

NOTES ON EVADING AND NEUTRALISING POLICE TRACKER DOGS



Search Dogs

Most of us have seen search and rescue dogs locating missing people on the TV. These dogs use any means possible to find a lost person, from sniffing for human scent in the air to being given an article of clothing and tracking that individual's unique scent.

While search and rescue dogs are capable, in principle, of being trained as both air scent and trailing dogs, most dog handlers train their dogs to perform only one of these disciplines. Therefore, the most valuable dog team, in terms of obtaining a high probability of detection, is one with a dog that can switch back and forth between air scenting and trailing as conditions dictate.

All humans, alive or dead, constantly emit microscopic particles bearing human scent. Millions of these are airborne and are carried by the wind for considerable distances.

AIR SCENT DOGS



The air scent dog is the type most frequently encountered. This dog finds lost people by picking up traces of human scent that are drifting in the air, and looks for the "cone" of scent where it is most concentrated. This dog will not normally discriminate scents, so there is the possibility of a "false alarm" if other people (searchers, citizens) are nearby. Airscent dogs work best in situations such as large parks or private lands that are closed at the time, since the dog will

home in on any human scent. The success of an air scent dog will be affected by a number of factors, including wind conditions, air temperature, time of day, terrain, and presence or absence of contamination (auto exhaust, smoke, etc.). The best conditions for air scent dogs to work are early mornings or late afternoons on cool, cloudy days when there is a light wind

Physiological Mechanisms of Tracking

Primarily, dogs use their sense of smell, to find and follow a track.^[2] Dogs have a highly sensitive olfactory system superior to humans,^[3] and are able to discriminate between different human's scents.^[4] Moreover, dogs are also able to use visual cues to follow a track.^[5]

Phases of tracking

There are three phases,^[1] which complete the process of tracking:

1. Searching Phase

This is the phase in which dogs attempt to find a track. They move quickly, and take short, quick sniffs.

2. Deciding Phase

Once the dog has found the track, they move more slowly and take longer sniffs to determine the direction of the track. This is usually the most difficult phase for the dog.

3. Tracking phase

After determining the direction, dogs follow the track by sniffing at a uniform pace, and moving at a speed similar to that of the searching.

Factors' influencing a dog's tracking ability



There are several factors which influences a dog's ability to track: Physiological features of the dog are a factor. Some instances include with age, sex are influences. As a dog ages, their olfactory acuity decreases and decreases their ability to track.^[2] Furthermore, male dogs have found to be better at tracking than females, possibly due to sex differences in olfaction.^[2]

Sniffing behaviour also influences olfaction, and therefore a dog's ability to track. For example, a dog's ability to sniff is higher when it is not panting due to fatigue – it is physically impossible for a dog to both pant and sniff at the same time and the mouth must be open or closed respectively^[6]. However, dogs trained to track during physically demanding activities may have adapted their behaviour by increasing sniffing frequency to maximize olfaction, and tracking.^[6] Also, different dog breeds have varying suitability to different tasks of tracking.^[3] For example, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives use Labrador Retrievers for their tracking purposes.

Besides the dog itself, there are other effectors influencing tracking ability. A track's age^[5] and cross-contamination of scents,^[7] the range of the dog from the trail,^[3] as well as the handler's relationship with the tracking dog^[7] can all have an impact on a dog's tracking ability

A police dog, often referred to as a "K-9" (which is a homophone of canine) in some areas, is a dog that is trained specifically to assist police and other law-enforcement personnel in their work. The most commonly used breed is the German Shepherd, although now Belgian Malinois are also fairly popular dogs to use.

In many jurisdictions the intentional injuring or killing of a police dog is a felony,^[1] subjecting the perpetrator to harsher penalties than those in the statutes embodied in local animal cruelty laws,^[2] just as an assault on a human police officer is often a more serious offense than the same assault on a non-officer. A growing number of law-enforcement organizations outfit dogs with ballistic vests,^{[3][4]} and some make the dogs sworn officers, with their own police badges and IDs.^{[1][5][6][7]} Furthermore, a police dog killed in the line of duty is often given a full police funeral.^{[7][8][9]}

Some breeds are used to enforce public order by chasing and holding suspects, or detaining suspects by the threat of being released, either by direct apprehension or a method known as Bark and Hold. German Shepherd Dogs and Belgian Malinois are most commonly used because of their availability (see List of police dog breeds); however other dog breeds have also contributed, such as Dutch Shepherds, Rottweilers, Boxers, Doberman Pinschers, Giant Schnauzers, American Pit Bull Terriers, and American Staffordshire Terriers.

- Search and rescue dog (SAR) - This dog is used to locate suspects or find missing people or objects. Bloodhounds are often used for this task.
- Detection dog or explosive-sniffing dog - Some dogs are used to detect illicit substances such as drugs or explosives which may be carried on a person in their effects. In many countries, Beagles are used in airports to sniff the baggage for items that are not permitted; due to their friendly nature and appearance, the Beagle does not worry most passengers.^[10]
- Arson dogs - Some dogs are trained to pick-up on traces of accelerants at sites of suspected arson.

Popular breeds

- Argentine Dogo (protect the officer, attack dog, sniff out bombs, sniff out drugs, sniff out food)

- German Shepherd (protect the officer, attack dog, ground based tracking and air based tracking, locating human remains, locating drugs, locating IEDs, locating evidence)
- Dutch Shepherd (protect the officer, attack dog)
- Belgian Malinois (protect the officer, attack dog, locating IEDs, locating evidence, locating drugs, prisoner transport, human tracking)
- Boxer (protect the officer, attack dog)
- Labrador Retriever (sniff out bombs, sniff out drugs)
- Doberman Pinscher (protect the officer, attack dog)
- Springer Spaniel (sniff out bombs, sniff out drugs)
- Bloodhound (odor-specific ID, trackings, sniff out bombs, sniff out drugs, locating evidence)
- Beagle (sniff out bombs, sniff out drugs, sniff out food)
- Rottweiler (protect the officer, attack dog)
- Giant Schnauzer (protect the officer, attack dog)
- Bernese Mountain Dog (finds missing people)

Usage by country

Continental Europe overview

Official use of police dogs was recognized as being of value on the European Continent as early as 1859, with the Belgium Police in Ghent using dogs to officially patrol with the night shift.

Germany, France, Austria and Hungary soon followed with dogs becoming an accepted part of the official police establishment. The dogs employed at this time were hard aggressive animals that could inspire fear, protect their handler against attackers and be prepared to tackle courageously anyone found lurking in the ill-lit streets or open spaces. The breeds most commonly used by the end of the nineteenth century in these countries were Belgian & German Shepherds, Boxers, Dobermans and Airedales (imported from England).

The first major step forward in the development of the modern police dog came in the 1890s in Germany where serious attempts had been made to introduce recognised training programmes for the dogs purchased by the police, army and customs authorities. Rapid progress was made in the field of dog training with the development of the German Shepherd Dog as a breed and the formation on 22 April 1899 of the Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde or SV (The German Shepherd Dog Society) . In 1903 the SV staged civilian police dog trials that encompassed control, criminal work and nose work exercises. The police authorities were not convinced dogs were cost effective. The primary object of the police dog at this time was still seen as that of deterrent.

Belgium

The Belgian Canine Support Group is part of the country's federal police. It has 35 dog teams. Some dogs are trained to detect drugs, human remains, hormones or fire accelerants. About a third are tracker dogs trained to find or identify living people. These teams are often deployed to earthquake areas to locate people trapped in collapsed buildings. The federal police's explosive detector dogs are attached to the Federal Police Special Units.

Hong Kong

The Police Dog Unit, (Abbreviation: PDU; Chinese: 警犬隊) established in 1949, is a specialist force of the Hong Kong Police under the direct command of the Special Operations Bureau. Its role is in crowd control, search and rescue and poison and explosive detection. In addition, the Police Dog Unit works in collaboration with other departments for anti-crime operations.

Netherlands

The Dutch Mounted Police and Police Dog Service (DLHP) is part of the Korps landelijke politiediensten (KLPD; National Police Services Agency) and supports other units with horse patrols and specially trained dogs. The DLHP's dogs are trained to recognize a single specific scent. They specialize in identifying scents (identifying the scent shared by an object and a person), narcotics, explosives and firearms, detecting human remains, locating drowning people and fire accelerants.

The KLPD is just one of the 26 police regions in the Netherlands. Every other region has its own K-9 unit. For example, the K-9 unit of the regional police Amsterdam-Amstelland has 24 patrol dog handlers and 6 special dog handlers and 4 instructors. The unit has 24 patrol dogs, 3 explosives/firearms dogs, 3 active narcotic dogs, 2 passive narcotic dogs, 2 scent identifying dogs, 1 crime scene dog and 1 USAR dog. They work on a 24/7 basis, every shift (07:00-15:00/15:00-23:00/23:00-07:00 local time), has a minimum of 2 patrol dog handlers on patrol. The special dog handlers work only in the dayshift or after a call.

USSR and successor states (Russia, Ukraine, etc.)

Police patrolling on foot have long sporadically used attack dogs, generally exceptionally big German Shepherds, bred to weigh at least 35 kg and generally 40+ kg. These are kept on a leash at all times and required to wear muzzles, removed only when needed to pursue and detain suspects. They are trained to remain calm, docile, and unfazed by crowds and noise, retaining a perfect calm on public transportation. Such dogs may react to any and all stimuli only if ordered to do so. They are a common sight in cities and are rarely if ever perceived as unnerving by the general public.

Crime scene investigation units and patrols seeking dangerous fugitives have also been known to use dogs for tracking. Interestingly enough, these units also use German Shepherds, which were chosen as the all-purpose police and army breed. These practices have remained common in most of the Soviet Union's successor states.

Northern American Continents

Canada

Many Canadian municipalities use dog squads as a means of tracking suspects. Most municipalities in Canada employ the bite and hold technique rather than the bark and hold technique meaning once the dog is deployed, it bites the suspect until the dog handler commands it to release. This often results in serious puncture wounds and is traumatic for suspects. A dog has the legal status of property in Canada. As such, developing case law is moving towards absolute liability for the handlers of animals deliberately released to intentionally maim suspects. The dog is, effectively, a weapon.



Police dog in Wisconsin, United States

United States Of America

Police dogs are in widespread use across the United States. K-9 units are operated on the federal, state, county, and local level and are utilized for a wide variety of duties, similar to those of other nations. Although most Americans perceive these animals as attack dogs, their duties generally include drug, bomb, and weapon detection and cadaver searches. The most common police dogs used for everyday duties are German Shepherds, though other breeds may be used to perform specific tasks.

Most police agencies in the United States - whether state, county, or local - use K-9s as a means of law enforcement. Often, even the smallest of departments operates a K-9 team of at least one dog, while the officers of more metropolitan cities can be more used to working with dozens. In the former case, police dogs usually serve all purposes deemed necessary, most commonly suspect apprehension and narcotics detection, and teams are often on call; in the latter case, however, individual dogs usually serve individual purposes in which each particular animal is specialized, and teams usually serve scheduled shifts. In both cases, police dogs are almost always cared for by their specific handlers. K-9s are not often seen by the public, though specialized police vehicles used for carrying dogs may be seen from time to time.

In most states, a police dog is considered a full-fledged police officer, sometimes even given a badge. As such, most laws find assaulting a police dog to be equal or very similar to assaulting a human officer, and as a result some agencies will deem it acceptable for officers to open fire on a person who is intentionally hurting a police dog, with apparent attempt to kill it.

Police dogs also play a major role in American penal systems. Many jails and prisons will use special dog teams as a means of intervening in large-scale fights or riots by inmates. Also, many penal systems will employ dogs - usually bloodhounds - in searching for escaped prisoners.

Public order enforcement dogs

The job these dogs hold is to chase after a fleeing suspect and hold him for officers, or detain suspects from some action by threat of the dog being released. This is the traditional image of a police dog.

- Akita Inu
- American Pit Bull Terrier
- American Staffordshire Terrier
- Australian shepherd
- Belgian Malinois
- Boxer
- BloodHound
- Cane Corso
- Doberman pinscher
- Dutch Shepherd
- German Shepherd
- Rottweiler
- Schnauzer - Standard or Giant

Illicit substance detection dogs

These dogs sit with their handlers in airports, sniffing the passengers from afar for illegal substances a person may carry in their luggage or carry-on items; these are most commonly drugs or explosives, although many nations also interdict foreign food items.

- Australian Shepherd
- Beagle
- Belgian Malinois
- Basset Hound
- English Cocker Spaniel
- English Springer Spaniel
- Foxhound
- German Shepherd
- Labrador Retriever
- Sulimov Dog
- Schnauzer (all sizes)
- Weimaraner

Tracking dogs

These dogs are used for sniffing the trails of lost or missing persons or objects.

- Australian Shepherd
- Bloodhound
- Coonhound
- German Shepherd
- Labrador Retriever

Working the Bloodhound



Scenting ability

The Bloodhound's physical characteristics account for its ability to follow a scent trail left several days in the past. Under optimal conditions, a Bloodhound can detect as few as one or two cells. The Bloodhound's nasal chambers (where scents are identified) are larger than those of most other breeds. The number of olfactory receptor cells are 4 billion in a bloodhound, compared to just 5 million in a human and 100 million in a rabbit^[42] The surface area of bloodhound olfactory epithelium is 59 sq.in. compared to human's 1.55 sq.in. (10 sq.cm.)^[42] The large, long pendent ears serve to prevent wind from scattering nearby skin cells while the dog's nose is on the ground; the folds of wrinkled flesh under the lips and neck—called the shawl—serve to catch stray scent particles in the air or on a nearby branch as the Bloodhound is scenting, reinforcing the scent in the dog's memory and nose.^[43] However, not all agree that the long ears and loose skin are functional, some regarding them as a handicap.^[25]

Human Trailing



There are many accounts of bloodhounds successfully following trails many hours, and even several days, old,^{[25][26]} the record being of a family found dead in Oregon, in 1954, over 330

hours after they had gone missing.^[11] The bloodhound is generally used to follow the individual scent of a fugitive or lost person, taking the scent from a 'scent article' – something the quarry is known to have touched, which could be an item of clothing, a car seat, an identified footprint etc.^{[44][25]} Many bloodhounds will follow the drift of scent a good distance away from the actual footsteps of the quarry, which can enable them to cut corners and reach the end of the trail more quickly. In America, sticking close to the footsteps is called 'tracking', while the freer method is known as 'trailing' (in the UK, 'hunting'), and is held to reflect the bloodhound's concentration on the individual human scent, rather than that of, say, vegetation crushed by the feet of the quarry.^{[45][44]} Having lost a scent, a good bloodhound will stubbornly cast about for long periods, if necessary, in order to recover it.^{[18][10][25]} The bloodhound is handled on a tracking harness, which has a metal ring above the shoulders, to which a leash is attached, so that the hound's neck is not jerked up when the leash becomes taut, as it would with a collar. The leash is at least long enough to allow the hound to cross freely in front of the handler, some handlers preferring quite a short leash, giving better communication with the hound, others liking something longer, maybe twenty or thirty feet.^[44]

Training



It is generally agreed that the basis of initial training is to make the experience enjoyable for the puppy or young hound, to keep its enthusiasm high.^{[46][44][10]} Whitney preferred waiting till the hound is 18 months old, to start training,^[25] but others start as young as possible, say three months.^{[44][11]} Training can be started by running short trails on a family member whom the puppy sees walk away, at first remaining visible, and later going out of sight. Even though familiar with the scent of the 'runner', it can be given a scent-article to sniff, and given the command to follow. It can also be introduced to the tracking harness, which is put on just before

the trail starts, and removed as soon as it is finished. On reaching the runner the puppy is given lavish praise and perhaps a reward. Generally in training the handler must know exactly where the runner went, so that he does not encourage the hound when it is wrong, or 'correct' it when it is on the scent,^{[10][46]} but he should not be too ready with his corrections if the hound goes astray, or it may come to rely on him. He should give the hound time to realise its mistake and put itself right, if possible. As training progresses the handler learns to 'read' his hound's behaviour. The hound must trust its nose and the handler must trust the hound. From early hot trails on a familiar person, the young hound progresses to colder trails on the scents of strangers. Later training can be designed to teach particular lessons: crossing trails with false scents, having the runner start out with a companion, who leaves him somewhere along the trail, laying a trail on ground frequented by wild animals. This will teach the hound not to change on to other humans, or riot on animal scents (known as 'staying clean' [US], or 'freedom from change' [UK]).^{[44][45][10]} It also needs to work over a variety of ground and learn to cope with distractions of many kinds, as well as being introduced to 'negative trails': given a scent article which has not been handled by anyone in the area, so that it will learn to indicate to a handler that the required scent is not there.^{[45][44]} If it is becoming discouraged it can revert to simpler tasks to recover enthusiasm.

Identification



Canine identification of a suspect can help police with their inquiries, and evidence of identification is accepted in some courts^{[11][26]}. The most approved method of identification is for the hound to jump up, and place its paws on the subject's chest^{[45][46]}. In the case of a lost person or a known fugitive identification will not be significant, and in the case of a potentially violent, possibly armed, fugitive a bloodhound handler will not want his dog to approach the quarry for fear of injury to the bloodhound. Many bloodhounds reaching the end of a trail will show no interest in the person they have been trailing, and are difficult to train to identify. Leon Whitney recommended a method of initial training in which identification was the first thing learned,^[25] based on giving the young hound a scent-article from someone who walks a very short distance out of sight into a barn, where he stands with a piece of liver, while another person, also smelling of liver, stands nearby. The hound is led along the 'trail', and if it shows an inclination to go to the wrong person it is chastised, but gets the liver if it goes to the right one. When the hound goes to the right person almost infallibly, the number of people is increased, making the choice more difficult, and eventually the brief walks are extended into full trails.^[25]

Ammonia will disrupt, possibly even permanently ruin, a dog's sense of smell.

Mythbusters has done scientific experiments see if it was possible to throw a tracking dog off your trail. here are the results:



from website: <http://mythbustersresults.com/episode74>

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by backtracking, zig-zagging, and going up a tree.

busted

Adam, acting as a fugitive on the run, had five minutes to run in zig-zags, doubled back, and climb a tree. The blood hound easily found him.

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by crossing a river.

busted

The bloodhound found Adam very easily.

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by covering part of your trail with ground pepper.

busted

The bloodhound was briefly confused, but it soon rediscovered the trail and found Adam.

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by washing your body and changing your clothes.

busted

The bloodhound was initially overwhelmed by the concentrated scent of Adam at the washing point. The trainer knew this and walked the dog in a wide circle until it found the escape trail. The hound then easily found Adam.

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by rubbing your body with coffee and cologne.

busted

The bloodhound did not have any trouble finding Adam.

-You can trick a trained bloodhound by traveling through an urban environment.

plausible

The bloodhound was overwhelmed by the multitude of distracting smells in the city. It did find Adam after 90 minutes, but did not actually follow his trail. The handler noted that a bloodhound with experience in cities could do better.

-You can't teach an old dog new tricks.

busted

Adam and Jamie each trained a 7 year old Alaskan Malamute five new tricks in just one week.



Everyone I just wanted to share some of my survival experience for kicks. What if you are in a predicament where you are being chased down out in the wild? Heck you never know, maybe during your hiking trip you are being hunted down by vigilante creationists! Maybe your stuck in a hostile country and have terrorists after you. And these bad guys have tracking dogs.. how do you get away??

As an owner of a trained hound that practices tracking and counter tracking like some people fish I have some info that will help out here.

First if you have a well trained dog and handler on your trail, good luck its going to be difficult but its not impossible. You do have several advantages over the tracking posse. First a tracking dog most times is a ground scent dog, it will not come on the trail on a dead run its kind of a fast walk, stopping and sniffing along the way. Second the handler is always the weak link, you want the handler to second guess the dog and to get tired and weak, so use obstacles and rough terrain.

I wouldn't even waste my time trying to maske my scent as once your being hunted its already too late for that really. Move at a jogging pace or as fast as you can handle to keep moving at least 45 minutes at a time taking a 10 minute rest every hour or 45 minute. Keep enough reserve of energy to sprint 100 yards and keep thick cover within 100 yards at all times.

Now for a good backtracking move, if you happen to be near a decent creek or river head to it and look for hard ground leading right up to the water or a patch with rocks. Leave spoor but don't leave a full print leading to the water, this is why hard ground is crucial in mud or soft dirt even a novice can see a backtrack. Also you want to have a point picked out to jump off your trail that is also hard or rock strewn. Make your scant but visible trail to the water, back up **EXACTLY** in your tracks to your jump off point. Jump off farther than the next foot mark in your trail this will mostly ensure the dog goes right on to the water, maybe turn over a rock so the handler will want the dog to go that way.

This will create some confusion for the handler, the dog will almost immediately want to double back once the track ends but the handler will likely keep it there to search for signs because of the myth that dogs can't smell once you cross water.

Dogs can follow you right up a stream however, so don't do it unless its deep enough to just float down. They will have trouble picking up your scent at that point, but they still can.

The best way to fool the dogs is to get your feet off the ground and move downwind, use a bike, a passing train, if your cleaned up enough hitchhike even if you have to. Once you have transportation and your moving downwind you pretty much have eluded capture for awhile.



Now lets say they catch up, they are within 100 yards and they release attack dogs. **YOU ARE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE BUT NOT HOPELESS.** You cannot simply wait on the dog and kill it, the handler will be close behind. The dog will probably run about twice as fast as a quick sprinter so turn and sprint but keep tabs on the dogs location. When its within 10 yards turn, crouch enough to keep the dog from jumping and offer your off arm (if right handed left arm). Now you didnt' have time most likely to wrap your arm up but you can still protect yourself somewhat, as soon as the dog opens up for that bite do not resist push your arm deep into its mouth this will protect you from massive cuts and tears and make it hard for the dog to do the side to side rip, then immediately grab its throat as described earlier. However keep your eye on the handler, if he raises his firearm or gets close get your arm out of dogs mouth by putting all your weight on your left elbow into the corner of dogs mouth, this will force its jaw open wider and you can roll your narrower upper wrist section out, then roll your elbow to get loose if the dog isn't dead and isn't letting go. Better to lose some flesh than freedom. You will have stopped the dog if you have a strong grip with even a couple seconds of a crushing grab, you should feel the dogs throat you may need to adjust to get behind some muscle for a quicker kill or disable.

