

SHARING THE SPACE

Elevator & Hallway Etiquette

SHARED SPACES LIKE ELEVATORS, HALLWAYS, AND LOBBIES CAN BE STRESSFUL FOR DOGS - AND FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM. A LITTLE TRAINING AND AWARENESS GOES A LONG WAY TOWARD MAKING YOUR BUILDING A COMFORTABLE PLACE FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FAMILY MEMBER.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE YOUR UNIT

Preparation starts at the door. Ask your dog to sit and wait before opening the door - never let them bolt into the hallway. Clip the leash on inside your unit, not in the hallway. Check for neighbours or other dogs before stepping out. A calm exit sets the tone for the entire outing and prevents startling anyone in the hallway.

HALLWAY MANNERS

Keep your dog on a short leash in hallways and at your side. If you see another person or dog approaching, move to one side and give as much room as you can for them to pass. Not everyone is comfortable with dogs, and respecting that builds goodwill with your neighbours.

DEALING WITH REACTIVE DOGS

If your dog lunges, barks, or growls at other dogs or people, address it immediately. Your dog's actions are always your responsibility. Avoid peak traffic times if possible and work with a trainer to reduce reactivity. Never force a reactive dog into close quarters with strangers.

ELEVATOR BASICS

Elevators can be overwhelming for dogs: confined space, strange smells, sudden movement. Before entering, check if the elevator is empty or if its occupants are comfortable sharing with a dog. If someone seems nervous, offer to wait for the next one. Inside, keep your dog in a sit position close to you, away from other passengers. Reward calm behaviour with quiet and calm praise!

LOBBY AND COMMON AREAS

Lobbies, mail rooms, and parking garages are all high-traffic zones. Keep your dog leashed and under control at all times. Clean up immediately if your dog has an accident. Be mindful of children who may approach your dog unexpectedly, and always ask before letting your dog greet anyone.

