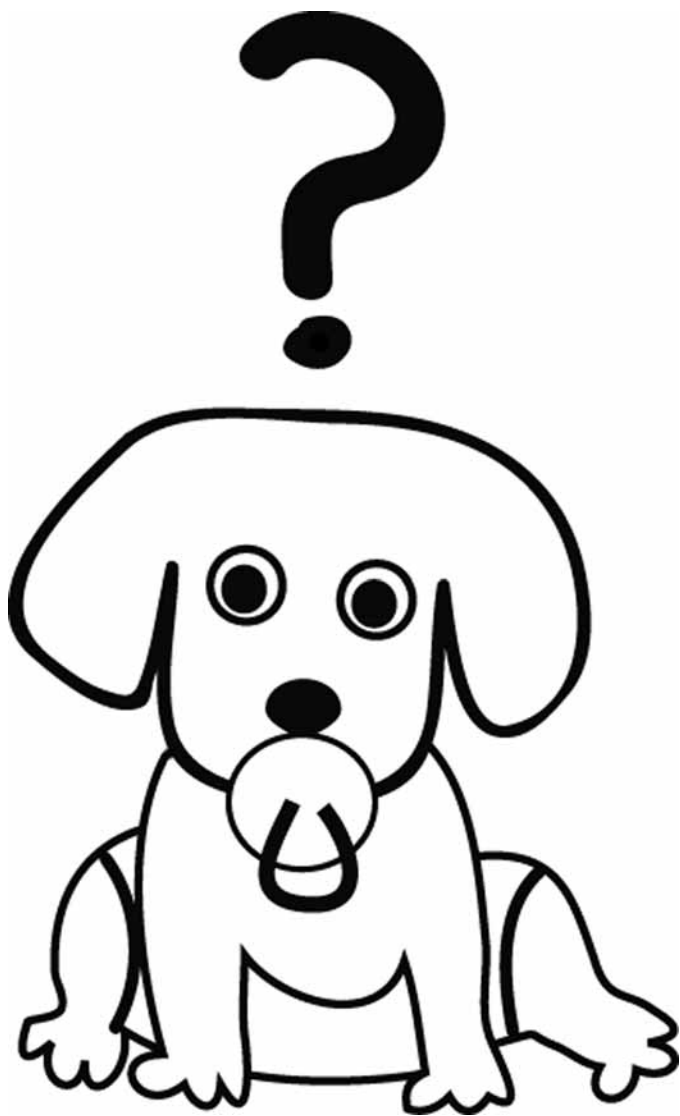
Neutered in Nogales

Dear Neutered,

If you had surgery before the paternity suit, I'm sorry. And if you had surgery after the paternity suit, I'm still sorry. However, at least you know you're not guilty, and there should be no need to prove your innocence. Since you're not a Rottweiler, hopefully the truth will become obvious as the litter grows up. They're a distinctive breed. So relax and make friends with the little mutts.

Sparky

Dr. Sparkus T. Mutt



In Dog We Trust



Dr. Sparkus T. Mutt

Trick for Treat?

Dear Dr. Mutt,

I have come to the conclusion that bipeds are not too bright. They latch onto something and never let go. Take my master, for instance. When I first got here, he came out on the patio with this huge cookie in his hand. He tossed it up in the air, and before it reached its apex, I jumped and caught it. No big deal. Well, now he wants me to do this every day. If I don't jump, he won't give me the cookie. How can I stop this maddening ritual? I'm sick and tired of it, and the cookies aren't even tasty.

Cookied-out in Clearwater

Dear Cookied,

Though I must agree with your bipedal observation, don't underestimate the human learning capacity. They can be taught, but you may have to suffer to get results.

If your master tosses the treat in the air, don't jump - ever. Don't be rude. Just sit there and wait. You said yourself, the cookie is not tasty. It may take a few days, but he'll eventually get tired of trying to get you to perform. But be warned, he may try the cookie routine before your regular meal, so don't let your hunger destroy the training. Remember this requires patience and diligence, but it can be done. Let me know how it goes.

Good luck!

Sparky