Also if you set a trap for the tracking dogs, a used sock works well its covered in your scent.. put some mudd on it to camouflauge it from the handler that may expect a trap, and you can use fishhooks and anything sharp to lace it with. **DON'T USE PEPPER OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT,** thats just a myth the dog will smell that crap 5 miles away and not inhale any of it. **HOWEVER,** dogs are trained to avoid pain.. so if you manage to get your smelly sock to scratch its nose he won't want to track you anymore. Also if he is forced to track you this will create a situation where the dog and its handler is in conflict, the dog won't want to go on.. the handler will try to force it and they are both confused.

You can also use fishing line laid loosely at waist to neck level with several hooks tied in it behind the concealment point where the fishing line rests on the brush. Only tie one end of the line, you want it to drag across the persons arms. Your hooks should be tied so they make a 360 degree circle around the line so you'll be sure to get a stick. You should set that up in a well shaded area where the sunligh won't hit it, heck for added drama you can dip your hooks in hemlock which is very stinky and poisonous. Or anything dirty or smelly.. and I mean anything it will make the handler freak out. It won't be enough to do much real poisoning but if it snags the handler he will smell it and be scared shitless, probably just quit right there. You are trying to stick the guy in the arms, the neck is more vulnerable but far too difficult to actually pull off a neck trap. The arms will likely have light clothing.. just enough not to feel the fishing line and not enough to stop the hooks from going in. So really it needs to be setup dead center of waist to neck area, the higher up it is the more likely it is to be spotted, however the farther down the less likely you are to penetrate clothing. But even if you don't stick the guy he will slow WAYYY down and be looking for traps.



If you have a real headstart you can even boil hemlock over and over to make a paste that will make the handler sick, but really the phsychological effect is what works best.

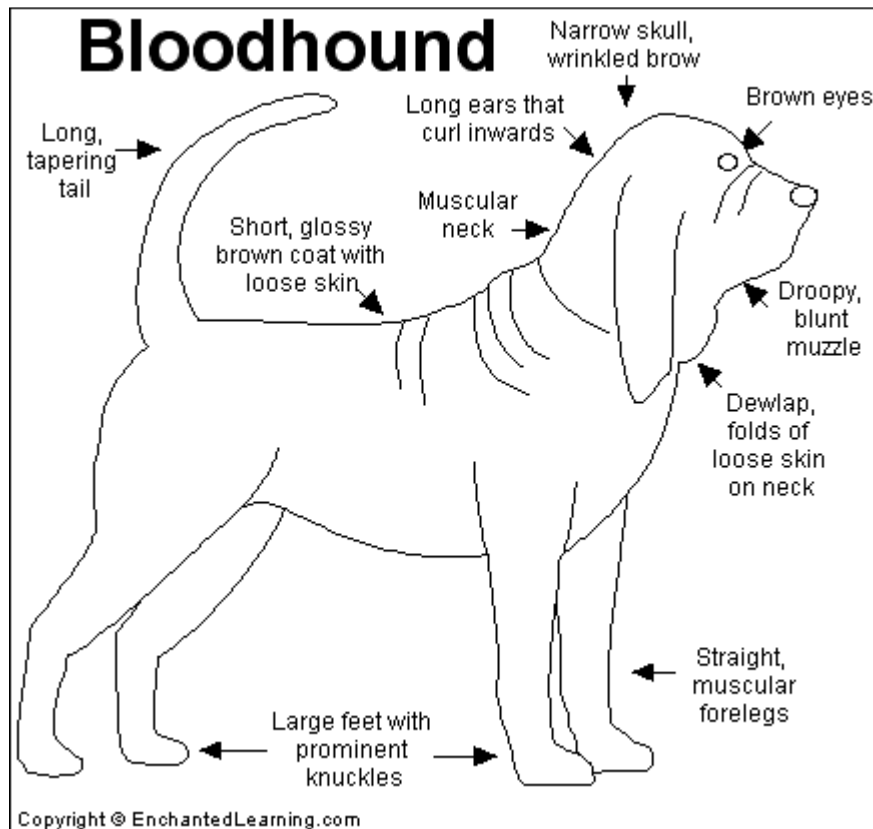
I'll add more as I have more time lol, anyone like or dislike my methods? They aren't perfect but I assure you they work I train with them. The fishing line trap is the only trap I have set that really works in real life, most people just walk on and get tangled up as long as the line doesn't snag and put pressure on the guy walking. With practice that is a very effective little trick though it does little damage it makes people not want to chase you.

This is probably a bit of information you will never ever need... but you never know. Its also a cool thing to know how to do even if you never use it lol. I have lots of survival science I can share with you guys if anyone is interested in it... this will be the feeler thread to see how many

people are into survival. I know a few people who are just tickled pink to know I'm also one of those prepare for the end type of guys lol. Hey its just fun even if it never happens!

Has anyone got any idea if there is a substance that will temporarily stop a dog from tracking by smell? If so how long for? I hear that extract of aniseed might work but this is unconfirmed.

This is not for my dog or any "real" dog for that matter. It's for a story where the protagonist is on the run, with hounds after him. I was trying to find a plot hook, that's all, not mess with any real animals.



During the Vietnam war the SOG teams, SEALs, and Marine Recon units would cut open CS smoke grenades and grind the CS (concentrated tear gas) up into powder. They would then put that CS powder into little containers (i.e. empty foot powder cans) that could be used to sprinkle the trail to ward off any pursuing NVA patrols that used tracking dogs. This method had great success as it really messed with the dogs tracking ability, but it only worked in dry conditions as moisture rendered the sprinkled CS powder all but useless.

I have no idea of how long the effects of the CS lasted on the dogs but i'm sure it lasted long enough for the team/unit to slip away.

CS smoke grenades are still used in riot control situations, so technically your character wouldn't have a hard time acquiring one from a police or military source.

Since dogs are designed by nature to track by smell, WHY would you want him NOT to be able to?

Plain pepper will cause him to lose the sensitivity temporarily in most cases, BUT if you keep using it, he will decide you do NOT want him to track by smell; and then he won't do it for you any more because he doesn't like the results of the pepper in his nose.

Pepper works, and if you're in a pine or cedar forest, wrapping your feet in limbs with lots of needles works some. Speaking of forests, climbing a tree, and then moving from tree to tree works too, as long as you don't come down too close to where you went up. The armed forces use a product designed for that purpose. Walking up or down stream works to carry the scent away for a bit, but a good hound can find your trail.

like the others have said, pepper works, a rag soaked in urine from a dog in heat will work as well



If you are being tracked by a dog and handlers you are basically screwed...

Time and distance are your friends, other than that loop back on your trail ambush the tracking team and eat the dog...that's why you bring the pepper it's for...seasoning...

Are there ways to evade someone using dogs to catch you when on the move? I have heard things like shoot or injure the dog, but I was wondering if there might be other techniques?

The best defense is a good offense.

I have a relative that had a Husky and was not able to take care of it, so they did the irresponsible thing; they drove it 25 miles out into the country and dumped it. 3 weeks later it showed back up at her door. To this day it amazes me that that dog found its way back after being dumped out of a vehicle and the relatives driving off. If a Husky, who is bred to work physically can do this; I can only imagine what a Bloodhound, bred to track can do.

I own tracking/trailing/disaster dogs. I work with them every day. Other than killing or injuring the dog or handler there is nothing you are gonna do to stop the chase. These dogs love what they do and live to work.

They will literally pursue to the point of their own death and a good handler will slow or stop them when they are in danger. I love my dogs and carry a good rifle when doing a criminal pursuit.

Many myths still persist about tricking dogs. Pepper, ammonia, tear gas, going to water, climbing trees, etc. just don't work. I've written many times on this subject and it keeps popping up

WOW you have written about this many times and it keeps coming up? well well mr expert...maybe you are just an expert in our own mind! We little people must think you are full of sh!t.....hmm better keep to chasing un-armed fugitives...they might just hunt you one day.

water entry into a moving river means you will gain time for the handler to require your trail where ever you put to bank, if trees are close enough back tracking to a tree then climbing it to move from tree to tree will buy you a bit of time.

single rope swing across a body of water or jumping a fence repeatedly will buy you some time.



A handler that knows what there doing and a seasoned dog are formidable adversaries. I always thought a black hot air balloon at night would be fun to leave them scratching their heads, and a good downpour of rain will help you too.

you can only succeed in gaining time against a tracking dog, but gaining enough time can be the difference in escaping the enemy.

From what I understand, traveling in water actually makes it easier for the dog.

Since water generally travels along lowered terrain (like a ditch), your scent stays in that lowered area rather than diffusing away.

Your scent is not sticking to the ground, it is floating in the air.

I'd probably sacrifice a few traps, until I could make it to water. Then leave my scent on a beachball or something else that would blow across the prairie...

water entry into a moving river means you will gain time for the handler to require your trail where ever you put to bank, if trees are close enough back tracking to a tree then climbing it to move from tree to tree will buy you a bit of time.

single rope swing across a body of water or jumping a fence repeatedly will buy you some time.

A handler that knows what there doing and a seasoned dog are formidable adversaries. I always thought a black hot air balloon at night would be fun to leave them scratching their heads, and a good downpour of rain will help you too.

Rain forces scent to the ground thus making it easier for the dog to access.

Getting into the water poses several problems for you. Skin rafts containing your scent and volatile oils will float on top of the water again giving the dog access to the scent. Getting into water, especially this time of year, slows you down and may very well give you a good case of hypothermia. I would much rather track someone running in water. Generally makes an easy day for me.

As far as the hot air balloon. You deserve to get away

Not very well-versed on this subject, but here are some ways I can think of:

Food. Drop bits of enticing food all over, throw them off the trail a little bit. At the most this might slow the dog down.

If you have to go through water, enter and go downstream. This might put you close to the trackers, it might not, I'd probably run upstream a bit, enter and drift as discreetly as possible downstream for about a quarter mile. Then I'd double back.

Get to a vehicle, gives you a distance advantage and dogs can't really track a specific car on a well-traveled road. Other than this one, I don't think there is a sure-fire way to evade for enough time.

Mind you, I have dogs that don't track but are waiting until I give them an order to attack or round something up. I really have no clue on how to get a dog to track something.

I would have been curious if the bloodhound myth was tried with scent eliminating clothing and sprays which have become very popular in certain types of wildlife hunting. This type of clothing is lined with a carbon product that is used "trap" the human scent. As advertised by the various companies out there, activated carbon is the most absorptive substance known to man. This would be a great test if the myth is ever revisited.

The overall “scent picture” that a dog follows is not comprised exclusively of the human scent. What the dog is following is a combination of human scent, and moisture released from ground disturbance, damaged vegetation, etc. The most significant factor is vegetation (think showering after being in a bar, and the wet ashtray smell). Factors that affect this are temperature, air movement, perspiration, ground/ vegetation disturbance etc. A fresh track is easy for a dog to follow, as it ages, moisture decreases, and the strength of the scent picture decreases accordingly.



Hi, I found this site while I was researching the subject of tricking bloodhounds. We had a local fugitive a few years ago, who gave the New York State Police a run for their money. They never did catch him. He had his 10 year old son with him on the run in the woods.

I spoke to the kid after it happened and he told me how his dad tricked the dogs and the helicopters. He did something with kerosene, either spreading it all over the woods, or on his clothes. It must have worked because the NYSP never caught the guy and he now lives in Florida.

The bloodhound tracking them across the river is totally inaccurate, Adam only walked across a river about 6 feet wide if I remember right and it was maybe as deep as a foot or 2, in order to test this right I think it needs to be done on a real river, deep enough, and wide enough to have to actually swim across it.

Sean, wouldn't matter. The handler would just go to the other side and pick the scent up again. The scent is not picked up in the water, it is refound on the other side. The river can be 50m deep and 50m wide and as long as he gets out it'll be found.

Paul, try that on my dog and you'll lose an arm. Dogs are trained to work how the handler wants them to work. If the handler wants them to take down a guy with a gun then it will, if they don't, it won't. It has nothing to do with breed.

A properly trained dog will not be tricked by anything. If the handler is intelligent and the dog has had a lot of training then you will not beat it.

Josh, dogs are only as stupid as their handler generally. Mallies are intelligent, if you could not teach one basic tricks then that shows more about your intelligence than his :)

Some tracking dogs are known as “air scent” dogs. A river won’t deter them as they are following the scent trail up in the air. A slight breeze will move it. My previous German Shepherd was a natural at it. If you ran and hid, after releasing him, he’d bound over to wherever you were, not exactly following my foot tracks. And yes training is everything.

I think the best way to trick a bloodhound is by wearing air-tight clothes because, like you said in the show, people give off skin cells in which bloodhounds can track and follow the trail of skin cells to the person. So in my theory, the air-tight clothing will prevent the skin cells from escaping, preventing trails of skin cells.



To many of those here :

Ever heard of when the US Army needed to train dogs to sniff out land mines which were then being made from a plastic and therefore something their metal detectors couldn’t find?

The dogs were trained for the trial. The land mines were buried. The ground was covered in oil and then burnt. They spread live and spent ammunition shells all over the area. They left the grounds ‘sit’ for a good period of time.

Yet when the dogs were finally brought in, they were able to detect where they were.

Also, water ‘traps’ scent. Scent is carried along water. Scent doesn’t just disappear and then carry on over the other side of the embankment. The trouble with water is that, subject to wind/breeze conditions, it can carry the scent downstream for a long way. Of

course, any scent dog handler worth his salt will be able to work out to a good degree how weather conditions may have influenced the scent and narrow the target field down somewhat.

Scent comes off your head as well. If a person was wearing "air-tight clothes" (which wouldn't work anyway), the person would be dead through suffocation. Breath carries scent. If you even put on new gum boots, your scent permeates the rubber in a matter of only minutes.

There was also the matter where it was necessary for dogs to detect the presence of naturally occurring chlorine in the ground. The laboratories didn't believe the dog when a sample of soil (at which a dog indicated positive) was sent in. They measured it at 1:1millionth part. And the labs did not detect the substance. On being recommended that they retest, they found the dog had detected the substance at 1:1billionth part!!!

aggressive dog story: There were a pair of huge Great Pyrannees (sp?) on our country road who perked up at any vehicle/cycle etc and raced out of their property to chase it. I read a technique to deal with it and tried it. Whenever they raced out, I hit the brakes and backed up, effectively chasing them. By the third day, they would lift their heads when my car appeared, then lower them in disgust. I could almost hear them sigh. My family did the same thing on their bikes, and we had no further trouble. My husband has since used the technique successfully while riding his bike on other assorted country roads.



I agree with Sian...obviously a female guard dog would not react to the bitch in heat urine...but guard dogs are vigorously trained to ignore certain things, German shepherds learning faster. Electric collars are used to teach dogs that certain actions result in punishment, such as going after treats and such...law enforcement takes the training of canines very seriously...or it seems they should...

ammonia trail behind you, the LAST thing the dog will want to do is follow that trail.

ether is commonly used as a drug and is used in drug synthesis. Some police dogs are trained to recognize it, a dogs sense of smell has something along the line of 60% more sensitivity. So the dog what smell the ether...Whatever else from far away enough that it wouldnt be effected before it located the ether. I heard of a way to transport marijuana in a 3 layered bad, 1 large bag, a medium bag, and a small bag, The first bag... Black Pepper, the second bag water, and the third bag marijuana, i heard the pepper temporarily disables or lowers the dogs sense of smell, and the water because it has hard to smells to penetrate a layer of water.



Myths About Evading Dogs

Hiding under water and breathing through a reed or tube. The best you can hope for is that the dogs will simply track you to the water's edge and become confused. However, dog handlers and other trackers accompany dogs. You have to be deep enough so that you can't be seen by the handlers (or by the dog itself). But if you are this deep you won't be able to breathe through a tube for very long. Furthermore, dogs have been known to locate bodies that are underwater.

Sprinkling pepper or other irritant on the ground to "burn out" the dog's nose as it follows your scent. This has no effect on an air tracker dog and almost no effect on a ground tracker, The dog will detect pepper and other like scents long before it has the opportunity to snort any up its nose. In fact, if the dog does snort a little pepper it will likely just make the dog sneeze, thereby cleaning out its nose and letting it follow your scent more easily. An extremely heavy concentration of pepper on the ground might keep the dog from finding your scent directly under tile pepper, but any amount of pepper you could reasonably expect to carry with you simply won't faze the dog.

Covering yourself in manure or excrement. This does little more than make you smell like a human covered in excrement to the dog. Your human scent is still present and is not

significantly masked by the odor of excrement.

Tying plastic trash bags around your feet and legs to avoid leaving any scent. The only really effective way to cause a dog to lose your scent is to get off the ground in a car, on a bicycle, or in a boat. You must then travel a significant distance so that the dog cannot simply reacquire your scent on the ground a few hundred yards away.



A couple of more quotes from the link above:

f. When you first arrive in your area of operations, it is best to move initially in a direction that is 90 to 170 degrees away from your objective. Carry into the area, in a plastic bag, an object that does not belong to any of the team members. Once you are on the ground, drop this item of clothing or fragment of cloth out of the bag and leave it on your back trail as you first start moving. This can confuse a dog long enough to give you more of a head start. Also, if dogs are brought in late, your scent will be very faint, while this scent will still be strong.

i. If dogs are very close behind you, moving through water does not confuse them, as your scent will hang in the air above the water. Moving through water will only slow you down. Also, throwing CS powder to your rear or using blood/spice mixtures or any other concoctions that you think will prevent a dog from smelling your scent will not be effective on a trained tracker dog; at the first sign of the substance he will avoid the area. Even if the dog were to smell these substances, they react differently than humans. This may actually clear the dogs sinuses and nose for him due to the hard sneeze.



1. If a tracker dog is on your trail, do not run, as this will cause your scent to become stronger. By running and leaving a stronger scent you are allowing the dog an easier trail to follow and less work. Some disagree and say to run the dog into the ground. You must balance the running the dog into the ground and the dog running you into the ground due to heavy scent left behind. You may attempt to wear out the dog handler and confuse the dog, but always be on the lookout for a good ambush site that you can fishhook into. If it becomes necessary to ambush the tracking party, fishhook into the ambush site and you would normally attempt to wound the handler, NOT the dog.



From www.policek9.com:

In this case, I could easily have tracked all night without ever catching up to the suspects. With the lead time they had, and the time it takes the dog to work the track at his pace as well as the time involved in getting the dog and handler over various obstacles, all the suspects had to do to evade capture was to keep moving at a steady pace. Not necessarily a fast pace, just a steady pace. It was the containment team that picked this suspect up, combined with the efforts of the K9 team, this incident had a very successful conclusion. But that conclusion only came after a dedicated effort at containment by patrol members. Without the patrol officers doing their job I could likely have never caught up to the suspects.

When doing perimeter containment remember that your purpose is to force the suspects to "go to ground", making them hide to avoid detection. To that end, maintain a high visibility. Take up an intersection location where you can observe in two or three different directions at the same time. Illuminate as much of the area as you can. Turn on all your overhead emergency lights and make it well known that you are there. A suspect that is coming into your area will often see the emergency lights and spotlights and instead of breaking out in the open to cross the street, will choose to hide in the hopes of not being seen. This allows your dog team the best opportunity for

a capture

Also, a source I can't seem to find now states that a dog can't track on asphalt unless it's moist, since it irritates the dog's nose.



Elevation is a good counter measure. When I worked at a shipyard, the sailors would stash their goods up as high as possible in the ship's machinery spaces, in the maze of pipes and wiring. Even if they detected the smell, they could not get close enough to "alert" the handler.

When you first arrive in your area of operations, it is best to move initially in a direction that is 90 to 170 degrees away from your objective. Carry into the area, in a plastic bag, an object that does not belong to any of the team members. Once you are on the ground, drop this item of clothing or fragment of cloth out of the bag and leave it on your back trail as you first start moving. This can confuse a dog long enough to give you more of a head start. Also, if dogs are brought in late, your scent will be very faint, while this scent will still be strong.

But further to that, if you anticipate that you may be tracked by dogs after some event it might be wise to prepare the target area in a more thorough manner, for instance you might urinate on a peice of your sweatyist work wear and drag it about in directions you wont try to escape from, thus creating false trails using your own body fluids (nice).

Although I wouldnt recomend leaving such a large peice of DNA evidence in situ afterwards.

In the UK now most hunting on horseback is done like this, they drag a rag with some kind of fox pheromone sprayed on it accross the fields and the dogs quite happily track this.

A drag trail would certainly leave a lot more of your smell than a hopefully light foot fall.

I think leaving very small fragments of tissue that has your scent might be feasible.

A bit like an old fashioned paper chase.

I don't think dogs always track footfall anyway, so if you anticipate being chased by a good nose dog immediately, you need to stay down wind of the dog at all times or as much as you can.

The difficulty is the wind tends to vortice round so putting distance between yourself and the dog is imperative in my view.



Other things I'd say were important, as someone else said, keep a steady pace as much as you can, don't thrash through undergrowth if you can help it, try not to disturb your surroundings too much if on soft, stoney, or dead wood littered ground.

Dry hard surfaces are good, soft damp ones are bad, with regard to changing their smell after a foot fall, not to mention holding your scent.

I think when it comes to being chased by dog/s good reconnaissance is the key to escape.

Combine a series of obstacles that are hard for a dog and a man to negotiate, but that a man on his own can manage, even if that means hiding old/home made ladders to scale things or ropes to descend them. Be creative.

With regard to anise or aniseed I can attest that neither of my dogs are the slightest bit interested in it, but they both really like hot currys (strange).

But on this vein, a number of old friends of mine were involved in sabotaging fox hunts for a long time, something they used to make and swear by was a sort of garlic brew, basically you take a two litre pop/soda bottle almost fill it with water add lots of fresh mashed or finely chopped garlic and some Marmite (yeast extract) when this stuff ferments and rots down it really stinks bad. This (filtered) concoction was then loaded into pump up plant sprayers and sprayed across likely fox runs in an attempt to distract the hounds.

In all honesty I'm not sure how well this works and as Thiol points out



A dog's sense of smell is not comparable to a human's at all. While you might not smell marijuana if you spray a bunch of lavender air freshener around, a trained drug dog will just smell that: lavender and weed.

Dogs definitely see the world as a world of smells, they use their eyes just to finish the job or so as not to bump into things near by, but like any being using its senses, I think they can be given a lot of useless and distracting information and thus lots of strong smelling substances pre-sprayed over broad sweeps of your planned escape route may slow down the tracking process enough to give you the edge.

I have in the past been sniffed out by a large German Shepherd, and I can say it's very disconcerting when you're crouching behind a lot of boxes to come face to face with a really big dog.

In another vein, I often travel by train, and the police here regularly do sweeps of stations for drug dealers, stand next to exits with their super sniffer spaniels, it worries me since I almost always have some pot on me, and I hate the hassle of being hauled in for a blim of hash, but since I always have a dog with me, they just pull the dog back and I sail on through.

A friend of mine had several kilos of hashish on his coach (that he also lived on at the time) he kept the hashish in his ferrets cage, also on his coach (I can imagine what you're thinking, and I agree) but, he got raided by the local drugs squad, and they brought a dog, and the dog didn't find the drugs, which just goes to show how much ferrets really do stink.

IronMongrel, someone I know - a PI that has connections worldwide - hid a copy of his business records from the police inside a large cage of ferrets. They couldn't get by the ferrets w/o being bit and clawed, so the cage went unsearched. The LEO's wanted to force him to give info on their cases, but w/o any quid pro quo as the Intel agencies did. By confiscating his records, they

hoped to threaten his business. His Federal contacts made the police back off.

I suspect that to stop a dog cold would require something quite strong in attacking the dog's sense of smell, such as a war gas. Lewisite is easily made, but can be a double edged sword if you get careless with it

Three new weapons against wild dogs



The Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre say alternatives to 1080 baits to control wild dogs may be on the market by the end of the year.

The Invasive Animals CRC and says it's working on three products at the moment to help the livestock industries keep predation down.

One is a toxin called PAPP (para-aminopropiophenone), another is a device called a M44 ejector and also a lethal trap device is also being trialled in Queensland at the moment.

Currently 1080 baits and trapping are the most effective tools to control wild dog numbers but the CRC says they need more options.

1080 is a compound poison that was originally developed in England to kill rats but it was quickly learned that dogs have a very low tolerance to it and was an effective way of controlling them in the wild.

Interestingly it occurs naturally in native plants including Georgina Gidgee and Heartleaf in western Queensland.

For many years 1080 has worked effectively and continues to do so but one of the biggest setbacks is that it can kill native animals and will definitely kill domestic dogs if they get into contact with it.

For this reason some graziers decline to let baiting occur on their properties and it's the main reason the Invasive animals CRC is hoping to introduce other products called PAPP, M44 Cyanide ejectors and lethal trap devices.

Simon Humphries is the commercialisation manager with the Invasive Animals CRC and says PAPP has just been allowed in New Zealand and they hope to have it on the Australian market in 18 months.

He says PAPP reduces the amount of oxygen carried in red blood cells which means the dog goes to sleep before dying.

M44 ejectors are already used in the US and have been studied in Australia for quite some years but have never been released.

Simon Humphries says they are a spring loaded mechanism that fires off as an animal pulls on its bait head.

The spring loaded mechanism pushes whatever chemical you have inside a hollow capsule into the animals mouth.

Mr Humphries says they are working on getting M44 ejectors approved with cyanide and 1080 poison.

Lethal trap devices are being trialled by the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre in Queensland at the moment.

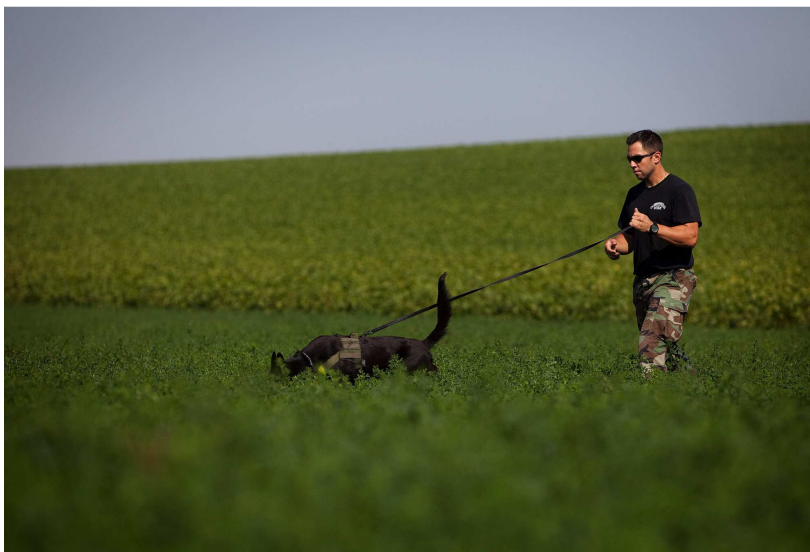
Trapping is a very common method used for dog control and most graziers have a few hanging in their sheds but their use is to hold the dog not kill it.

Simon Humphries is the commercialisation manager with the CRC and says they're hoping to develop a trap that does both.

He says wild dogs usually chew at the trap jaws to try and get out.

They are developing a small tube contains a cyanide paste that can be cable tied to the device and when the animals chews at the trap the cyanide gets in its mouth and its humanely euthanased.

New wild dog poison



Finding a new lethal bait to control wild dogs has been a long and arduous task the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre have set themselves.

But in the pipeline are what it hopes will be an effective and humane product.

Its called PAPP, and excitingly, an antidote is available against the poison meaning that if a working dog accidentally takes the bait it can be saved.

Currently a poison called 1080 and trapping are the only tools available to landholders fighting to control wild dog numbers on their properties.

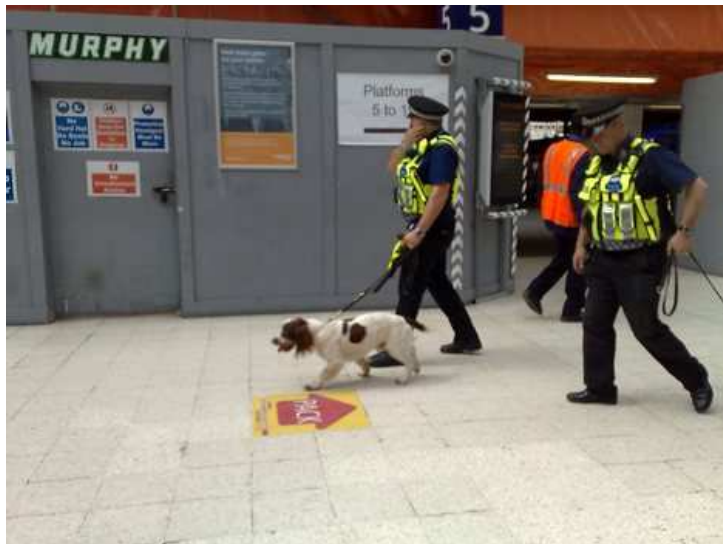
Professor Steve Lapidge from the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre says PAPP was first used in World War One.

He says its currently being registered and is hoped to be on the market by next year.

But the CRC are working on another two devices to control wild dogs.

One is a mechanical ejector which is a spring loaded device that ejects poison into the mouth of a dog when it pulls on it.

The other is a lethal trap device where a tube of poison is attached to the jaws of the trap which quickly kills the dog when it gets caught.



Sodium fluoroacetate is the organofluorine chemical compound with the formula $\text{FCH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Na}$. This colourless salt has a taste similar to that of sodium chloride and is used as a metabolic poison. It occurs naturally as an anti-herbivore metabolite in various plants but can also be produced synthetically. It is a derivative of fluoroacetic acid, a carboxylic acid. It is sold as a pesticide under the name "1080". The more common fluorinated acetic acid trifluoroacetic acid and its derivatives are far less toxic.

history and production

The effectiveness of sodium fluoroacetate as a rodenticide was reported in 1942.^[1] The name "1080" refers to the catalogue number of the poison, which became its brand name.^[2]

The salt is synthesized by treating sodium chloroacetate with potassium fluoride.^[3]

The only company now producing 1080 is the Tull Chemical Company in Alabama USA, who export the material to Mexico & Israel (as a rodenticide), Australia (where its used to kill dingoes, wild dogs and foxes) and New Zealand (for possum control). 1080 use in the USA itself is tightly controlled, and it may only be used in chemical collars on domestic herbivores, to kill coyotes.

Occurrence



Dichapetalum cymosum

Fluoroacetate occurs naturally in at least 40 plants in Australia, Brazil, and Africa. It was first identified in the poison leaf (gifblaar) *Dichapetalum cymosum* by Marais in 1944.^{[4][5]} As early as 1904, colonists in Sierra Leone used extracts of *Chailletia toxicaria* which also contains fluoroacetic acid or its salts to poison rats.^{[6][7][8]} Several native Australian plant genera contain the toxin, including: *Gastrolobium*, *Gompholobium*, *Oxylobium*, *Nemcia* and *Acacia*.

Fluoroacetate occurrence in *Gastrolobium* species

Gastrolobium is a genus of flowering plants in the family Fabaceae. There are over 100 species in this genus, and all but two are native to the south west region of Western Australia, where they are known as "poison peas". *Gastrolobium* growing in south western Australia are unique in their ability to concentrate fluoroacetate from low fluorine soils.^[9] Brush-tailed possums, bush rats and western grey kangaroos native to this region are capable of safely eating plants containing fluoroacetate, but livestock and introduced species from elsewhere in Australia are highly-susceptible to the poison,^[10] as are species introduced from outside Australia, such as the red fox. The fact that many *Gastrolobium* species also have high secondary toxicity to non-native carnivores is thought to have limited the ability of cats to establish populations in locations where the plants form a major part of the understorey vegetation.^[11]

The presence of *Gastrolobium* species in the fields of farmers in Western Australia has often forced these farmers to 'scalp' their land, that is remove the top soil and any poison pea seed which it may contain, and replace it with a new poison pea-free top soil sourced from elsewhere in which to sow crops. Similarly, following bushfires in north-western Queensland cattlemen have to move livestock before the poisonous *Gastrolobium grandiflorum* emerges from the ashes.^[12]

Toxicology

Fluoroacetate is toxic to all obligate aerobic organisms and highly toxic to mammals and insects.^[2] The oral dose of fluoroacetate sufficient to be lethal in humans is 2–10 mg/kg.^[13]

The toxicity varies with species. The New Zealand Food Safety Authority established lethal doses for a number of species. Dogs, cats and pigs appear to be most susceptible to poisoning.^[14]

The enzyme fluoroacetate dehalogenase has been discovered in a soil bacterium, which can detoxify fluoroacetate in the surrounding medium.

Mechanism of action

Fluoroacetate is similar to acetate, which has a pivotal role in cellular metabolism. Fluoroacetate disrupts the citric acid cycle (also known as the Krebs cycle) by combining with coenzyme A to form fluoroacetyl CoA, which reacts with citrate synthase to produce fluorocitrate. A metabolite of fluorocitrate binds very tightly to aconitase, thereby halting the citric acid cycle. This inhibition results in an accumulation of citrate in the blood which deprives cells of energy.^[2]

Symptoms

In humans, the symptoms of poisoning normally appear between 30 minutes and three hours after exposure. Initial symptoms typically include nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain; sweating, confusion and agitation follow. In significant poisoning, cardiac abnormalities including tachycardia or bradycardia, hypotension and ECG changes develop. Neurological effects include muscle twitching and seizures; consciousness becomes progressively impaired after a few hours leading to coma. Death is normally due to ventricular arrhythmias, progressive hypotension unresponsive to treatment, and secondary lung infections.^[2]

Symptoms in domestic animals vary: dogs tend to show nervous system signs such as convulsions, vocalization and uncontrollable running, whilst large herbivores such as cattle and sheep more predominantly show cardiac signs.^[15]

Sub-lethal doses of sodium fluoroacetate may cause damage to tissues with high energy needs — in particular, the brain, gonads, heart, lungs and fetus. Sub-lethal doses are typically completely metabolised and excreted within four days.^[16]

Treatment

Effective antidotes are unknown. Research in monkeys has shown that the use of glyceryl monoacetate can prevent problems if given after ingestion of sodium fluoroacetate, and this therapy has been tested in domestic animals with some positive results. In theory, glyceryl monoacetate supplies acetate ions to allow continuation of cellular respiration which the sodium fluoroacetate had disrupted.^[17]

Experiments of Dr Goncharov and co-workers resulted in development of a successful therapeutic complex, containing a phenothiazine compound, a dioic acid compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In another aspect the pharmaceutical composition can include a phenothiazine compound, a nitroester compound, ethanol and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.^[18]

In clinical cases, use of muscle relaxants, anti-convulsants, mechanical ventilation, and other supportive measures may all be required. Few animals or people have been treated successfully after significant sodium fluoroacetate ingestions.^[19]

Sodium fluoroacetate is used as a pesticide, especially for mammalian pest species. Farmers and graziers use the poison to protect pastures and crops from various herbivorous mammals. In New Zealand and Australia it is also used to control invasive non-native mammals that predate or compete with native wildlife and vegetation.



Australia

Sign warning of poisonous sodium fluoroacetate baits

In Australia, sodium fluoroacetate was first used in rabbit control programmes in the early 1950s, where it is regarded as having "a long history of proven effectiveness and safety".^[20] It is seen as a critical component of the integrated pest control programmes for rabbits, foxes, wild dogs, and feral pigs. Since 1994, broad-scale fox control using 1080 meat baits in Western Australia has significantly improved the population numbers of several native species and led, for the first time, to three species of mammals being taken off the state's endangered species list. In Australia, minor direct mortality of native animal populations from 1080 baits is regarded as acceptable, compared to the predatory and competitive effects of those introduced species being managed using 1080.^[21]

Western Shield is a project to boost populations of endangered mammals in south-west Australia conducted by the DEC. The project entails distributing fluoroacetate baited meat from the air to kill predators. Wild dogs and foxes will readily eat the baited meat. Cats pose a greater difficulty as they are generally not interested in scavenging. However, an Australian RSPCA commissioned study criticized 1080, calling it an inhumane killer.^[22] Some Western Australian herbivores have, by natural selection, developed partial immunity to the effects of fluoroacetate,^[23] so that its use as a poison has the advantage of reduced collateral damage to native herbivores.

In 2011, over 3,750 toxic baits containing 3ml of 1080 were laid across 520 hectares between the Tasmanian settlements of Southport and Hobart as part of an ongoing attempt at the world's biggest invasive animal eradication operation – the eradication of red foxes from the island state. The baits were spread at the rate of one per 10 hectares and were buried, to mitigate the risk to non-target wildlife species like Tasmanian devils.^[24]

Native animals are also targeted with 1080. During May 2005 up to 200,000 Bennetts wallabies on King Island were intentionally killed in one of the largest coordinated 1080 poisonings seen in Tasmania;^{[25][26]}

Worldwide, New Zealand is the largest user of sodium fluoroacetate.^[131] This high usage is attributable to the fact that New Zealand has no native land mammals, and those that have been introduced have had devastating effects on vegetation and native species. 1080 is used to control possums, rats, stoats, and rabbits.^[27] The largest users are the Animal Health Board and the Department of Conservation.

United States

Sodium fluoroacetate is used in the United States to kill coyotes.^[28] Prior to 1972 when the EPA cancelled all uses, sodium fluoroacetate was used much more widely as a cheap^[29] predicide and rodenticide; in 1985, the restricted-use "toxic collar" approval was finalized.^[30]

1080 is used as a rodenticide in Mexico, Japan, and Israel.^{[2][31]}

Since 1080 is highly water soluble, it will be dispersed and diluted in the environment by rain and stream water. Sodium monofluoroacetate at the concentrations found in the environment after standard baiting operations will break down in natural water containing living organisms, such as aquatic plants or micro-organisms. Water-monitoring surveys, conducted during the 1990s, have confirmed that significant contamination of waterways following aerial application of 1080 bait is unlikely.^[32] Research by NIWA showed that 1080 deliberately placed in small streams for testing was undetectable after 8 hours.^[33]



Synthesis of fluoroacetate from fluoride, glycerol, and beta-hydroxypruvate by *Streptomyces cattleya*.

Streptomyces cattleya produces fluoroacetate and 4-fluorothreonine from inorganic fluoride added to the culture broth. We have shown by ^{19}F nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometry that fluoroacetate is accumulated first in the culture broth and that accumulation of 4-fluorothreonine is next. To show precursors of the carbon skeleton of fluoroacetate, we carried out tracer experiments with various ^{14}C - and ^{13}C -labeled compounds. Radioactivity of [^{14}C]glucose, [^{14}C]glycerol, [^{14}C]serine, and [^{14}C]beta-hydroxyppyruvate was incorporated into fluoroacetate to an extent of 0.2 to 0.4%, whereas [^{14}C]pyruvate, [^{14}C]succinate, and [^{14}C]aspartate were less efficiently incorporated (0.04 to 0.08%). The addition of [^{13}C]glycerol to the mycelium suspension of *Streptomyces cattleya* caused exclusive enrichment of the carboxyl carbon of fluoroacetate with ^{13}C ; about 40% of carboxyl carbon of fluoroacetate was labeled with ^{13}C . We studied the radioactivity incorporation of [^{14}C]-, [^{14}C]-, and [^{14}C]beta-hydroxyppyruvates to show that C-2 and C-3 of beta-hydroxyppyruvate are exclusively converted to the carbon skeleton of fluoroacetate. These results suggest that the carbon skeleton of fluoroacetate derives from C-1 and C-2 of glycerol through beta-hydroxyppyruvate, whose hydroxyl group is eventually replaced by fluoride.

1080 Poison

Compound 1080 or sodium monofluoroacetate, is a naturally occurring compound produced by many species of Australian plant. Sodium monofluoroacetate occurs naturally in about 40 native plant species in Australia, primarily of the genera, *Gastrolobium*, which grow in Western Australia, across northern Australia in the Northern Territory and in central Queensland. No fluoroacetate bearing plants are known to occur in Tasmania or the other southern States.

Compound 1080 is a white fluffy powder that is odourless and tasteless. 1080 was first synthesised in Europe in 1896 and developed in the USA as a rodenticide during the 1940s. It was first used as a rabbit poison in Tasmania in 1952. It is now widely used in Australia and New Zealand to control pest animals.

How it is used

The Department of Primary Industries and Water is the only importer of 1080 into Tasmania and only authorised officers of the Department handle the poison. The powder is dissolved in water to make a 1.5 per cent solution. This is coloured blue to give it a distinctive appearance to avoid accidental misuse and to reduce its acceptability to birds.

In the field, it is mixed with bait material, usually chopped carrot, to provide a final concentration of 0.014 per cent of the active ingredient.

Wild animals such as wallabies and possums may only be poisoned where officially permitted by the Wildlife Management officers of the Department of Primary Industries and Water. Such permits will only be issued if poisoning is an essential element of their wildlife management program.



Species Susceptibility

The relative toxicity of 1080 to various animals is shown in table 1. Dogs and cats are highly susceptible. Next are all herbivores. Rats, wombats and humans are less susceptible, while quolls, Tasmanian devils and nearly all birds have a high tolerance to 1080 poison.

Table 1: Relative susceptibility of various animals to 1080 poison

	Lethal dose mg 1080/kg body weight	Relative tolerance dog = 1
Dog	0.06	1
Cat	0.4	6
Bennett's Wallaby	<0.2	3
Pademelon	0.13	2
Rabbit	0.4	7
Cattle, sheep, deer	0.2-0.6	3-10
Possum	0.7	12
Rat	1.0	17
Wombat	1.5	25
Man	2.0	40
Eastern quoll	3.7	60
Tasmanian devil	4.2	70
Mouse	13	220
Birds	3-19	50-300

Secondary poisoning

As can be seen from Table 1, dogs and cats are very susceptible to 1080 poisoning so every precaution should be taken to prevent dogs from eating poisoned carcasses.



If a dog or cat ate a pademelon poisoned with 1080, it could obtain a lethal dose of the poison. In fact, one dead pademelon could contain enough 1080 to poison 12 dogs or 9 cats. Other carnivorous animals and birds are not likely to be killed by secondary poisoning as they would need to eat their own weight in poisoned rabbits to obtain a lethal dose (see Table 2). 

Table 2: Amounts of poisoned Pademelon likely to be fatal to various carnivores

Carnivore and weight	Number of Pademelons
Dog (10 kg)	1/12 or 510 gms
Cat (2 kg)	1/9 or 660 gms
Man (70 kg)	6 - 20
Eastern quoll (1.2 kg)	2/3 or 3900 gms
Tasmanian devil (5 kg)	3
Eagle (4 kg)	5

These figures are approximate and assume that:

1. the pademelon weighed 6 kg and ate 50 g of carrot bait, and
2. 1080 is evenly distributed through the carcass.

Actually the poison is present in larger concentrations in the stomach and some other organs such as liver, heart, lung, kidneys and brain. Carnivores which show a liking for these organs therefore have an increased susceptibility to secondary poisoning. 

Symptoms

There is some debate about the humaneness of 1080. However, this is less so in respect of its effect on herbivores, including target species such as rabbits and wallabies. Herbivores typically show no obvious signs of poisoning until their sudden collapse. Some herbivorous animals experience convulsions, others simply lie still, breathing slowly, until death occurs. Death in herbivores is typically the result of ventricular fibrillation (heart irregularities). Symptoms of nervous distress are seen in dogs, cats, and man, but from reports from men who have recovered, no pain is felt. Rabbits and wallabies usually die several hours after eating the bait and so die some distance from the burrow. The number of dead animals found near the burrow therefore cannot be used to assess the efficiency of the poisoning program.

Effect on the Environment

In use, 1080 does not accumulate in the environment. It is applied locally at relatively small rates and is readily degraded in soils, surface waters and by micro-organisms.

The usual fate of 1080 in baits is to be consumed by the target pests in the days or weeks following baiting.

Most of the 1080 ingested by animals is rapidly metabolised and/or excreted, with only low levels retained in the carcass.

Poisoning of non-target animals may occur with 1080 baiting. However, the impacts are either localised, or limited to individual animals and do not result in significant adverse effects on the non-target animals at a population level.

Careful attention to the selection of bait material, amount of 1080 in each bait, timing and placement of baits combined with preliminary free feeding to reduce bait shyness, increases the acceptance of poisoned baits by target animals.



Comparison with other Poisons

Strychnine is the main legal alternative poison used in vertebrate pest control in Australia, although its use is restricted in Tasmania.

It is inferior to 1080 because:

- It is less humane, causing a violent death with convulsions and pain. The onset of symptoms is quick but death may not occur for 2 hours or more.
- It is less specific; all species of animals and birds are susceptible.
- It produces a violent death near the burrow, disturbing other rabbits so that fewer rabbits are killed.
- It has a bitter taste, is not water soluble and is more difficult to use.
- It is more dangerous. A child would be readily killed by one piece of apple poisoned with strychnine, but would need to eat at least 15 pieces of carrot poisoned with 1080.
- It is not broken down on the bait or in the soil.

Other poisons, such as organophosphates, may not be used legally for vertebrate pest control. These poisons are totally non-selective and their use could threaten the survival of some species, particularly predator birds such as hawks and eagles.

Pindone is used for rabbit control in areas where there is an increased risk of secondary poisoning of dogs. It is an anticoagulant, and there is an antidote available, but native carnivores and birds of prey may be at greater risk from eating poisoned carcasses.



Summary

Compound 1080 is the most effective vertebrate pest poison currently available. It is relatively species-specific, it is relatively humane in terms of its effects on herbivores and it is biodegradable.

There is a definite risk of accidental poisoning of sheep, cattle, goats, horses and pigs, so every care must be taken to keep stock away from a poisoned area until all uneaten poisoned bait is removed.

There is a high risk of secondary poisoning if dogs eat poisoned rabbits or wallabies.

Poisoned animals are not found near the burrow so a count of carcasses cannot be used to assess the effectiveness of the control operation.

Chocolate contains Theobromine and caffeine which are both toxic to dogs and cats. Baking chocolate contains more of these chemicals than milk chocolate does, but both forms can be potentially lethal. A small dog can receive a lethal amount in only two or three squares of baking chocolate. Tea and coffee contain the same chemicals, and can also be lethal depending on the amount ingested. Warning signs include excitement, nervousness, muscle spasms, seizures, and increased body temperature. Veterinary treatment is recommended as soon as possible.

Poisonous plants in the home such as amaryllis, asparagus ferns, crown of thorns, ivy plants, and chrysanthemum plants are toxic to dogs and cats. Signs of plant poisoning are vomiting, abdominal pain, tremors, convulsions, and increases respiratory rate. Outdoor plants such as castor beans, daffodils, bitter-sweet, Indian tobacco, azalea, cherry laurel, hemlock, oleander, and yew are also toxic to pets and will produce the same effects. Only veterinary treatment will be effective.

Chemical poisons can include dish water granules, oven cleaners, furniture polish, toilet bowl cleaner, shoe polishes, floor polishes, bleach, ammonia, detergents, drain openers, kerosene, paint stripper, and paint removers, paint thinners, gasoline, wood preservatives, antifreeze and most other petroleum based products. Most cleaning products will destroy bodily tissues by acid or alkaline burns in the mouth and throat, accompanied by damage to the stomach, intestines and other internal organs. Antifreeze has a sweet taste that dogs and cats will lick. A dog that consumes only a half teaspoonful of antifreeze per pound of its body weight will have severe damage to its nervous system and kidneys. Signs of poisoning by chemicals are loss of coordination, vomiting, collapsing, convulsions, and coma. Veterinary treatment must be started immediately, and do not induce vomiting.

Pesticide poisoning occurs daily due to the extensive use of pesticides used around our homes and businesses. Ant poisons contain organophosphates or carbonates, both are toxic and can cause muscle tremors, nervousness, and convulsions. Snail baits and pellets contain the toxic metaldehyde causing tremors, rapid breathing, convulsions, coma, and death. Emergency veterinary treatment is required for both ant and snail poisons.

Rat and mouse poisons are typically the most lethal of all commercially used pesticides. Toxic chemicals in these poisons include warfarin, sodium fluoroacetate, strychnine, ANTU, bromethalin, cholecalciferol, phosphorus, red squill, zinc phosphide, and aluminum phosphide. By design, these poisons work in one of three ways, as anticoagulants, causing death by internal and external bleeding, signs include nasal bleeding, vomiting blood, blood in urine, weakness, poor coordination, abdominal pain and rapid breathing.

Poisons that do not contain anticoagulants affect the nervous system, causing hyper excitability, muscle tremors, seizures, and kidney and heart failure. The last group is the phosphorus containing poisons that damage the liver. Early signs are vomiting, bloody diarrhea, abdominal pain and a yellow color to the skin and mouth. Phosphorus poisoning is usually fatal due to the irreversible internal damage done to the animal.

Mouse and Rat Poisons: Dangers to your dog and cat

By Liz Greenlee, CVT, EMT and Ahna Brutlag, DVM

Poisoning from rodenticides (mouse and rat poisons) is one of the most common types of toxicities managed by Pet Poison Helpline. These poisons are easy to obtain and used anywhere there might be rodents—in homes, garages, stables, farms and even parks or wildlife areas. There are many different types of mouse and rat poisons available in a wide variety of colors (green, blue, tan, red, etc.) and formulations (pellets, bait blocks, grain-based baits, etc). Products which look similar and have similar names may contain very different types of poison. Thus, if a pet ingests mouse or rat poison, accurate identification of the active ingredient is crucial as this will determine the risk of poisoning and the need for treatment. If the active ingredient is not clearly visible on the packaging, another important identifier is the EPA registration number (EPA Reg. No.) – this number will allow Pet Poison Helpline veterinarians to correctly identify the active ingredient.

Below are the four most common active ingredients in mouse and rat poisons along with their mechanism of action, signs of poisoning, toxic doses and treatment options. If a dog or cat ingests one of these poisons, call your veterinarian and Pet Poison Helpline immediately! Rapid action can often save a pet's life and prevent the need for costly medical care.

LONG-ACTING ANTICOAGULANTS (LAACS): Long-acting anticoagulants (LAACs) are the most common and well known type of mouse and rat poisons.

Mechanism of action: This type of poison prevents the blood from clotting, resulting in internal bleeding. Long-acting anticoagulants work similarly to the “blood thinner” medications that people take (e.g., warfarin or Coumadin®). When dogs or cats ingest LAACs, it typically takes 3-5 days before signs of poisoning are visible. However, if the pet has been chronically exposed to the product, the onset of clinical signs may be sooner.

Common signs of poisoning: Signs of internal bleeding include lethargy, exercise intolerance, coughing, difficulty breathing (due to bleeding into the lungs), weakness, and pale gums. Less common signs include vomiting, diarrhea (with or without blood), nose bleeds, bruising, bloody urine, swollen joints, inappetance, and bleeding from the gums.

Antidote and treatment: Fortunately, this specific type of mouse and rat poison does have a prescription antidote called Vitamin K1. Over-the-counter medications or food with high vitamin K content will not be sufficient substitutes. Most pets need to be treated with Vitamin K1 for 30 days. Two days after the last dose of Vitamin K1 is administered, a blood clotting test called a prothrombin (PT) should be checked to make sure the clotting is normal.

Threat: The dose needed to cause poisoning from LAACs varies greatly between active ingredients. With some types (e.g., brodifacoum), it only takes a very small amount to cause poisoning. Other types have a wider margin of safety (e.g., bromadiolone) and it takes a larger amount to cause poisoning. The age and health of the pet may be another factor determining whether or not the amount ingested will be poisonous. Animals with underlying liver or gastrointestinal disease, as well as the very young or very old, are more at risk. Certain species, such as

cats, are more resistant to the effects of LAACs and rarely suffer poisoning. Dogs, on the other hand, can be quite sensitive and often require veterinary intervention.

CHOLECALCIFEROL (VITAMIN D3): This is one of the most dangerous mouse and rat poisons on the market and seems to be gaining in popularity.

Method of action: This poison causes a very high calcium and phosphorus level in the body, resulting in severe, acute kidney failure.

- Common signs of poisoning: Increased thirst and urination, weakness, lethargy, a decreased appetite, and halitosis (“uremic” breath). Acute kidney failure develops 2-3 days after ingestion. Often by this point, significant and permanent damage has already occurred to the body.
- Antidote and treatment: This type of poisoning can be one of the most challenging to treat as hospitalization, frequent laboratory monitoring and expensive therapy is often required for a positive outcome. There is no specific antidote, but poisoning generally responds well to aggressive IV fluids (for 2-3 days) and specific drugs (e.g., diuretics, steroids,

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calcitonin and bisphosphonates) to decrease calcium levels in the body. Frequent monitoring of blood work (calcium, phosphorus, and kidney values) is often needed for a period of 2-6 weeks after ingestion.

- Threat: Cholecalciferol has a very narrow margin of safety, and even small ingestions of this poison can result in severe clinical signs or death. Toxic ingestions must be treated quickly and appropriately to prevent kidney failure.

BROMETHALIN: This type of mouse and rat poison causes swelling of the brain. Because the ingredient name looks similar to many of the LAAC poisons, it can easily be mistaken for a LAAC.

Method of action: Bromethalin works by uncoupling oxidative phosphorylation in the brain and liver mitochondria and can result in brain swelling (cerebral edema).

Common signs of poisoning: Incoordination (ataxia), tremors, seizures, paralysis, and eventually death. The more an animal eats, the more severe the clinical signs may be. Signs can develop within 2 hours, but may be delayed as long as 36 hours. Thus, medical monitoring for at least 24 hours after ingestion is often necessary.

Antidote and treatment: In-hospital care for a few days may be necessary because this poison has long-lasting effects. Treatment includes decontamination (administering multiple doses of activated charcoal to bind up the poison), IV fluids, and specific drugs to decrease brain swelling.

Threat: With bromethalin, cats are more sensitive than dogs. As this type of mouse and rat poison has a narrow margin of safety, prompt therapy is often needed in all species.

ZINC AND ALUMINUM PHOSPHIDES: These poisons are more commonly found in mole or gopher baits, but they also may appear in mouse and rat baits. This poison is of particular concern as inhalation of the fumes from a pet's vomit may cause lung irritation to both the pet and the pet owner.

Method of action: Once in the stomach, this poison releases phosphine gas. Food in the stomach will increase the amount of gas produced and, therefore, increase the toxicity of the poison. Therefore, feeding of pets after ingestion of this poison is never recommended.

Common signs of poisoning: The phosphine gas produced by this poison can result in stomach bloating, vomiting, abdominal pain, shock, collapse, seizures and liver damage.

Antidote and treatment: This poison does not have an antidote and immediate therapy should be sought by calling Pet Poison Helpline and seeking veterinary attention. Administration of antacids (e.g., Maalox®) soon after ingestion may help to decrease the amount of gas produced. Prompt decontamination of the stomach [by inducing vomiting or performing gastric lavage (pumping the stomach)] is necessary. During decontamination, care should be taken to prevent hospital personnel from being exposed to the phosphine gas. Given the potential risk this gas poses for people, vomiting is best induced by veterinary professionals (not pet owners) in a well-ventilated area or outdoors.

Threat: The toxic dose is very small and nearly all patients ingesting this poison need to be examined by a veterinarian to determine if treatment is necessary. If the pet vomits in the car while en route to the veterinary clinic, the windows should be rolled down to prevent inhalation of phosphine gas.

Poisonous to Dogs - Toxic Plants and Flowers

Pet owners need to be aware that some common garden plants and flowers could be toxic to their pets, causing sickness and diarrhoea with severe cases of poisoning leading to coma and death. You may also be interested in [Foods to Avoid Feeding to Your Dog](#).

Pets can be poisoned by plants if they eat or even just chew part of the plant, the flower, the bulb or the plant leaves. Flowers heavy in pollen can also drop pollen onto the pet's coat, which could then be licked off and ingested by your pet.

If you are unsure about the toxicity of plants and flowers in your garden, talk to your garden centre and consult relevant specialist publications and web pages. See our 'Comprehensive Lists of Plants Toxic to Dogs' section below to read more detailed research that has taken place into plants that are poisonous to pets.

However, directly below we have attempted to give a basic guide to some of the more common plants and flowers that can be toxic to dogs.

The PDSA produced the following list

Daffodil (especially the bulbs)

Castor oil bush (dogs love the seeds)

Cherry laurel (common hedging plant)

Laburnum (and related species)

Lilies / Lily of the Valley (especially toxic to cats)

Philodendron (popular ornamental house plant)

Other common plants and flowers worth mentioning

Azalea

Foxgloves

Ivy (some species)

Rhubarb

Yew

Comprehensive lists of plants toxic to dogs

1) Cornell University Poisonous Plants Informational Database

Created by professors, staff, graduate and undergraduate students at Cornell University. You can search their pages by the plants' common name or scientific name, or even by plant category.

2) Animal Poison Control Center (ASPCA) has a very informative list of toxic plants. Click on a plant name for more information, likely effects and even a helpful picture of the plant.

3) Dogs Trust List of Poisonous Plants, Garden And Household Substances (pdf)

General symptoms of poisoning

Oral or skin irritation

Upset stomach / Vomiting / Diarrhoea

Weakness

Rapid breathing

Fever

Drooling

Coma

Heart failure

Depression

Excitability or lethargy

Tremors / Seizures / Fitting

Increased Thirst

Dilated Pupils

Dizziness / Loss of Balance

Disorientation

Contact your vet immediately if you think your pet has eaten any toxic plants, flowers, or in fact any toxic items or substances.

Cocoa mulch, pesticides and pellets

Please also note that using cocoa mulch on your flower beds is not advised as it is potentially lethal to dogs. There may or may not be a warning on the products packaging, so beware. Pet owners also need to take care when using pellets, pesticides and other garden chemicals. Before purchasing any chemicals for your garden and plants, read the labels carefully to make sure they are safe for pets. Better still, why not research more organic, friendly methods of pest control.

I answered the phone last week to a friend shrieking in my ear: "Spike ate roses!" After calming her down, I learned my friend's terrier, Spike, had eaten roses. My friend wanted to know what the roses would do to him? Thankfully, roses will only make his breath smell better. Spike was fortunate this time. However, the consumption of some flowers and plants can cause reactions varying from a mild rash to death.

Below is a list of many common flowers and plants that are toxic to dogs. Let your cursor hover over an item to see a picture and find out more information.

Flowers and plants that cause rashes

(Dermatitis)

- Cactus
- Chrysanthemums
- Ficus
- Poison Ivy
- Poison Oak
- Pothos Ivy (in small amounts)
- Primerose
- Schefflera

- Sumac

Flowers and plants that cause upset stomachs

(Vomiting, diarrhea, and gas)

- Amaryllis
- Aster
- Baby's Breath (Gypsophila)
- Boxwood
- Cala Lily
- Carnation
- Chrysanthemums
- Clematis
- Cyclamen
- Daffodil (Jonquil)
- English Ivy
- Freesia
- Gladiolas
- Holly
- Hyacinth
- Hydrangea
- Kalanchoe
- Peony
- Morning Glory
- Poinsettia
- Pothos Ivy
- Schefflera
- Tulip

Flowers and plants that cause organ damage

(Kidney, liver, stomach, heart, etc.)

- Azalea (in small amounts)
- Crocus
- Foxglove
- Juniper

Flowers and plants that cause death

- Agapanthus
- Azalea (in large amounts)
- Cyclamen
- Delphinium
- Dumb Cane (Dieffenbachia)
- Foxglove
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Mistletoe
- Oleander
- Rhododendron
- Sago Palms

Because contact with some flowers and plants can cause reactions varying from an itch to death, it is best to teach your dog not to eat plants and flowers. Just as we baby proof our home for a new child, we must also dog proof our home for our four legged children. **Note this is a partial list of the most common plants and flowers. Should your dog eat a plant or flower, call your local poison control office or veterinarian. They can answer any questions and advise in actions needed to counteract poisons.



For what ever reason you may want to evade dogs or if your being chased by the police then this article is for you. This article is for educational purposes only or for if you are a POW.

1 Learn that when you are being chased the searchers will be looking for footprints, old campsites, survival shelters, discarded equipment, human waste and other signs. Also if you're in the countryside farmers will be able to spot tracks or other disturbances and will contact local authorities.

2 Know that the night time is the safest time to move. This has the advantage of allowing you to move when its is cold(so you don't perspire) and to sleep when it is slightly warmer. However this may not be possible in difficult terrain such as mountains, jungles or swamps. Other obstacles like slopes, cliffs, tree roots or branches can cause serious injury as well as create unnecessary noise. If doing this use a long thick stick to probe in front of you.

3 Learn that your route should skirt around heavily populated area like cities, towns, and suburbs. If someone does see you you should:

4 Put on a bold front, don't appear "furtive," this arouses suspicion.

5 Get some "normal clothing" nothing flashy or expensive.

6 Keep clean.

7 Beware of children, elderly people, and dogs(they are the first to notice strangers).

8 Never move on roads. If crossing a road, and if necessary use a diversion. At night, use the noise and light of a passing vehicle to make the crossing.

9 When resting you should only rest for 5-10 minutes every hour and jog. When resting choose naturally cover like a big , dense bush. For overnight stops fallen trees, large bushes or fallen pine boughs will provide concealment.

10 Blood Hounds.These dogs are most likely blood hounds and as a result are mush harder to evade. The vulnerability of these dogs and the team is that the dog and the handlers are connected by a long leash and the stamina of the animal must be match with that of the man. Your main defence is to make evasive movements to destroy the handlers confidence in his dog as well as to move faster than the team.

11 Attack dog. This dog is released to attack and detain the you. Its main weakness is that it must work apart from its handler.

How can I lose or evade a tracking dog?



The weather here gets into the low 100's during the day and the upper 80's at night. Some "friends" of mine are going to try and find me with their tracking hounds. I'm going to have a 5 hour headstart before they know to start looking for me. Any tips on what to do and how to prepare myself before and during my flight would be appreciated.

Since cells can get OUT of a moving vehicle, even with the windows up (that's the truth) I'd say the dogs are gonna find you.

Are they "tracking" dogs, "air scenting" dogs or "trailing" dogs?

LOL some folks seem to lump them all together, but they are different.

A tracking dog follows your path exactly, smelling where you walked, an air scenting dog ranges back and forth smelling the air to find you, a trailing dog combines both techniques.

A tracking dog can track across pavement, brush, you name it, but it is easier to track you through brush/grass. If you cross water the handler will try the dog on the opposite side of the water.

Because a tracking dog needs a point where you were "last seen" you might be able to lose them if you can get up in the trees and move from tree to tree a good distance from where you last had your feet down. The age of the trail impacts tracking dogs more than air scenting dogs.

The air scenting dog is gonna get you even if you cross water because it is following your scent in the air. A properly trained air scenting dog can find something as small as a tooth or a drop of blood or even a dead body submerged in running water. This dog heads for the highest concentration of human scent and doesn't need to follow your path exactly.

Age of the trail is not as important.

Because an air scenting dog is not following a specific person's PATH, but trying to find a concentration of human scent I wonder if you could throw it off a bit by carrying a big bag of someone else's dirty laundry and leaving it someplace and heading downwind as fast as possible. If the dog isn't looking just for YOU then it will head for the biggest concentration of scent.

I would make sure you have plenty of water, cell phone and all the other stuff you should have for a hike in the woods. If these are well trained tracking dogs they should be able to find you but it might take a while.

Letting the track age 5 hours makes me wonder if they are trailing dogs that use a combo of techniques---if so neither of my ideas is worth a hill of beans LOL

Wow that sounds like fun!!! No great ideas for you, I saw the Mythbusters show... my suggestion would be to move fast... double back a couple times.. circle a few times.. maybe try to pull the old coon trick of jumping across things that are above the dog's head level..

Only thing I can suggest is do not use soap w a scent, cologne and go in water..When you sweat it will be easy for them to find you. We have friends w tracking dogs and even water didnt stop them because they were smart enough to know that what goes in one side of the water comes out the other and if they have a cold nose they'd be able to smell your scent over a creek.

Wow that's a really tough thing to do. With it being so hot your sweat will be everywhere.

Water won't do as DP said and maybe the pepper as St.Lady suggested but I would think your sweating would soon have that off of you. Maybe if you hide a bike or a small riding vehicle some where and take off for a few hundred yards.

Unless you could swing from tree to tree to throw the dog off. LOL I don't know. But it does sound like a fun challenge.

go through lots of water and make plenty of circles

Haven't seen this one mentioned, so here goes a take-off on the song...obtain the scent of a female or two in heat. Go two hours in any direction, spraying liberally, then, head three hours in the opposite direction of where you started, and where you sprayed the scent. Fantasy plays a huge part in this scenario. I would never say, "tie real dogs to trees", and don't know if such a product even exists. I'd be interested in knowing what the two true dog experts who've posted answers to this think of this strategy. Anyway, hope they're more bark than bite.

Good luck.. Dogs smell differently than we do ... When you smell a pizza, you smell the whole pizza.. A dog smells cheese, and dough and tomato and bacon.. he breaks down the smells into their individual flavours so to speak.

Plus they are not only smelling YOU, they are also smelling where you broke up the ground, broke off the branch. How you changed the environment around you.

Not only that, but you are dropping dead skin as you move and run.. unless you will be covered completely from head to toe, you will not leave the woods the same way it was when you

arrived.. You will always leave part of you behind for the dogs to find.



Dogs know how to judge how far over the breeze is blowing your scent.. When you run thru water you are still disrupting the environment and leaving your scent.. it just moves over to the shore.. if you run down a road, your scent will fall down into the ditch..

Your chance would be to have a car sitting somewhere, jump into the car and take off.. BUT dogs can also follow your scent .. it just makes it much harder...

Take a 2nd pair of shoes w/ you that you have never touched. Keep your face and all your skin covered and contained as much as possible.

Water isn't a big deal to dogs really. Cadaver dogs can ride in a boat and can smell the bubbles of a dead body at the bottom of the lake... as the bubbles come to the surface...

LOL Good luck, Ive only seen a guy lose a bloodhound once and that was when he really ran a tough trail in the city limits with alot of other people and smells, but a staright track through woods, no way, even trying tactics such as, crossing water or showering backtracking, climbing a tree, hiding using pepper or colone to cover a scent just doesnt work. Have fun, but u will be found.

I've taught tracking for over 20 years. I've had over 300 students who have earned every AKC and Schutzhund tracking title available. I've also worked with some of the local police departments and search and rescue folks.

Simple reply. If these are well prepared dogs, you're out of luck. My guess is that the folks are actually using you to test their dogs.

Dogs can differentiate between identical twins on a track. They have absolutely no problem with going through water. They can handle any type of surface from grass to going through buildings etc. Hot asphalt to wood, to dirt to shoulder high corn fields.

There is nothing you can put on your body to keep them from following your scent. Changing shoes doesn't make one iota of difference. Unless you've learned to fly . . .

Whats the msot effective ways of loosing police dogs? my common sense tells me that jumping fences and crossing water would be the best got any other advice? and is there any chemicals you can put on yourself to hide the sent or to leave on the ground and fuck up the dogs senses?

junkyard dogs will stop for meat or beggin strips. if you get close enough to throw cayenna pepper on a dogs nose it will stop. supposedly pissing on a dog's face will make it stop. Most likely though, you won't be close enough for any of these tips, plus these are trained police dogs. Gaining height is the best way to evade them. Bloodhounds and probley other dogs can track scents even through water. German shepards are a pretty good swimming race. Not as good as a st. bernard or shiba inu but still can get out and then sprint at you. Chemical wise, blood, shit, or piss will attract them even more if they catch your scent. If your just running from them, just put as many things between you and it as possible. fences, cars, houses, busy streets, etc. Height is still the best option though.

Get some bear mace and jump fences/run through water.

I met a guy from Guam who escaped from US Army Basic Training. They thought he had his M16A4 with him, so they sent dogs after him. He made a spear and used it to kill a deer Then, he cut the deer open and soaked his boot in the deer blood and continued to escape. According to this guy, the deer blood through the dogs off his scent.

The other advice I've heard is as follows:

The dogs are followed by guys. Wherever you go, the dogs will follow. Wherever the dogs go, the guys looking for you will follow. Go through very dense, thorny brush. Make the dogs (and the guys who are following them) lose their enthusiasm for following you.

cayenne pepper, waterways, fresh steaks, ammonia, silenced 9mm, I hate those fuckers...I got sniffed out one time, while getting pulled over I busted a whole bottle of cologne on a ummm package...the smelt, i was sweating but showing coolness. the bastards didnt even hit it.....Back in the slavery days, some would use a very fresh ground cayenne peppers to alter/confuse. dogs smelling ability

The trick is making trails around the area to confuse the dog beforehand, red herrings, cayenne pepper, and defeating the handler rather than the dog. Covered extensively in SAS manuals.

As already said, check the SAS manuals, from what I remember it's more effective to beat the handler than the dog...

Just remembered something, when a dog is following your trail it does it by constantly zig-zagging across it, one way to throw them off is to make sharp 90 degree breaks in your direction of travel at regular intervals.

Also, it might be worth looking into what was dropped by parachute to the resistance during WWII, as I know the canisters sometimes contained a mix of something made specifically to numb a dog's sense of smell for use when you're on the run from the Nazis, or trying to smuggle refugees out of occupied areas.

Best way to escape anything is to go through the most difficult and uncomfortable terrain to traverse possible. Very dense, thorny bush is a good idea, if you are equipped to take it. The one time I ran from cops I ran straight up a hill through thorns into woods with fallen logs and shit and down a hill. I'm pretty sure I lost the cop about halfway through that, although he didn't have that much reason to chase me in the first place, so he was probably like fuck it.

In a city environment - high rises, appartments, etc. Anywhere with alot more scents then say, the street. If it's raining, then it is good as the handler wont be able to see and the dog will get pissed off aswell.

In the country, get into a tree/run until you reach a town/urban environment. Country is by far the hardest, but it is possible. Really thick, spikey bush will usually stop the dog, unless the handler is an asshole and forces it through.

Final resort, knock the dog out and kill the handler. The dog doesnt deserve to die, but the handler is an exception.

Water or as the guy before suggested, a car. If you swim for like 20 minutes (not just crossing a river - they would probably pick the scent back up.). Dogs can't follow your scent in the water. It may be true that getting wet makes your scent easier to follow, but unless the dog is very close (and after 20 mins of swimming you'd hope not) then it doesn't stand a chance It's not like it can

smell you half a mile away.

Oh and i've seen dogs climb over 6ft+ fences in two bounds. A lot quicker than you could. But you'd need some distance for any of this shit.

Police dogs are kinda hard to lose. They are trained internationally and then the states buy them when they are ready. The dogs are super obedient to their owners, the police, and would most likely listen to them and them only. I know cause I've had some insight on the whole canine unit shit. The dogs live with the police officer and all that stuff, and those dogs are loyal as shit. Even if you knew their commands and they're coming after you, it isn't likely that they will listen to you. But if you want to, learn a few languages. German is pretty common, but last I remember, they are starting to get their dogs from the Netherlands and Belgium.

There is NOTHING that will immunize an area from the approach of a drug-detection dog. However, there ARE certain chemicals that may interfere with the dog's perception of smell. One is cayenne pepper. Another is ammonia and camphor. A third is Citronella oil.

Cayenne pepper is too spicy and irritates a dog's nose, thus persuading him against trying harder to perform any decent detection. Ammonia is another strong chemical and is actually used alongside Camphor as a method of halting a pursuing police tracking dog because it is too powerful for the dog to continue tracking. Explanation: Tracking dogs track people through the miniscule secretions of ammonia the human body releases. Overloading a dog's senses with ammonia is roughly comparable to dropping a room full of people directly on top of a tracking dog without notice. Citronella oil is a common ingredient in many insect repellants and obedience collars. This smell is also incredibly unenjoyable for a pooch if held in concentration.

All in all, there is ZERO chance of completely removing the threat of a drug dog's powerful nose, but there are many actions when, combined together, can greatly reduce one's chances of being discovered by a dog. I don't condone relying on this to think you have the system beat because nothing can be completely fool-proof. Best air on the side of caution. However, it doesn't hurt to keep a small bit of ammonia or citronella (or ammonia AND citronella...use your imaginations 😊) in the bottom of a water bottle easily accessible in a vehicle in case the situation may call for it.

those are all great ways to mess with the dogs nose. but one should be very careful when implementing one of these because police officers are aware of all of this info and look for these things. when using one of these methods, it is essential that it looks ordinary and is not obviously there to fuck with their dog.

Cars that smell like fabric sheets or air freshners or like things that don't belong get searched everytime. Cops aren't stupid people. Just because they can't smell your stash doesn't mean that they aren't aware that cover up scents are present.

If you can beat the cop, you won't have to worry about the dog. Stick it in a mason jar and the smell is gone. Now to beat the dog, you can't contaminate the mason jar, and you only have a limited amount of time before the smell permeates the jar. Dogs can't smell through things, but they don't have to because odors permeate virtually anything within time, usually a short time

to. I've heard many times that vacuum sealed bags that didn't get any contaminants on the outside of the bags are good for an hour at best, and then the dog can smell it. But from a human's nose you have a longer time period.

It's the microscopic dust that the dog smells. Touch your stash and then touch your door handle of your car, and hours later that dog will still alert.

Used to do all sorts of things before I got my card, most were a waste of time.

Contaminate the place with the cannabis odor. Take an old zip lock bag that has been in use for storage and is all covered in resin and such. Turn it inside out, but your hand in it and rub it on things everywhere you can. Have everyone you know smoke do it. Poor dog will alert on everything that was contaminated...to the point the handler will probably pull out the dog because it will look like it isn't able to concentrate.

Remember, the dogs go after smell. When everything smells, sit back and watch the fun.

I worked as a micro lab op (mixed drugs in live stocks feed) we had this stuff called amparall in chicken feed. I had it all over me in my car seats and so on after the years of working there. Well, got me a new job they brought drug dogs in one day and was going through cars in the parking lot I TOLD THEM NOT TO PUT THEIR DOG IN MY CAR AND IF THEY DID I WAS NOT RESPONSIBLE!! I told them this THREE TIMES!! they did it anyways there dog took ONE WIFF and hit the concrete! it's like giving them a pound of speed all at one shot!! I had a dog that we had to take to the vet because of this before and it KILLED IT just like the cops dog!! there drug raid for the day was over they were very very pissed at me and threatened to put me in jail BUT there was like 20 people around that heard me tell them NOT TO DO IT!! the car was listed as contaminated it went to the junk yard!!

trained drug dog if use will trigger a positive on a ton of stuff not even related to drugs which the police like as it gives them plenty of reason to root around saying the dog offered a positive. We got stopped one time in Texas and the cop had his drug dog walk around the car and it wouldn't hit on the car to give him reason to search. He stepped away got the dog's toy out got the dog rowdy then walked it by the car. The dog jumped up by the door since the cop was holding his toy up bamm reasonable search for a positive dog hit. No drugs but nice bit of money. Lost the cash and the vehicle and got dumped on the side of the road with no wallets IDs or cash. Texas blows. It's hard to fool the dogs it can be done but it involves multiple layers of vacuum sealing and air tight non porous materials that have never been within 3 miles of any kind of drug..kitty box no

The best thing you can do is keep quiet, and try not to freak out or act strange. Make sure your grow room is airtight, or/and has a good carbonated filter to diminish the smell of the room. The best way to beat the dog, is to keep the dog from coming in the first place. Spray Febreze close to your front door often, use scented candles, and incense. Cops can post outside your house with a dog, and if the dog smells something, that's probable cause!

not sure if it potpourri, it is that stuff that you spread around carpet to make it smell good. The chemicals in that kill the dogs ability to smell. I only know this because in one of my animal psychology classes a cop and drug dog came in to show how different training worked, he informed us of this little trick that meth heads in Oklahoma use.**

One brand is Carpet Fresh. Now I'm wondering if this stuff I got called Odorcide might also be helpful. I found it because my Ridgie will pee in the house, and she always pees right in front of my F-I-L's bedroom door (she's a pretty dominant dog). Turns out this stuff is used by those people who clean up crime scenes. It's not cheap (about \$30 for a bottle), but it can be diluted to different strengths and for animal pee it definitely works. Has a funky smell for a couple of days then it's like nothing ever happened.

Canines:

The right dog for narcotic detector canine is one that has a strong "ball drive" which is a dog that is naturally "psycho" about finding their ball (or other toy). The officer can scent the toy or ball with a drug and the dog will make the connection between the scent of the drug and his ball.

Barry explains the difference between human and canine noses using "stew" as an analogy. We can see the carrots, corn, peppers, etc.. in the stew but can only smell the combination: the stew. Canines can "see" the different ingredients in the stew with their noses. They smell the carrots, corn, peppers, etc... He says all this to explain that you can not "cover up" or mask the smell of drugs since canines differentiate between the odors. If you cover up the scent with a petroleum product for example, the dog smells gasoline and marijuana - not just gasoline. Masking odors does not work! This includes coffee grounds, mustard, vanilla extract, pepper, fabric softener do not mask the odor of drugs.

Also note that using a strong substance like cayenne pepper or gasoline will cause the narcotic dog to jerk back (because of the powerful scent) which will alert the narcotics officer to something being amiss.

Next Barry discusses how odor permeates its container. So hiding drugs in a gas tank will not work cause over time the odor will permeate the gas tank and a dog will detect the smell. The example he uses is sardines in a zip lock bag. He takes sardines from a can and places them in a zip lock bag at which point no sardine odor is coming from the bag. But after a couple of hours, the odor is detectable because every container is porous to one degree or another and the odor will be detectable by a trained canine. So the dog can't smell "through" anything but the odor does permeate out.

The rate of permeation is different so if you do not contaminate the outside of a container and place a drug inside the container a dog will not alert right away. But over time the odor will permeate anything. So if you are planning on carrying a few joints somewhere get a non-contaminated container (handle with latex gloves) and drop the joints in it and seal it up, a dog should not be able to detect anything for an hour or so.

Contamination should be discussed since touching an illegal substance will contaminate

whatever you touch afterwards like the car door handle (and anything else you touch!) which will cause the canine to alert.

Good ideas for confusing a drug detection canine are: hiding in food (the dog handler may think the dog is just excited about food), an animal in the vehicle being searched (or just the scent of an animal), hunter's scent lures and odors (spray the tires and all around the vehicle), and even nearby roadkill can confuse a drug dog.

False alerting is a real problem in that the handling officer can use their voices (and physical cues) to cause their canines to false alert. and they can then search the vehicle. So even if you do everything right, you can still get screwed.

the easiest way to fuck with a K-9 in your home is to contaminate EVERYTHING!

rub an old baggie that held weed over every fucking thing. the dog will be worthless.

Find out what the dogs treats are... (what the trainers feed them)
put a whole bunch arround your neighbors house...hahahaaa..

It's hella mean but if you really want them to go away..... antifreeze....
would you rather kill a dog or spend 3 years in jail?

one thing that works for all dogs, you take the urine or hormones of a female dog who is in heat(ready to bear puppies) and rub that shit every where except by your grow room.... this is like porn for dogs, they go crazy sniffing and what not...

and rub it on the ground where a cop may step so the dog sniffs him too

Contrary to popular belief coffee does not mask the scent, I'm sure it used to when the drug enforcement agency was retarded but now its a common thing and also a common mistake. I don't know about masking a grow room but if you are traveling with it you can place it into food (like in a sealed plastic bag, inside a can of soup for instance), as the dog's nose will smell the patatos, corn, gravy, whatever is in the soup (we just smell soup)

You need to watch barry coopers never get busted.It'll explain it all.

Dogs can smell drugs hidden in steel pipes welded shut , inside plastic bags then hidden in a petrol tank.....so you can't hide the smell no matter what basically.

You can put them inside anything like meat because its prey and dogs will be sidetrack by the meat and forget about finding drugs.

They arnt looking for drugs they are looking for their ball ...which the handler has made to smell like drugs.

If your growing and cops knock on your door , the likelihood of them having a trained detector

dog is slim. Unless they have been watching you for a while, I'd be more concerned about people's noses than the dogs.

Buy an ionizer or get a carbon scrubber. Keep your mouth shut and you'll be fine.

1. Barry Cooper's Never Get Busted Again Vol. 1: Traffic Stops - A Synopsis Part 1 of 2



2.

3. The DVD is divided into 7 sections (Introduction, Canines, Conceal Your Stash, Search And Seizure, Narcotics Profiling, Traffic Stops, and Busted) summarized below.

Introduction:

This section centers around Barry Cooper's autobiography. He joined the police force at 21 and became part of his local drug task force. He has also trained narcotic detector canines (drug dogs).

Barry discusses what made him decide he was wrong regarding busting drug users/smugglers in general and marijuana in particular. He learned what a lot of us already know - marijuana is harmless and it being illegal is political not medical in nature. He also discusses the trauma of being arrested. He admits using marijuana and has experienced the trauma and injustice of being arrested. Paraphrasing Jimmy Carter, he says when the legal ramifications outweigh the physical side-effects of drug use, we have an injustice.

Barry also mentions that the punishment for marijuana use does not fit the crime and that more and more people are becoming aware of this. Nearly half of the American population has tried marijuana.

Canines:

The right dog for narcotic detector canine is one that has a strong "ball drive" which is a dog that is naturally "psycho" about finding their ball (or other toy). The officer can scent the toy or ball with a drug and the dog will make the connection between the scent of the drug and his ball.

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Good ideas for confusing a drug detection canine are: hiding in food (the dog handler may think the dog is just excited about food), an animal in the vehicle being searched (or just the scent of an animal), hunter's scent lures and odors (spray the tires and all around the vehicle), and even nearby roadkill can confuse a drug dog.

False alerting is a real problem in that the handling officer can use their voices (and physical cues) to cause their canines to false alert. and they can then search the vehicle. So even if you do everything right, you can still get screwed.

Conceal Your Stash:

Wear latex gloves when hiding your stash. Do not ever conceal stash on or near the exterior of a vehicle like bumpers or gas tank lids. And never conceal in plain site like ashtrays or consoles. Never hide it in the glove box. Also never hide it in a small overnight bag or luggage.

Hide your stash in hard to find places like way under the dash. Barry explains as a police officer he would reach his hand under the dash searching for a pound or more of marijuana but he would not take the trouble to search every nook and cranny for a joint or two.

Remember if it takes 15 minutes to hide your stash it could take an officer an hour or more to locate it. The more time it takes, the more likely you will be sent on your merry way.

It is a good idea to hide your stash towards the interior of your vehicle and up high if possible because canines have some difficulty smelling with their heads back (they prefer smelling with

their noses towards the ground).

It is also a good idea to just carry it in your hand and eat if you get pulled over. As Barry says - it is not illegal to smell like marijuana - it is illegal to possess marijuana. Another idea is to cut a hole in the floor to dispose of any stash through the hole in the floor. You can even hide a joint inside a straw and put it in an old food take out bag. The point being: be creative. Barry also adds that he had never arrested anyone for carrying marijuana cookies or brownies. A great way to conceal your stash.

Search And Seizure:

Three important things to keep in mind: reasonable suspicion, probable cause, and consent to search.

Reasonable suspicion is anything an officer observes that when put together causes the officer to be suspicious. Examples include, hand shaking when handing your driver's license, stories not matching between driver and passenger, a marijuana leaf key ring (or apparel), rolling papers, or anything that makes the officer think a crime is being committed. But an officer can have fifty reasonable suspicions and still can not search your vehicle without your consent. However one probable cause and the officer can search your vehicle without your consent. Keep all reasonable suspicion items at home or concealed.

Probable cause is when the officer detects that a crime is being committed in his presence. Examples include: smell of marijuana, a seed on the floor, a roach in the ashtray, drug paraphernalia, etc... Once the officer has probable cause, he can search your vehicle without consent.

Unlike most advice given, Barry recommends giving the officer *consent to search* if asked (provided you're "clean" or your stash is well concealed). Here's why - when someone refuses consent to search, the officer immediately knows that there is something in the vehicle that the driver doesn't want him to see. Once you refuse consent, the officer will try to detain you as long as it takes to find something and will most likely call in the canine unit. He will also call in other officers to figure out a way to get in the car and do a detailed search. Also note that the officer can do a weapons pat down of you and your vehicle without consent and anything the officer finds during a pat down is admissible as evidence.

If you give the officer consent, he will most likely do a cursory search and will send you on your way - provided he finds nothing that arouses suspicion.

Barry Cooper's Never Get Busted Again Vol. 1: Traffic Stops - A Synopsis Part 2 of 2

Narcotics Profiling:

The method used by law enforcement to increase the chances of making a drug arrest based on visual cues and indicators.

Barry divides profiling into a drug-user profile and a smuggler profile. He also advises that if you see an officer sitting in his vehicle perpendicular to an intersection, chances are the officer is doing drug interdiction or is on the lookout for something specific.

Officers look for people from out of town, either through their license plates or the way they

drive (unfamiliar with the area). Barry also recognizes that there are a lot of racist officers that pick on blacks and hispanics. Anti-drug bumper stickers (like D.A.R.E) as well as pro-police stickers (like F.O.P or other law enforcement agency) also alerts officers.

Other indicators are males with long hair, rental vehicles (to avoid impounding), college bumper stickers, disabled vet tags (yes, disabled veterans), sports cars, vehicles riding low, vehicle tags not matching trailer, or anything that looks (or could look) odd to an officer.

Looking reserved or "bookish", as well as being older, can help alleviate suspicions.

Barry also admits that most officers do what they do for the adrenaline rush not to help people. And it takes higher and higher levels of adrenaline (more dangerous things) for the officer to get his "fix".

While profiling, Federal officers do not need a traffic violation to initiate a traffic stop if they can articulate reasonable suspicions why they believe a driver is involved in criminal activity. State, County, and City officers must have a traffic violation to initiate a stop.

If an officer is "slow-rolling", that is driving slow in the right hand lane encouraging people to pass him, the officer is usually narcotics profiling. During the taping of this section, Barry was in his car showing how he would profile and look into vehicles while driving. One car contained two young males with the passenger rolling a joint during the taping!

Barry does note that you are safer when it is raining since the officer will have to stand in the rain and also get the driver and other passengers out of the car. It is more of a hassle for everyone.

You should try to blend in and drive during heavy traffic periods and don't avoid eye contact with an officer who is passing you. And while you should drive well and make sure everything on your vehicle is in working order, careful and safe driving will not necessarily help avoid getting pulled over if the officer has other reasons to be suspicious. They will pull you over for doing 2 or 3 miles per hour over the speed limit if they have other reason(s) to be suspicious.

The DVD then shows some interesting factoids:

The DEA's Administrative Law Judge, Francis Young concluded: "In strict medical terms marijuana is far safer than many foods we commonly consume. For example, eating 10 raw potatoes can result in a toxic response. By comparison, it is physically impossible to eat enough marijuana to induce death. marijuana in its natural form is one of the safest therapeutically active substances known to man. By any measure of rational analysis marijuana can be safely used within the supervised routine of medical care." Source: US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency, "In the Matter of marijuana Rescheduling Petition," [Docket #86-22], (September 6, 1988), p. 57.

According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) a database with the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, in 2005 there were only 17 fatal traffic accidents

caused by marijuana in the US compared to 111,000 fatalities caused by alcohol in the same year. Also in 2005, no traffic fatalities were caused by marijuana alone in the state of Texas.

Traffic Stops:

This section is older footage from Barry's patrol car dashboard camera of Barry arresting people for marijuana possession and pointing out mistakes made by those arrested.

Some important items from this section:

Do not touch your head with your hand or show your palms to the officer (or palms up) since these are signs of deception. Make sure the driver and passenger stories match. Do not smoke pot while driving (duh!). Do not drink and drive (another duh!). Also, lighting a cigarette is a sign of nervousness or an attempt to conceal alcohol or marijuana odor. Don't be evasive, answer questions directly. This does not apply if the answer to the officer's questions would admit a crime on your part. You are under no obligation to incriminate yourself.

When pulled over, do not get out of the vehicle and approach the officer. If you are carrying drugs, do not carry guns. Always assume that everything you say or do is being recorded.

An officer often gets the driver out of the vehicle and then asks the passenger to locate the registration and proof of insurance. The passenger, being nervous, goes through everything in the glove box and console which allows the officer to see everything in those locations.

Also, something to note is a police officer will not necessarily immediately arrest you upon finding something illegal. Often an officer will inform you that they aren't writing you a citation - or they will write a citation or issue a warning and at that point you are free to go but then the officer asks for consent to search. They do this because the Supreme Court has ruled that until a citation is issued, the suspect may feel coerced into giving permission to search but after the citation is issued (or the officer says he isn't giving you a citation) the threat of coercion no longer exists (according to the Supreme Court) so more of an airtight case can be made against you.

If you are smuggling and the concealed compartment requires tools to access, do not carry the tools to open the compartment.

Keep in mind that police officers lie, deceive and otherwise try to trick you. They are not your friend. The only time an officer can get a blood test done is with a search warrant or if you are involved in a traffic accident with serious bodily injury.

Busted:

First thing to remember if you are busted is to close your mouth! Again, the police officer is not your friend. You have the right to remain silent - use it.

Be nice, offer zero resistance, keep temper in check and remain silent.

Being in jail is traumatic. Be prepared to be fingerprinted, strip searched and placed with other criminals. Stay to yourself and ask the guards about your bond - what is my bond, etc..? They will give you as many phone calls as you need (not just one) to contact a bail bondsman or someone to make bail for you. Hire an attorney with court room experience. Do not plea bargain. Request a jury trial and expect to pay about \$5000 to an attorney for a misdemeanor marijuana charge.

If you are under arrest and have anything illegal hidden on you turn it over to the arresting officer. Carrying an illegal substance into jail is an automatic felony!

Barry concludes with reiterating why he is doing this (for love of truth and remorse at for arresting so many good people for victimless crimes) and explains he just wants us all to: Never Get Busted Again!

Barry Cooper's Never Get Busted Again Vol. 2: Never Get Raided

The DVD is divided into eleven sections (Introduction, Growing marijuana Outdoors, Indoor Growing, Procuring Grow Equipment Safely, Knock & Talk, Canine-Proofing Your Home, Spotting Undercovers, Spotting Informants, Selling marijuana Safely, A Plea to Police, Our Message to Parents) summarized below.

Introduction:

Brief description of the chapters.

Growing marijuana Outdoors:

Barry and Candi (his wife) fly in a helicopter spotting guerilla-style outdoor grows. He then sneaks into one grow area on foot and offers the following advice:

put duct tape on the bottom of your shoes (shoe/foot prints can convict you)

use nature to your advantage (if you see wildlife like deer then chances are VERY good there are no humans in that direction. Same goes for birds flying away or being startled.

Always carry ALL of your trash out with you (finger prints can be lifted from trash, you may leave incriminating evidence, and trash is usually very easy to spot from a helicopter. And litter-bugs suck (I added that one).

DEA looks for dead trees, paths (especially going to a water source), PVC pipe and patterns (rows, circles, snail-pattern, squares) better to plant a few plants 50 yards apart.

If the DEA finds a grow, they eradicate most of the grow - they usually leave a few plants along with a few cameras. NEVER GO BACK TO A KNOWN GROW AREA.

It would be great, if you are able, to grow away from a water source and tote your own water in.

If you are ever at your guerilla grow and aircraft flies over, do not look up - faces shine! Keep your head down and remain very, very still. He then says again - DO NOT LEAVE TRASH AROUND.

If you do have to leave stuff around, keep it hidden (example - use green-colored watering cans instead of fluorescent orange ones!)

The DVD then goes on to mention a few things about Barry's former life as a cop and why he is now doing what he is doing.

Indoor Growing

Police are very interested in indoor growing because they can seize property and of course, it is all about the money.

A Grow Room's Three Enemies (Heat, People, and Sloppiness)

Heat - Barry discusses FLIR (F orward L ooking I nfrared R adar) or a heat imaging system. The cameras can be mounted on a helicopter or hand-held. It can not see in your house. And while the US Supreme Court ruled a warrant is necessary before police can use FLIR on your residence, the police still do it illegally every day. This ruling does not include unattached outbuildings like a shed or free-standing garage.

Barry also demonstrates how FLIR cameras can EASILY see in the dark as he shows someone far away handing something to someone in a doorway (so doing deals out in the open is a big no-no).

He also shows the amazing ability to zoom-in with the helicopter mounted FLIR cameras. The FLIR camera looks for two things - an area of your house much warmer than the rest and heat being pumped out of a house. So if you must pump the heat out of your house, it is much safer to pump it under your house which disperses the heat and makes it impossible to spot. The idea is to spread the heat out as much as possible. FLIR looks for concentrated heat signatures. He also recommends pumping the heat out of the clothes dryer vent. This would help with a fly-over.

He then says something us HID growers may want to listen to closely - he says he knows there is a lot of controversy around the quality of the bud using CFLs and LEDs but he recommends the T5s which renders FLIR useless. He then says you need to weigh the costs of jail vs. the perception of lesser quality bud.

He then mentions the suspiciously high electric bills generated by using HIDs and the risk of fire from such a hot light.

People - I love this one - he says every person that knows about your grow room increases your chances of getting busted by 10%. So if three people know, your chances are 30% for getting busted. If 10 or more people know.... it is just a matter of time. Consider yourself busted.

BEWARE - Did you know that the police will pay electric company employees to tell them about unusually high electric bills! Some places are paying as much as \$1000 per high electricity report. Government programs are currently paying \$20 per plant to tell on you so 200 plants means a \$4000 paycheck to an informant.

Don't steal electricity (duh!).

Sloppiness. Avoiding sloppiness is all about controlling the evidence and dedicates the next entire section to it.

Procuring Grow Equipment Safely:

Never, ever use your own computer to purchase anything incriminating. Use a public computer instead.

Pay using a gift credit card (impossible to trace back to you).

Have the equipment shipped to a safe address. He advises against using a fake ID to procure it since using a fake ID is a felony. He advises shipping it to a friend or relative using the excuse

that it is a surprise gift for your significant other and you don't want them seeing it. You can also buy directly from a store using cash. Borrow a car to drive there (you won't be jeopardizing someone who doesn't grow). He also shows you how to avoid a tail. Fast stops, acting like you're turning around, pull over and sit for awhile. Turn around and go the opposite direction and look in your rearview mirror for brake lights or if any cars are turning off or turning around to follow you. He recommends using these methods going to and from the shop. When you get to the grow store, drive around the parking lot looking for suspiciously parked vehicles or people watching the store (especially in rearview mirrors). Leave the grow store in the opposite direction and take the grow equipment somewhere else for a week or so and then go retrieve it.

He then gets into controlling odor. The ONLY safe way that really works is pumping the air from your grow room into a carbon filter. Although for small gardens, air ionizers can also work. Controlling trash is controlling evidence. Trash can be picked up and used as evidence without a warrant. Fertilizer containers, grow equipment boxes and notes taken regarding the grow are all examples of things to get off your property and into a dumpster. Same thing goes for harvest cuttings (stems and leaves, etc..) - get it off your property! Do not display or possess marijuana trinkets (like marijuana t-shirts, posters, etc..).

Knock & Talk (or Tap & Rap)

It is not illegal for police to knock on your door and begin discussing the possibility of you being involved in criminal activity. Knock & Talks are usually triggered by informants, someone seeking revenge or some other suspicious activity (like a lot of foot traffic going in and out of your house). If you open the door, the police will lie and cheat their way in.

How do you avoid this problem? DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR. Do not go out on the porch and shut the door to talk to the cops. The cops will do anything to get in your house. Just do not open the door. The bottom line is - if the police have a legal right to be in your house, they will NOT be knocking - they will be kicking your door in. Cops also do not care if they trample your rights and lose the case. A drug seizure is a drug seizure and having the case thrown out of court is no problem to a cop. One of my favorite parts of the DVD shows Barry doing what you should do. You hear a knock at the door and upon investigating (looking out the window) you see police. If your door is not locked, lock it. He then yells through a window (or the door) the following: "I don't open the door for police if you need to talk to me, have your dispatcher call my cell phone or we can shout through the window like this. If you have a search warrant, here are my hands (shows hands) go ahead and kick the door in".

Bottom line - do not ever, ever, EVER open the door for the police.

Canine-Proofing Your Home:

The easiest way to do this is to contaminate the entire house (and yard) with the smell of marijuana so the canine can not focus because marijuana is everywhere! Grind up the seeds and stems (you don't want little plants appearing) and throw it out in the yard. For the inside, take a bag of marijuana and rub the bag everywhere which will cause the dog to alert all over the place (never finding your super-secret-awesomely concealed stash).

Spotting Undercovers

Barry explains that he includes this controversial segment for several reasons. First, it is a lie

that police are dying everyday in the “war on drugs” and says that only 28 law officers were feloniously killed in drug-related cases from 1996-2005. Compared to the number of citizens that have been imprisoned or killed by the police the number becomes even less significant. Besides, it is the cop’s job to lay down their lives for American citizens - not the other way around.

He then addresses fellow police officers that are disturbed by what he is sharing (how to sport narcs) he says then stop being an undercover officers and channel your energy into finding violent offenders (amen Barry!).

Remember that undercover officers are trained liars. So pay close attention to a suspected persons body language (hand to head contact, grooming, and/or palms up). And they can legally lie to you. The top two lies they tell to purchase is 1) I’m buying it for a someone else (friend/girlfriend/whomever) and 2) I’m buying it to re-sell. These two excuses should sound alarm bells.

Police are operating on their own clock. If you say 3:00 PM and you aren’t there - they will freak. So if you are dealing with someone who isn’t on “pot time” ... beware.

It is a myth that an undercover officer has to reveal his true identity if asked. But one thing undercover police officers are forbidden to do is to put drugs back out on the street. Meaning, cops buy drugs all the time but seldom sell them. If they do sell, they MUST make the arrest shortly after. So if you suspect somebody is an undercover officer, tell them to bring you a joint. Have them bring it and and walk away from them. If they let you go - it’s all good. Otherwise, eat that joint!

Now police will set-up what is called “road-kill” operations, They sell it to you while you’re in your vehicle and then shortly after the purchase they pull you over for a traffic stop and you’re busted. So if you do buy while in your vehicle, as soon as you get it, get it ready for eating before or as you pull away.

They will also try to sell you LARGE amounts to bring in the money. So be suspicious of large transactions. Change locations constantly because police spend a lot of time setting up surveillance. If the people you are dealing with aren’t willing to change locations (even a short distance) just prior to the deal, you are probably dealing with the police.

Never go to another persons hotel/motel room make them come to yours and do not reveal the location until the last minute.

Don’t forget to change your phone frequently (per transaction) and use prepaid phones. To avoid wiretapping/microphones on an informant, do your business in a hot tub or jacuzzi - can’t hide a wire in there!

Something to keep in mind is undercover cops are trained to simulate drug use - even hitting a joint and “not inhaling”. So bong hits for everybody - can’t fake those! The DVD then shows Barry doing a bong hit with Mark Emery (Cannabis Culture magazine)

And undercover police will also be constantly scanning for evidence, writing down license plates, and even trying to take roaches with them as evidence.

Spotting Informants



Trickier to spot than an undercover since they usually come in the form of a “friend”. They are motivated either by money or by trying to lessen a crime they are arrested for which are pretty strong motivators. This means informants tend to be very, very nervous, frightened, and stressed.

When Barry was a cop he was able to turn 95% of his drug arrests into informants through coercion, lies and even threatening to plant drugs! (though he says he never did that). Stay away from people who just got busted or who have disappeared for awhile and reappear. Bring up the subject of informants with someone you suspect and watch for body language. And remember that police are on their own clock so an informant will also be time-sensitive. An informant will also always have to get an OK from their partner. One of the biggest jobs for an informer is to introduce an undercover.

Again, swimming pools and/or jacuzzis ensure to listening devices. If that is not possible, then simply whisper in their ear anything incriminating.

Note - unlike cops, informants have no qualms about doing drugs or putting them out on the street.

It is happening so be paranoid. They are out there trying to put you in prison.

Selling marijuana Safely

Do not sell from your house. Ever.

First, place your stash in black trash bag and take it away from your home and hide it an isolated area safe from animals and people.

Second, communicate with the buyer to find out how much they wish to purchase.

Third, return to stash taking only what was ordered and conceal the main stash again (wiping fingerprints).

Fourth, take the small bag and drive away (making sure you weren't followed) and look for a noticeable landmark. Drop the small bag (wiping your prints) by the landmark and drive away.

Fifth, go to your customer and take the money thanking them for paying back the money they owed you and then whisper the location of the bag in their ear.

Retrieving the stash is also important. Arrive at the drop point and walk straight to the stash and pretend to pick it up, return to your auto and drive away. If the cops are in on it, they will bust you minutes after leaving. If that didn't happen, it is then safe to return and pick it up.

A Plea To Police

Barry begs the police to stop using SWAT teams to serve search warrants. He realizes they are adrenaline junkies and do not care who they harm in order for them to get high. There are easy ways to issue search warrants that is non-violent and safe for every one - cops and citizens alike. A sheriff in a Texas town demonstrated how to do this and all the cops know how to do it yet they choose the flash grenades and assault weapons drawn methods of SWAT. The sheriff simply set-up surveillance and when the people left the home, they were pulled over on a traffic stop and taken into custody. The police then use a key to exercise the search warrant. No harm to anyone or anything.



yeah, i was going to suggest using female animal urine or estrus - Whatever hunters use; get either a feline or canine type urine, if you do spray somewhere far away from your stash. This will confuse the dogs making them so excited the handler might miss your stash. Another method i learned from an old school organic grower(who used to be my teacher) another way to achieve this: Put some leaves from a budding plant in your drop ceiling / suspension panels. Or if you dont have this kind of ceiling or you want to use this in a car or other place. Take a nice fresh DANK bud and rub it up against either the wall, the tire, pretty much anything. If you dont have fresh bud or dont want to damage it you can use schwagg for all it matters, it all smells the same to the dog. I am good friends with a dog trainer who had trained drug dogs; I'll ask if he knows any other methods.

I am not promoting drug trafficking whatsoever; I am only suggesting advice for Med patients and in Pot friendly states.

Even if you do use these methods; I still wouldn't be suprised when you get caught.

Drug dogs are good at what they do, ive evaded them once before i was a legal patient, But MJ was still decriminalized in the state of Maine so you get the equivalent of a J-Walking ticket. There was 2 cats in the apartment, and we had hid Leaf material from every harvest(replaced it to keep fresh and smelly) above the drop ceiling, So upon bringing the dog into the apartment he immediatly started to "hit" and the handler was dumbfounded as there wasnt anything even there where the dog alerted, it was in the middle of the front room of the apt. Meanwhile i had my stash well hidden in the back of the APT.

Soon enough it will be decriminalized evrywhere, if not full on legal.

Even in Maine where there is only 9 ailments/diseases to recieve legal MMJ, and the laws are strict, but if you find a pot friendly doctor all you need to prove is some sort of pain, that is chronic for more than 6 months. I think most people have at least some level of pain, but if too

many people start using their MMJ Card when they really are just potheads who found a loophole, then my state will end up like california, and not in a good way. We already have negative stories being reported on by the local news.



Has anyone ever tried the ammonia fix?

I guess in order to use it you'd have to know that you were going to have dogs called out, and of course you'd have to have the ammonia, and somehow apply it without the traffic cop see you doing so? Good luck with that

Dog poison No. 7: Chocolate. See above.

Dog poison No. 8: Plants. They may be pretty, but plants aren't necessarily pet friendly. Some of the more toxic plants to dogs include:

- Azaleas and rhododendrons. These pretty flowering plants contain toxins that may cause vomiting, diarrhea, coma, and potentially even death.
- Tulips and daffodils. The bulbs of these plants may cause serious stomach problems, convulsions, and increased heart rate.
- Sago palms. Eating just a few seeds may be enough to cause vomiting, seizures, and liver failure.

Dog poison No. 9: Rodenticides, if ingested by dogs, can cause severe problems. The symptoms depend on the nature of the poison, and signs may not start for several days after consumption. In some instances, the dog may have eaten the poisoned rodent, and not been directly exposed to the toxin.

Dog poison No. 10: Lawn and garden products. Products for your lawn and garden may be poisonous to pets that ingest them.

'Sutali Bomb'

Sutali bomb is also called as 'gola'. This is used to kill wild pig and other carnivores. Villagers or unorganised poachers frequently use it in and around forests particularly adjoining the agriculture fields. It is also placed at places where small carnivora come in search of food. The 'gola' is usually smeared or wrapped in raw meat to mask the smell of gun powder and to lure the animal into attempting to eat. When animal tries to chew or crush the meat smeared gola the resulting blast causes severe injuries to the animal in the mouth and head portion. Many a time the animal dies on the spot or otherwise it is tracked down using the blood trail.



Dog poison No. 1: Prescription medications for people. Drugs that might be beneficial or even lifesaving for people can have the opposite effect in pets. And it doesn't always take a large dose to do major damage.

Some of the most common and harmful medications that poison dogs include:

- Prescription anti-inflammatory and pain medications can cause stomach and intestinal ulcers or kidney failure.
- Antidepressants can cause vomiting and, in more serious instances, serotonin syndrome -- a dangerous condition that raises temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure, and may cause seizures.
- Blood pressure medications.

Dog poison No. 2: Insecticides.

Flea and tick products. You may think you're doing your dog a favor when you apply products marketed to fight fleas and ticks, but thousands of animals are unintentionally poisoned by these products every year. Problems can occur if dogs accidentally ingest these products or if small dogs receive excessive amounts.

Dog poison No. 3: Over-the-counter medications. This group contains acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen and naproxen (Advil, Alleve), as well as herbal and nutraceutical products (fish oil, joint supplements).

Dog poison No. 4: Pet medications. Just as we can be sickened or killed by medications intended to help us, cases of pet poisoning by veterinary drugs are not uncommon. Some of the more commonly reported problem medications include painkillers and de-wormers.

Dog poison No. 5: Household products, from cleaners to fire logs. Just as cleaners like bleach can poison people, they are also a leading cause of pet poisoning, resulting in stomach and respiratory tract problems. Not surprisingly, chemicals contained in antifreeze, paint thinner, and chemicals for pools also can act as dog poison. The pet poisoning symptoms they may produce include stomach upset, depression, and chemical burns.

Dog poison No. 6: People food. Your canine companion may look so cute as he sits there begging for a bite of your chocolate cake or a chip covered in guacamole, but not giving him what he wants could save his life. Animals have different metabolisms than people. Some foods and beverages that are perfectly safe for people can be dangerous, and sometimes fatal, for dogs.

- Chocolate. Though not harmful to people, chocolate products contain substances called methylxanthines that can cause vomiting in small doses, and death if ingested in larger quantities. Darker chocolate contains more of these dangerous substances than do white or milk chocolate. The amount of chocolate that could result in death depends on the type of chocolate and the size of the dog. For smaller breeds, just half an ounce of baking chocolate can be fatal, while a larger dog might survive eating 4 ounces to 8 ounces. Coffee and caffeine have similarly dangerous chemicals.
-
- Alcohol. Symptoms of alcohol poisoning in animals are similar to those in people, and may include vomiting, breathing problems, coma and, in severe cases, death.
- Avocado. You might think of them as healthy, but avocados have a substance called persin that can act as a dog poison, causing vomiting and diarrhea.
- Macadamia nuts. Dogs may suffer from a series of symptoms, including weakness, overheating, and vomiting, after consumption of macadamia nuts.
- Grapes and raisins. Experts aren't sure why, but these fruits can induce kidney failure in dogs. Even a small number may cause problems in some dogs.
- Xylitol. This sweetener is found in many products, including sugar-free gum and candy. It causes a rapid drop in blood sugar, resulting in weakness and seizures. Liver failure also has been reported in some dogs.

Dog poison No. 7: Chocolate. See above.

Dog poison No. 8: Plants. They may be pretty, but plants aren't necessarily pet friendly. Some of the more toxic plants to dogs include:

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Dog poison No. 10: Lawn and garden products. Products for your lawn and garden may be poisonous to pets that ingest them.

Toxin
Ethylene Glycol

Source
Antifreeze, solvents, rust removers, film processing solutions, and taxidermist's preservation solutions.

General Information

Ethylene glycol is an extremely dangerous toxin. It is *metabolized* by the liver. The metabolites that are produced cause the damage to organs and subsequent symptoms. The metabolites (in the form of oxalates) are most toxic to the kidneys. Many brands of antifreeze contain phosphorus rust inhibitors also, which may increase the phosphorus levels in the bloodstream. Antifreeze has a sweet taste that animals and children like. Be very careful to make sure vehicles do not leak antifreeze and that all antifreeze is cleaned up when changing the fluid.

Xylitol Poisoning



Sugar substitutes are big business. Less sugar can mean weight loss, improved health, diabetic control, and even reduced tooth decay. The quest for products that can sweeten and cook like sugar is ongoing. Xylitol is common sugar substitute, especially when it comes to sugarless gum. Not only does xylitol offer sweetness without calories, it also has antibacterial properties in the mouth so as to reduce periodontal disease and has been found to have far reaching health benefits in other areas of the body. Xylitol may help with osteoporosis, prevention of ear and throat infections, and may reduce risk of endometriosis, uterine fibroids, and even breast cancer.

Sounds wonderful and maybe it is – if you are a human. If you are a dog, xylitol is potentially lethal.

Two Deadly Effects of Xylitol

Hypoglycemia

In the canine body, the pancreas confuses xylitol with real sugar and releases insulin to store the “sugar.” The problem is that xylitol does not offer the extra Calories of sugar and the rush of

insulin only serves to remove the real sugar from the circulation. Blood sugar levels plummet resulting in weakness, disorientation, tremors, and potentially seizures.

It does not take many sticks of gum to poison a dog, especially a small dog (see below for toxic doses). Symptoms typically begin within 30 minutes and can last for more than 12 hours. Vomiting and diarrhea may also occur.

Hepatic Necrosis

The other reaction associated with xylitol in the canine body is actual destruction of liver tissue. How this happens remains unknown but the doses of xylitol required to produce this effect are much higher than the hypoglycemic doses described above. Signs take longer to show up (typically 8-12 hours) and surprisingly not all dogs that experience hepatic necrosis, will have experienced hypoglycemia first. A lucky dog experiences only temporary illness but alternatively, a complete and acute liver failure can result with death following. Internal hemorrhage and inability of blood to clot is commonly involved.

How Much Xylitol Is Dangerous?

The hypoglycemic dose of xylitol for dogs is considered to be approximately 0.1 grams per kilogram of body weight (about 0.045 grams per pound). A typical stick of gum contains 0.3 to 0.4 grams of xylitol, which means that a 10 lb dog could be poisoned by as little as a stick and a half of gum.

The dose to cause hepatic necrosis is 1 gram per kilogram of body weight, about ten times more than the above dose. In the example above, the 10 lb dog would have to find an unopened package of gum and eat it for liver destruction to occur.

Treatment

Ideally, the patient can be seen quickly (within 30 minutes) and can be made to vomit the gum or candy. Beyond this, a sugar IV drip is prudent for a good 24 hours. Liver enzyme and blood clotting tests are monitored for 2 to 3 days. Blood levels of potassium are ideally monitored as well. Elevated blood phosphorus levels often bode poorly.



The toxic substance found in snail bait is a compound called metaldehyde. Malicious poisoning is generally not the issue. The majority of toxicities are accidental, either due to lack of knowledge of its dangers or thinking that the compound has been properly stored or applied: Dogs are notorious for getting into things they shouldn't or into places you think they can't!

Snail bait is formulated in chewable pellets that are flavored with molasses, apple and bran to attract the snails. Unfortunately, our dogs find this a tasty treat as well. Snail bait is also available in liquid and powder formulations, which can get onto paws and be licked off with normal grooming. Additionally, many of these products also contain insecticides, which make the exposure potentially even more toxic.

Snail bait is highly toxic and even small amounts are enough to cause poisoning: less than a teaspoon per 10 pounds of body weight can cause life-threatening clinical signs in your pet.

What are the symptoms of snail bait poisoning?

Signs of poisoning begin quickly after the bait is ingested. Generally, the first clinical signs observed are anxious behavior with mild twitching. This progresses to uncontrollable and severe twitching, followed by seizures and possibly death if not treated promptly.

Severe twitching equates to constant muscle contractions, and this can raise the body temperature so high that permanent brain damage can result. This clinical course has led to the colloquial emergency room term of "shake and bake syndrome." Click the link to watch a short [video that demonstrates what mild clinical signs of snail bait toxicity look like.](#)

Making the diagnosis

Generally, the appearance of the twitching patient is characteristic, and a diagnosis can be made even if there is no known history of snail bait exposure. A radiograph may be recommended to try to evaluate stomach contents. *If this is a known exposure, remember to grab the package containing the snail bait so that your veterinarian can evaluate the active ingredients.*

What is the treatment?

There is no direct antidote for snail bait toxicity and treatment is aimed at controlling the clinical signs. Treatment includes possible induction of vomiting, supportive care with IV fluids, medications to control the twitching or seizures, "stomach pumping" and enemas to help rid the

body of the toxin, and charcoal to help absorb any substance that remains in the body. At home, your yard should be hosed down with water to dissolve any remaining bait and your dog should be restricted from the area for a two-week period.

Chewing Gum, Raisins, Onions, Chocolate, Artificial Sweeteners (Xylitol) and Other Deadly Pet Treats

Q: Can I share candy and gum with my dog?

A: In short, NO!

When your dog sees you putting food in your mouth, rest assured, they want some of it too! Most of us cannot deny our dog "just a bite" but be aware that Xylitol, an artificial sweetener found in many gums and candies, is lethal to dogs! Like chocolate, toxicity depends on the amount consumed and the weight of the pet.

Read how artificial sweetener almost claimed the life of Tele the dog, by causing liver failure and the following article on how Brooklyn the dog, was poisoned from chewing gum.

Dog Almost Killed After Consuming Artificial Sweetener by Cheryl Preheim

DENVER, CO -- Tele is a 7-month-old Golden Retriever who loves treats. So, when 2-year-old Jordan started feeding her mints, she loved it. "I was standing right there as my 2-year-old is handing one mint for him, one mint for me type of game and it was literally six mints later that we started seeing signs," said Lindsey Davis, Jordan's mom. Within 15 minutes of eating six mints, Tele was having seizures and vomiting.

Davis took her to Aspenwood Animal Hospital on Colorado Boulevard. Dr. Julie Kelly said when Tele got there, "she was basically in a type of a coma." A frantic call to Animal Poison Control revealed that Tele was being poisoned by Xylitol. "It is an artificial sweetener that is in sugarless chewing gums and mints and some household baking products," said Kelly. "It is life threatening to dogs. They can die very quickly."

She says veterinarians are seeing more cases of Xylitol poisoning. "We are starting to see these animals that are getting into people's purses or their children are giving them treats and dogs like to eat anything they can," said Kelly. Davis wants to warn other dog owners.

"The compound is as close as a hands reach of the check out stand so people need to know that this is toxic to dogs," she said. Tele is back home and feeling better but the vet says she still needs to be watched closely to make sure there isn't any permanent liver damage.

Chewing Gum Poisons Dog!

One great fear of many pet owners is that something innocuous in our houses can be poisonous to our pets. Now, again, that fear has been realized in the form of something that used to be totally safe, for people and pets. Chewing gum!

Many pet owners are already aware of certain items you should never let your pet get a hold of.

This brief list doesn't even include all the treasures they can find on the street. But until now, chewing gum was not on the list of dangerous things for pets. Our first experience with this new toxic substance came in the form of a 21 month old American Pit Bull named Brooklyn.

One night Brooklyn got a hold of a pack of **sugarless chewing gum**. Her guardians thought quickly and called the ASPCA Poison Control Hotline. (888-426-4435). They learned that the sugarless gum was indeed a problem, because it contains a sugar substitute called XYLITOL. This sugar substitute is not toxic for humans because it does not get absorbed from the intestines and therefore does not affect us. **But it is absorbed from the intestine and goes into the blood stream of our pets.** And that is where the toxicity comes in.

The effect of Xylitol is to cause the secretion of insulin, which dangerously lowers blood sugar . In addition, it can cause liver failure depending on the quantity ingested. The amount that needs to be consumed to be toxic depends on the substance eaten and the weight of the pet. There is still no hard fast data concerning lethal dose of this substance. Low blood sugar can cause:

- Lethargy (low energy)
- Weakness
- Loss of coordination
- Seizures
- Coma

These signs may present themselves soon after the product is ingested. Fortunately Brooklyn's owners were astute, called poison control and watched her carefully throughout night. In the morning, she seemed to act like herself. To be safe, they brought her to Riverside Animal Hospital for an exam. The doctors at Riverside knew about Xylitol ingestion toxicity and knew the possible dangers of ingesting it..... and treated her even though she appeared normal.

Sure enough, even without symptoms, Brooklyn's blood sugar was low. If her blood sugar had gone any lower, she could have begun hypoglycemic convulsions. She was kept in the hospital on I.V. fluids with dextrose (sugar) for two days, to maintain her sugar levels at near normal levels. Even 48 hours later, when we slowed the intravenous glucose administration, her blood sugar dropped. Of course, while she was here we checked her for liver problems and fortunately found none.

We are happy to say that her sugar eventually stabilized, she recovered beautifully, and was released from the hospital without any long lasting ill affects from the chewing gum.

The moral of the story is that it pays to **become aware of everyday products that can poison your pets**. If you are ever unsure about the potential toxicity of a product your pet has ingested, **call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Poison Control Center**. There is a fee to use the Poison Control Service, but it's worth it.

As veterinarians, we often come across new information either as a result of patient's experience, or through research. What we hope to share with you is some of our more interesting cases so that you may learn about potential hazards and clinical signs before they become critical.

Sincerely,
Steven Kasanofsky, D.V.M., C.V.A.
Phillip Raclyn, D.V.M., C.V.A.

When Good Dogs Eat Bad Things by Karen Klemens Jakes story

Jake's story is horrible but all too common. His owner thought he was just giving his Rottweiler a bone -- a chicken bone. The owner knew it wasn't the best thing to give Jake but didn't know why, and he certainly didn't think he was killing Jake. That's what happened, though. Over the next few days, Jake died a slow, painful death. The splintered chicken bones punctured the dog's gastrointestinal tract, causing deadly toxins to be released into his stomach. Jake became disoriented -- he wouldn't respond to his owner and he'd look around aimlessly. He also would regularly sit and, only using his front paws, spin around in one place. A short time later Jake succumbed.

This issue of *The Healthy Dog* includes a brief rundown of common and not-so-common household foods and products that if given to your dog can be deadly. And just in case you think turkey bones are safe, owner beware: turkey bones, like chicken bones, can be just as deadly if given to man's best friend.

If you think the best way to a dog's heart is through food, think again. Foods high in fat -- such as the table scraps that we humans cut away from our meats -- can cause canine pancreatitis and gastroenteritis, serious and potentially fatal conditions. Pancreatitis or inflammation of the pancreas can result in a complete loss of appetite, frequent vomiting, diarrhea that may contain blood, weakness and abdominal pain (apparent through whimpering and restlessness). The reactions can range from barely noticeable to a severe shock-like collapse that can result in death. These conditions can occur after raids on garbage cans, also. Gastroenteritis is inflammation of the stomach and intestines' lining and has similar symptoms. These cases often require hospitalization and fluid replacement.

Many table scraps also contain onion that can be toxic for a dog, especially smaller pooches. Onions can cause hemolytic anemia, a condition that destroys a dog's red blood cells, according to Dr. Kathy Michel of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. An onion-poisoned dog will become lethargic, develop breathing difficulties and will have pale gums (check around the teeth). Fortunately, the toxins will pass through the dog's system, but until then, he or she may need a blood transfusion. If you cook dog food at home, feel free to add garlic, but hold the onions.

It may seem like the best treat of all, but it can be deadly. All chocolate, with its caffeine and related chemical called theobromine, can raise your dog's heart rate to beat abnormally. It can cause seizures that will eventually lead to a coma. Baking or dark chocolate is the deadliest -- about nine times more toxic than milk chocolate. A chocolate-poisoned pooch will vomit, urinate more than usual, have diarrhea, and show hyperactivity.

Naturally nontoxic plants can still make your pet sick if the greenery has been sprayed with pesticides and fertilizers. Although it depends on the type of plant consumed by your dog, symptoms to look out for include breathing difficulties, convulsions, excessive salivation, gastroenteritis, skin rashes, stomach upset, swallowing difficulties, vomiting, and watery eyes and nose, according to the book, *Are you Poisoning Your Pets?* by Nina Anderson and Howard Peiper (Avery Publishing Group).

Some of the deadliest plants and flowers include dieffenbachia, mistletoe, poinsettias, laurel, rhododendrons, azaleas, Daphne, lantanas, holly, delphiniums, foxglove, irises, lilies of the valley, amaryllis, morning glories, and daffodils. The bulbs of daffodils, narcissus, and jonquils trigger severe gastroenteritis; hyacinth bulbs cause trembling and convulsions. Avocado leaves and unripe stems, rhubarb leaves, spinach leaves and tomato vines, stems and leaves can also be harmful.

Most pesticide chemicals in commercial flea repellents are fat-soluble and are stored in the fatty tissues of the body, primarily in the liver and in the nervous system. As these chemicals accumulate over time, they negatively affect nerves, hormones, and immunity.

Possible Symptoms

- Anorexia
- Cancer
- Colic
- Convulsions
- Deformity of sexual organs
- Depression
- Diarrhea
- Foaming at the mouth
- Nausea
- Seizures
- Stiffness
- Vomiting
- Weakness

Pyrethrum, a nontoxic insecticide made from chrysanthemum flowers, is found in many flea repellent products and is considered safe in its natural state. However, combine pyrethrum with chemical additives and you have a potentially dangerous environment for your dog.

Chemical additives to look out for include diethyl toluamide (DEET), propoxur, diazinon, carbaryl, dichlorvos, and DDVP.

Be forewarned: constant inhalation of DDVP, found in flea collars, can cause permanent damage to your dog's internal organs.

The following vomit guide is taken from *Dogs: The Ultimate Care Guide, Good Health, Loving Care, Maximum Longevity*, published by Rodale Press, Inc.

Alcoholic Beverages. Ethanol is the component in alcoholic beverages that can be toxic when an excessive amount is ingested. Pets are much smaller than us and can be highly affected by small amounts of alcohol. Exercise caution when drinks and pets are together. Toxicity can cause a wide variety of signs and symptoms, and may result in death. Signs may include odor of alcohol on the animal's breath, staggering, behavioral changes, excitement, depression, increased urination, slowed respiratory rate or cardiac arrest and death.

Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Peaches and Plums. Ingestion of large amounts of stems, seeds and leaves of these fruits can be toxic. They contain a cyanide type compound and signs of toxicity include apprehension, dilated pupils, difficulty breathing, hyperventilation and shock.

Avocados. The leaves, fruit, bark and seeds of avocados have all been reported to be toxic. The toxic component in the avocado is "persin," which is a fatty acid derivative.

Symptoms of toxicity include difficulty breathing, abdominal enlargement, abnormal fluid accumulations in the chest, abdomen and sac around the heart. The amount that needs to be ingested to cause signs is unknown. Do not feed your pet any component of the avocado.

Baking Powder and Baking Soda. Baking soda and baking powder are both leavening agents. A leavening agent is a common ingredient in baked goods that produces a gas causing batter and dough to rise. Baking soda is simply sodium bicarbonate. Baking powder consists of baking soda and an acid, usually cream of tartar, calcium acid phosphate, sodium aluminum sulfate or a mixture of the three. Ingestion of large amounts of baking soda or baking powder can lead to electrolyte abnormalities (low potassium, low calcium and/or high sodium), congestive heart failure or muscle spasms.

Chocolate. Chocolate, in addition to having a high fat content, contains caffeine and theobromine. These two compounds are nervous system stimulants and can be toxic to your dog in high amounts. The levels of caffeine and theobromine vary between different types of chocolate. For example, white chocolate has the lowest concentration of stimulants and baking chocolate or cacao beans have the highest concentration.

The Merck Veterinary Manual offers the following guide for Theobromine levels in different types of chocolate:

- Unsweetened (Baker's) chocolate equals about 450 mg of Theobromine per ounce of chocolate.
- Semi-sweet and sweet dark chocolate is about 150-160 mg of Theobromine per ounce of chocolate.
- Milk chocolate is about 64 mg of Theobromine per ounce of chocolate.

Depending on the type of chocolate ingested and the amount eaten, various problems can occur. The high fat content in chocolate may result in vomiting and possibly diarrhea. Once toxic levels are eaten, the stimulant effect becomes apparent. You may notice restlessness, hyperactivity, muscle twitching, increased urination and possibly excessive panting. Heart rate and blood pressure levels may also increase. Seizure activity may occur in severe cases.

Coffee (grounds and beans). Dogs that eat coffee grounds or beans can get "caffeine" toxicity. The symptoms are very similar to those of chocolate toxicity and can be just as or even more serious.

Fatty Foods. Rich and fatty food are favorites of dogs. They often get them as treats, leftovers or from getting into the trash. These fatty foods can cause pancreatitis. Pancreatitis can affect any pet but miniature or toy poodles, cocker spaniels and miniature schnauzers are particularly prone. Signs of pancreatitis generally include an acute onset of vomiting, sometimes diarrhea and abdominal pain. Abdominal pain is often evidenced by hunched posture or "splinting" of the abdomen when picked up. The dog may become very sick quickly and often needs intensive fluid and antibiotic therapy.

Dairy Products. Dairy products are not highly dangerous but can pose problems for two reasons. One is their high fat content and like other foods with high fat content, there is a risk of

pancreatitis. The second reason is that pets poorly digest dairy products since they lack the enzyme required to digest lactose. This affects some pets more than others, and can cause gas to diarrhea. Small amounts of plain yogurt or cheese are tolerated by most dogs but it is probably safest to avoid dairy products altogether.

Grapes and Raisins. According to the ASPCA around 1989, a disturbing trend began to emerge from the AnTox database used by its Animal Poison Control Center: Nearly all the dogs reported to have eaten grapes or raisins developed acute renal (kidney) failure. These cases were noted all across the USA, with the amount eaten varying widely, from over a pound of grapes to as little as a single serving of raisins.

The database showed that dogs who ate the grapes and raisins typically vomited within a few hours of ingestion. Most of the time, partially digested grapes and raisins could be seen in the vomit, fecal material, or both. At this point, some dogs would stop eating (anorexia), and develop diarrhea. The dogs often became quiet and lethargic, and showed signs of abdominal pain. These clinical signs lasted for several days sometimes even weeks.

When medical care was sought, blood chemistry panels showed consistent patterns. Hypocalcaemia (elevated blood calcium levels) was frequently present, as well as elevated levels of blood urea nitrogen, creatinine and phosphorous (substances that reflect kidney function). These chemistries began to increase anywhere from 24 hours to several days after the dogs ate the fruit. As the kidney damage developed, the dogs would produce little urine. When they could no longer produce urine, death occurred. In some cases, dogs who received timely veterinary care still had to be euthanized.

Although it is not known what component of the grapes or raisins causes renal failure in dogs, certain possibilities have been ruled out, including various pesticides, some heavy metals such as zinc and lead, and fungal contaminants. That dogs react in this fashion to both commercially-produced grapes and those grown informally in their owners' back yards indicates the likely culprit has nothing to do with the growing or cultivation process but is instead basic to grapes themselves.

All grapes are potentially dangerous to dogs; both grapes in the plump, "just picked" form and as their dried counterparts, raisins, and regardless of whether they came from the store or off the neighbor's vine. **Don't feed your dog grapes or raisins**, and don't leave these foodstuffs out where he could help himself to them.

This is not to say you need live in fear of your pooch's keeling over dead if he swallows a grape or two. The amount of grapes or raisins ingested has been between 9 ounces to 2 pounds. Despite testing, the reason for the kidney failure and the amount necessary for toxicity remains unknown. For now, any dog that ingests large amounts of grapes or raisins should be treated aggressively. Aggressive and sometimes prolonged treatment may be necessary to give the affected dog a chance at survival; without treatment death is possible.

More info regarding raisin poisoning: Laurinda Morris, DVM / Danville Veterinary Clinic/ Danville, Ohio USA

This week I had the first case in history of raisin toxicity ever seen at MedVet. My patient was a 56-pound, 5 yr old male neutered lab mix that ate half a canister of raisins sometime between 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM on Tuesday. He started with vomiting, diarrhea and shaking about 1AM on Wednesday but the owner didn't call my emergency service until 7AM.

I had heard somewhere about raisins and grapes causing acute renal failure but hadn't seen any formal paper on the subject. We had her bring the dog in immediately. In the meantime, I called the ER service at MedVet, and the doctor there was like me - had heard something about it, but.... Anyway, we contacted the ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center and they said to give IV fluids at 1 1/2 times maintenance and watch the kidney values for the next 48-72 hours.

The dog's BUN (blood urea nitrogen level) was already at 32 (normal less than 27) and creatinine over 5 (1.9 is the high end of normal). Both are monitors of kidney function in the bloodstream. We placed an IV catheter and started the fluids. Rechecked the renal values at 5 PM and the BUN was over 40 and creatinine over 7 with no urine production after a liter of fluids. At the point I felt the dog was in acute renal failure and sent him on to MedVet for a urinary catheter to monitor urine output overnight as well as overnight care.

He started vomiting again overnight at MedVet and his renal values have continued to increase daily. He produced urine when given lasix as a diuretic. He was on 3 different anti-vomiting medications and they still couldn't control his vomiting. Today his urine output decreased again, his BUN was over 120, his creatinine was at 10, his phosphorus was very elevated and his blood pressure, which had been staying around 150, skyrocketed to 220.. He continued to vomit and the owners elected to euthanize.

This is a very sad case - great dog, great owners who had no idea raisins could be a toxin. Please alert everyone you know who has a dog of this very serious risk. Poison control said as few as 7 raisins or grapes could be toxic. Many people I know give their dogs grapes or raisins as treats including our ex-handler's. Any exposure should give rise to immediate concern.

Macadamia Nuts. For reasons unknown, as few as six to 40 macadamia nuts have caused severe toxic signs in dogs. Macadamia nuts, also called the Queensland nut or Australia nut, can be toxic. The mechanism behind why these nuts are toxic is a mystery. Dogs develop weakness, depression, vomiting, difficulty walking, tremors, abdominal pain, lameness, stiffness and/or pale gums. The signs usually dissipate in 12 to 24 hours.

Moldy or Spoiled Food. Dogs love to get into the trash. A medical problem arises when the trash contains moldy or spoiled food. In addition to food poisoning, some pets can develop tremors related to the ingestion of certain molds.

Nutmeg. You may not realized this but high levels of nutmeg can be toxic, even fatal. The toxic principle is not well understood. Signs of toxicity include tremors, seizures, nervous system abnormalities or death.

Onions or Garlic. Dogs and cats lack the enzyme necessary to properly digest onions and this could result in gas, vomiting, diarrhea or severe gastrointestinal distress. The onion, garlic's close cousin, contains thiosulphate, which in high concentration can trigger hemolytic or "Heinz factor" anemia (a condition where circulating red blood cells become fragile and break apart or burst). Even a single generous serving of onions can cause this reaction. Garlic is much tamer and does not contain the same concentration of this compound. In fact, it is barely traceable and readily excreted (not stored in the body).

Signs can begin immediately after eating the onion or a few days later. Large quantities of garlic need to be ingested before signs of toxicity are seen. Severe anemia's and even death can occur if the dog ingests lots of onions or garlic and receives no treatment.

All forms of onion and garlic are a problem. This includes raw, dehydrated, cooked, powders or those in foods. The most common source of onions for cats is in human baby food. Some baby foods have onion powder added for taste. When consistently fed baby food with added onion powder, signs of toxicity can develop. Many people use garlic pills as 'natural' flea control. The amount of garlic is low but if large amounts of the pills are ingested at one time, toxicity may occur.

What is the TrackDog and why does it work?

IMPORTANT: SCENT DEDICATION !!

Training a dog to track across multiple surfaces with distractions and cross contamination can be difficult. The TrackDog is a simple and effective tool that police K9 handlers and Schutzhund trainers can use to train their dogs in the tracking of people. The TrackDog utilizes scented water to assist in focusing the dog on the desired odor you want them to track, either human odor or bruised vegetation.

The use of scented water is common, but can be difficult to administer. People use spray bottles and other interesting methods that lack precision. This new and advanced tool places scented water in each foot step and at the concentration that you choose. It is exactly where you want it and provides better training. Look at our videos to see for yourself. You want the best tracking dog out there....so start here!

The application of scented water with the TrackDog is simple. Use sterile gauze and place it in your socks for at least five to ten minutes. The longer you leave it in place the more odor it collects. Remove it from the foot after some time and then rub it on shins, calves, arms, or something of your choice to place additional skin rafts and odor on the gauze. Place the scented gauze in the container. Fill the container at least a quarter full with "distilled" water. Set the track with small shots of the scented water in whatever footsteps you want. This enhances the human odor for the dog to focus on.

Let's break down tracking into simple terms. When you ask your dog to track a person, what exactly are you asking them to do? You want the dog to follow a person, meaning, follow that particular person's odor. Traditional K9 tracking training involves asking your dog to focus on a multitude of odors. When a person walks across soft surfaces such as vegetation and grass, their weight crushes the grass, kills small bugs, the surfaces of their footwear transfers to the ground, and they drop skin rafts as they go.

Hard surface tracking is even more complex, with the majority of the odor on the track being that of surface transfers between footwear and the ground's surface. In both of these scenarios, the human odor is the least concentrated odor. You are essentially telling your dog, "I want you to follow all of these odors and show me where they go."

In order for the dog to stay focused on that person's track, they must be able to sift through the various odors and hone in on that person's odor. The problem with traditional tracking training is that although you know that the human odor is present, with it being the least concentrated

odor, your dog is more likely focusing on the more apparent and pungent odors; the ground disturbances. This creates an issue when cross tracks are present. Both the track layer and that of the person on the cross track both walked across the same surface, creating similar ground disturbance odors and making scent discrimination more difficult.

By using the TrackDog, you initially saturate the track with the track layer's odor, bringing the human odor above the levels of the ground disturbances, surface transfers and other variables. Now you KNOW your dog is focusing on the human odor! After a couple of training sessions, start to bring in cross tracks and correcting the dog off of the cross tracks. This will assist you in training your dog scent discrimination. Now you are telling your dog, "I want you to follow this specific person from start to finish." As training progresses, you bring down the saturation level of human odor, slowly bringing your training towards a real world scenario where the level of human odor is lower than that of the other variables. Since the TrackDog has focused your dog on the human odor, he will now search for that specific odor during the track even when it is the least apparent odor. Now not only have you trained your dog to discriminate between different human odors, but you have trained them to stay dedicated to that person's scent from start to finish, scent discrimination and scent dedication!

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acking By Norm Nardi

Tracking training requires two things: Scent and Motivation

Scent

Before your dog can possibly track there must be an accumulation of scent on the surface of the ground from the start of the track to the end of the track. While scent is a complex matter and is impossible to cover completely in this article, fortunately we do not need to know all of the technical aspects of it in order to train dogs to track. For the purpose of training tracking the following should be of help.

1. Scent is produced by the human body, and when vegetation on the surface of the ground is crushed or disturbed when trod upon by a person. The tracks your dog will be exposed to in training and in service will always be a mixture of Human scent and Ground scent

2. Some components of scent are heavier than air and tend to fall to the ground more or less where they are produced, other components of scent are lighter than air and tend to be carried away on existing air currents. The mixture of human scent and ground scent that ultimately accumulates on the ground, on or very close to the actual path where a person walked is called The Track

One goal in setting up a tracking exercise is to produce a track with a sufficient density of track scent for the dog to detect, from start of the track to the end, while making sure any airborne scent produced during the track laying has dispersed, moved or otherwise diminished before the dog starts the track. To accomplish this the following should be considered:

- A. Generally speaking, a track should be laid in the direction of any air movement, (going the same direction as any breeze) in this way any airborne scent produced during the laying of the track will be carried away from the dog at the starting point preventing the dog from being able to wind scent the person laying the track, this will prevent the dog from being able to simply follow the track layer's scent cone in the air.
- B. Beginning tracks should not be laid on surfaces which produce very little scent such as hard packed dirt, sand, clay or paved lots such as parking, lots. Ideally tracking surface for starting a dog is open land with short ground vegetation (10 inches tall or so)
- C. Beginning tracks should not be laid in direct sunlight as this will often result in rising scent and the phenomenon we call burn off which means, the life of the scent is greatly reduced by the effects of direct sunlight and accompanying heat, that is to say the period of time scent remains dense on the ground and strong enough for the dog to detect is greatly reduced.
- D. Beginning tracks should not be laid where there is an abundance of fresh human scent of persons or animals other than that of the track layer. Using a school play ground where children recess for example would not be desirable.
- E. A beginning track should be started as soon as you calculate any airborne scent produced during the track laying has dissipated or been carried away on the breeze, but before the ground scent deteriorates below a level the dog can easily detect. Generally the delay will be only a few minutes. Ideally the ground scent will be strong enough for the dog to perceive the long solid scent track to follow, this will improve the dog's conscious recognition and awareness of the game, i.e. following the track to find the track layer.

Motivation

Anything that has a strong motivational affect on your dog is called a Motivator Pleasure and Pain are excellent examples of motivators. Before a dog will track it must anticipate finding something at the end of the track which the dog finds extremely desirable. This thing (motivator) whatever it may be will serve to motivate the dog to search. The three motivators commonly used in tracking training are, Food, A toy, and a Person acting the part of a bad guy or decoy. Regardless of what you use for a motivator the fact of the matter is this:

Your dog's motivation to track is a direct reflection of the relationship between him and the Motivator

If your dog is highly motivated by a ball for example, his tracking performance will reflect this high motivation. The same is true of any motivator you may select and so it is imperative for the handler to, properly manage the relationship between the dog and the motivator to assure it has the strongest motivational affect possible on the dog. You must see to it that nothing occurs which will tend to diminish the motivators affect on the dog.

Generally speaking this relationship is maintained by limiting the contact between the dog and the motivator. If a ball is used it serves no good purpose to allow the dog to constantly have a ball in the back of the patrol car or to play endlessly at home with the dog and a ball. If food is used it is most effective when food has been withheld until the dog is very hungry. If a decoy is used all criminal apprehension work apart and away from tracking should be terminated.

While I will not quarrel here with those who use food or a toy, these should never be simply placed on the ground along or at the end of a track, but should be held by a person at the end of the track, thus motivating the dog to find that person. It always seemed curious to me that a trainer who would never consider training a dog to perform a building search by hiding a ball may well attempt to train a dog to perform a track by hiding a ball. I have found the use of a decoy to be a very strong motivator for patrol dogs. The motivation for the criminal apprehension transfers to tracking smoothly and naturally. This transition is perceived by most dogs as little more than an extension of the criminal apprehension work, it generally occurs naturally within only a few exercises.

If you use food or a toy and are happy with your results I suppose now would be a good time to toss this article in the trash. If you are not happy with your dog's tracking performance however' the following may be of some help... In any case, from this point on I will consider only the decoy as the motivator and this article will center around this practice.

Starting the game When a decoy is used for tracking the game really starts when the criminal apprehension training is done for it is during this training that the relationship between the dog and decoy is established. Once again I point out, it is this relationship which will be reflected in the tracking behavior. If during the criminal apprehension work the dog comes to really like to engage the decoy, once the dog becomes aware the decoy is "out there somewhere" he will be really motivated to search for him.

In the initial stages of tracking training we must cause the dog to understand that he cannot find the decoy with his eyes or ears, this will greatly diminish the animals reliance on these sensory organs and so the dog will come to rely upon its olfactory and so, While the decoy will be required to gain the dog's attention on the initial tracks by making some visual display along with an audible display, as soon as the dog sees or hears the decoy and shows signs of being motivated to head in the direction of the decoy, the decoy must silently slip from sight into the distance until he can no longer be seen or heard by the dog, leaving behind only a trail of track scent for the dog to discover and follow.

In this way the decoy makes the dog aware that he is out there somewhere hiding, thus providing motivation for the dog to search. Without such awareness the dog will have no reason to start searching at all.

Note: We know that visual images dissolve in a dog's conscious mind in a very short time, perhaps as little as twenty seconds and so before the dog is allowed to start the track he is held back for twenty to thirty seconds. This will prevent the dog from simply dashing off to the point where the decoy was last seen. This phenomenon can be seen in detector dog training where a dog locates narcotics or explosive substances in a large room of a building, the dog is rewarded and taken from the room and after thirty seconds the dog is brought back into the room and given the signal to seek. SOME dogs will immediately go to the area where the substance was previously found. MOST dogs will not however.

Most dogs will simply start searching as if this was a new room, the mental image of the hide location from the previous search having dissolved from memory. The same can be seen with a simple game of fetch. Toss a ball into a field of knee high grass, hold the dog back twenty or thirty seconds and then release him for the search. Most dogs will dash about randomly with little awareness of where the ball was last seen, that image having dissolved in the delay time.

At the point the dog loses the conscious awareness of where he last observed the decoy, he will attempt to look and listen for the man. If the decoy remains out of sight the dog cannot see him, if he or she remains quiet the dog cannot hear him or her and so if the dog is to find the person he must use his olfactory. When the track is set up properly there will be virtually no airborne scent to follow but there will be an abundance of track scent for the dog to detect and follow.

Most dogs will quickly become conscious of the correlation between discovering scent and following it to the decoy, this is after all a natural behavior in dogs and as Don Sterling points out, "you do not need to teach a dog to track, he will do this naturally" We know a dog will always do what in the past was followed immediately with a desirable result and so if your dog was previously trained for building search, the dog will have many experiences at success in finding the decoy by detecting scent in the air, generally finding the man very close by this pool of airborne scent.

This training will interfere with the starting tracking exercises, the dog will probably attempt to wind scent the person and when it cannot initially find airborne scent will attempt to bound randomly across the field searching for scent in the air. If this occurs the handler does not advance one single step from the start, the exercise ends with the dog simply being taken from the field.

A new field is then selected where the grass is at least 20 inches tall thus enabling the decoy to lay flat without being immediately seen by the dog until he is very close to him. The decoy makes a short track, thirty or forty feet long, and lays down flat on the ground. At the point the dog is motivated to search the handler allows the animal to take leash to the end and then when the dog is pulling hard allows the dog to advance for the much anticipated encounter with the decoy.

A few of these exercises should cause the dog to anticipate finding the decoy on the ground. When the dog comes to this point the next track has the decoy positioned several yards further

away from the starting point. The dog again reaches the end of the leash and continues to search the ground to locate the man. So long as the dog is working close to the ground the handler allows advancement until the dog finds the man.

Train today for tomorrow. This means do today what will improve the probability of tomorrow's performance. Understanding that all behavior is part instinctive, part the result of the immediate environment, and part the result of the memory of all past similar experiences, I look at the progression of training in the following way; Initially (assuming the dog has no previous area or building search) the dog's behavior is 80% instinctive and 20% environment, there is no memory factor with no previous experience to draw from.

As training progresses the instinctive drive to search remains high but the actual search behavior becomes more the result of memory with each successive experience and repetition until ultimately the search behavior is the result of 80% memory and 20% environment. In drug work we see this concept at work, initially the dog will dash about in an instinctive random manner.

Nature causes the dog to act this way because the more ground covered by the dog on a natural hunt, the greater the chances of striking prey scent. Once the dog finds the reward in a particular location over and over, let's say hidden on a vehicle, the instinctive random search dashing about becomes less and less and the conditioned search behavior based on memory becomes more and more common and so the dog eagerly approaches and searches the vehicle.

There are a few things to consider when starting a dog tracking: The decoy must never hide behind a bush or object, this may cause the dog to always anticipate the man behind something and so the dog will tend to simply look for objects to go to and search rather than following track scent. Some refer to this sort of behavior as bush hunting. The same is true of tree hides, if the dog locates the persons hiding in trees too often the dog will tend to wind scent the person detracting from the tracking behavior we want.

To help understand some of this look at your dog's article search behavior. When you give the signal to article search does the dog's nose go up in the air or on the ground? Probably on the ground. Why? Because the dog has always found the article on the ground and so there is no reason for the dog to search high. Tracking should be seen as little more than an article search in which the article just happens to be a decoy, who is always found on the ground.

When done properly the dog will also come to see not only is the decoy always on the ground but he is always at the end of a long track of scent. One of the most destructive things a handler can do is to help the dog. This will quickly become a way of life for the dog and then a necessary part of tracking, the dog will come to rely upon the handler for help. If the dog is not successful in a track, the exercise should be ended in such a way that the dog is further motivated for the next track.

The decoy may jump up and dash off while the dog is taken back to the patrol car or any number of other things can be done. If the handler helps the dog by assisting on corners and so on, the dog will do less and less searching with each exercise relying more and more on the handler. It is impossible to cover all that needs to be said about tracking in a short article. The information

provided here is not intended to teach someone how to conduct tracking training, rather it is intended to cause handlers to rethink their methods and to consider all that goes into the planning stages of training a dog to track.

Tracking By Norm Nardi

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- C. Beginning tracks should not be laid in direct sunlight as this will often result in rising scent and the phenomenon we call burn off which means, the life of the scent is greatly reduced by the effects of direct sunlight and accompanying heat, that is to say the period of time scent remains dense on the ground and strong enough for the dog to detect is greatly reduced.
- D. Beginning tracks should not be laid where there is an abundance of fresh human scent of persons or animals other than that of the track layer. Using a school play ground where children recess for example would not be desirable.
- E. A beginning track should be started as soon as you calculate any airborne scent produced during the track laying has dissipated or been carried away on the breeze, but before the ground scent deteriorates below a level the dog can easily detect. Generally the delay will be only a few minutes. Ideally the ground scent will be strong enough for the dog to

perceive the long solid scent track to follow, this will improve the dog's conscious recognition and awareness of the game, i.e. following the track to find the track layer.

Motivation

Anything that has a strong motivational affect on your dog is called a Motivator. Pleasure and Pain are excellent examples of motivators. Before a dog will track it must anticipate finding something at the end of the track which the dog finds extremely desirable. This thing (motivator) whatever it may be will serve to motivate the dog to search. The three motivators commonly used in tracking training are, Food, A toy, and a Person acting the part of a bad guy or decoy. Regardless of what you use for a motivator the fact of the matter is this:

Your dog's motivation to track is a direct reflection of the relationship between him and the Motivator

If your dog is highly motivated by a ball for example, his tracking performance will reflect this high motivation. The same is true of any motivator you may select and so it is imperative for the handler to, properly manage the relationship between the dog and the motivator to assure it has the strongest motivational affect possible on the dog. You must see to it that nothing occurs which will tend to diminish the motivators affect on the dog.

Generally speaking this relationship is maintained by limiting the contact between the dog and the motivator. If a ball is used it serves no good purpose to allow the dog to constantly have a ball in the back of the patrol car or to play endlessly at home with the dog and a ball. If food is used it is most effective when food has been withheld until the dog is very hungry. If a decoy is used all criminal apprehension work apart and away from tracking should be terminated.

While I will not quarrel here with those who use food or a toy, these should never be simply placed on the ground along or at the end of a track, but should be held by a person at the end of the track, thus motivating the dog to find that person. It always seemed curious to me that a trainer who would never consider training a dog to perform a building search by hiding a ball may well attempt to train a dog to perform a track by hiding a ball. I have found the use of a decoy to be a very strong motivator for patrol dogs. The motivation for the criminal apprehension transfers to tracking smoothly and naturally. This transition is perceived by most dogs as little more than an extension of the criminal apprehension work, it generally occurs naturally within only a few exercises.

If you use food or a toy and are happy with your results I suppose now would be a good time to toss this article in the trash. If you are not happy with your dog's tracking performance however' the following may be of some help... In any case, from this point on I will consider only the decoy as the motivator and this article will center around this practice.

Starting the game When a decoy is used for tracking the game really starts when the criminal apprehension training is done for it is during this training that the relationship between the dog and decoy is established. Once again I point out, it is this relationship which will be reflected in the tracking behavior. If during the criminal apprehension work the dog comes to really like to engage the decoy, once the dog becomes aware the decoy is "out there somewhere" he will be really motivated to search for him.

In the initial stages of tracking training we must cause the dog to understand that he cannot find the decoy with his eyes or ears, this will greatly diminish the animals reliance on these sensory organs and so the dog will come to rely upon its olfactory and so, While the decoy will be required to gain the dog's attention on the initial tracks by making some visual display along with an audible display, as soon as the dog sees or hears the decoy and shows signs of being motivated to head in the direction of the decoy, the decoy must silently slip from sight into the distance until he can no longer be seen or heard by the dog, leaving behind only a trail of track scent for the dog to discover and follow.

In this way the decoy makes the dog aware that he is out there somewhere hiding, thus providing motivation for the dog to search. Without such awareness the dog will have no reason to start searching at all.

Note: We know that visual images dissolve in a dogs conscious mind in a very short time, perhaps as little as twenty seconds and so before the dog is allowed to start the track he is held back for twenty to thirty seconds. This will prevent the dog from simply dashing off to the point where the decoy was last seen. This phenomenon can be seen in detector dog training where a dog locates narcotics or explosive substances in a large room of a building, the dog is rewarded and taken from the room and after thirty seconds the dog is brought back into the room and given the signal to seek. SOME dogs will immediately go to the area where the substance was previously found. MOST dogs will not however.

Most dogs will simply start searching as if this was a new room, the mental image of the hide location from the previous search having dissolved from memory. The same can be seen with a simple game of fetch. Toss a ball into a field of knee high grass, hold the dog back twenty or thirty seconds and then release him for the search. Most dogs will dash about randomly with little awareness of where the ball was last seen, that image having dissolved in the delay time.

At the point the dog loses the conscious awareness of where he last observed the decoy, he will attempt to look and listen for the man. If the decoy remains out of sight the dog cannot see him, if he or she remains quiet the dog cannot hear him or her and so if the dog is to find the person he must use his olfactory. When the track is set up properly there will be virtually no airborne scent to follow but there will be an abundance of track scent for the dog to detect and follow.

Most dogs will quickly become conscious of the correlation between discovering scent and following it to the decoy, this is after all a natural behavior in dogs and as Don Sterling points out, "you do not need to teach a dog to track, he will do this naturally" We know a dog will always do what in the past was followed immediately with a desirable result and so if your dog was previously trained for building search, the dog will have many experiences at success in finding the decoy by detecting scent in the air, generally finding the man very close by this pool of airborne scent.

This training will interfere with the starting tracking exercises, the dog will probably attempt to wind scent the person and when it cannot initially find airborne scent will attempt to bound randomly across the field searching for scent in the air. If this occurs the handler does not advance one single step from the start, the exercise ends with the dog simply being taken from the field.

A new field is then selected where the grass is at least 20 inches tall thus enabling the decoy to lay flat without being immediately seen by the dog until he is very close to him. The decoy makes a short track, thirty or forty feet long, and lays down flat on the ground. At the point the dog is

motivated to search the handler allows the animal to take leash to the end and then when the dog is pulling hard allows the dog to advance for the much anticipated encounter with the decoy.

A few of these exercises should cause the dog to anticipate finding the decoy on the ground. When the dog comes to this point the next track has the decoy positioned several yards further away from the starting point. The dog again reaches the end of the leash and continues to search the ground to locate the man. So long as the dog is working close to the ground the handler allows advancement until the dog finds the man.

Train today for tomorrow. This means do today what will improve the probability of tomorrow's performance. Understanding that all behavior is part instinctive, part the result of the immediate environment, and part the result of the memory of all past similar experiences, I look at the progression of training in the following way; Initially (assuming the dog has no previous area or building search) the dog's behavior is 80% instinctive and 20% environment, there is no memory factor with no previous experience to draw from.

As training progresses the instinctive drive to search remains high but the actual search behavior becomes more the result of memory with each successive experience and repetition until ultimately the search behavior is the result of 80% memory and 20% environment. In drug work we see this concept at work, initially the dog will dash about in an instinctive random manner.

Nature causes the dog to act this way because the more ground covered by the dog on a natural hunt, the greater the chances of striking prey scent. Once the dog finds the reward in a particular location over and over, let's say hidden on a vehicle, the instinctive random search dashing about becomes less and less and the conditioned search behavior based on memory becomes more and more common and so the dog eagerly approaches and searches the vehicle.

There are a few things to consider when starting a dog tracking: The decoy must never hide behind a bush or object, this may cause the dog to always anticipate the man behind something and so the dog will tend to simply look for objects to go to and search rather than following track scent. Some refer to this sort of behavior as bush hunting. The same is true of tree hides, if the dog locates the persons hiding in trees too often the dog will tend to wind scent the person detracting from the tracking behavior we want.

To help understand some of this look at your dog's article search behavior. When you give the signal to article search does the dog's nose go up in the air or on the ground? Probably on the ground. Why? Because the dog has always found the article on the ground and so there is no reason for the dog to search high. Tracking should be seen as little more than an article search in which the article just happens to be a decoy, who is always found on the ground.

When done properly the dog will also come to see not only is the decoy always on the ground but he is always at the end of a long track of scent. One of the most destructive things a handler can do is to help the dog. This will quickly become a way of life for the dog and then a necessary part of tracking, the dog will come to rely upon the handler for help. If the dog is not successful in a track, the exercise should be ended in such a way that the dog is further motivated for the next track.

The decoy may jump up and dash off while the dog is taken back to the patrol car or any number of other things can be done. If the handler helps the dog by assisting on corners and so on, the

dog will do less and less searching with each exercise relying more and more on the handler. It is impossible to cover all that needs to be said about tracking in a short article. The information provided here is not intended to teach someone how to conduct tracking training, rather it is intended to cause handlers to rethink their methods and to consider all that goes into the planning stages of training a dog to track.

Training Police Tracking Dogs "Tracking Through Drive" vs. "Foot Step Tracking"

by Ed Frawley

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[Information on our Level 1 Police Tracking Video](#)

[Information on our Level II III Police Tracking Video](#)

[Information on our video on How to Lay Tracks for a Police Service Dog](#)

There are two different training styles being practiced in North America to train police tracking dogs. The first is called "Foot Step Tracking" (FST), and the second is called "Tracking Through Drive" (TTD). The vast majority of American



police service dogs (99.9%) are trained in FST. This article will explain to the reader why I believe TTD is more productive. It will also explain why FST is so widely used in America.

Let me explain what FST is. This is the style of tracking used in the sport of Schutzhund, or in the WPO DPO Police Dog Certifications. This training is done using food that is dropped along a 400 to 800 yard track. There is usually a ball left at the end of the track that's used as an additional motivator. The dog is expected to track at a slow walk and stay within a couple of feet of the actual footsteps of the track layer. This is a very precise form of tracking but also a very slow method of tracking.

If you are a canine handler whose dog is trained in FST you already know that your "tracking find ratio" on actual suspects is less than 5%. Notice that I said "tracking find ratio" and not "area search find ratio." These are 2 different exercises. The difference is a track is done on line with the dog following the path that the suspect takes no matter what the wind direction. An area

search, on the other hand, is usually done off leash and into the wind. The handler gets down wind of the suspect and works back into the wind until his dog picks up scent. At that point the dog works the scent cone which leads to the suspect. The dog should always be trained to track before it is trained in area searches. If there is an option to either track or do an area search, tracking is the preferred method to locate people.

If a K-9 officer and his FST partner arrives on scene just minutes after a suspect has escaped through a perimeter, the officer will never catch the bad guy by tracking unless the suspect goes to ground within 1,000 yards. FST tracking dogs simply cannot track fast enough to make up enough distance to catch someone that keeps moving.

It is also physically impossible to expect a foot step tracking dog to follow a 3 to 5 mile long track. This style of work takes too much concentration on the dogs part. The dogs begin to peter out at about 1,000 yards, long before they have traveled even a fraction of most rural tracks.

If you are a canine handler whose dog is trained in TTD you know that your overall find ratio on tracks is close to 50% and that if the suspect is loose in a rural area and stays rural your find ratio goes up over 90%. TTD is an entirely different training concept. In TTD the dog is allowed to follow its natural instincts and run along a track. The handler runs behind on leash.

The concept of TTD training is to expect the dog to over shoot the corners because he is moving with such speed. Even though a dog can smell scent for a long way past a corner(in many cases 50 to 100 yards past the corner) he is trained to give a "negative" when he is 20 feet past the corner.

A "negative" is an indication of track loss. The most common form of a negative takes place when the dog is running along with his nose to the ground and all of a sudden the nose comes up off the ground and the dog begins to circle.

When the handler sees the dog give a "negative," his job is to get the dog back on the track as quickly as possible. He can either circle the dog to cut the next leg of the track and continue on, or the handler can back up along the track to a point where the dog actually had scent and then help his dog locate the turn.

The motivator for TTD is the fact that from the very first day of training there is always a person at the end of the track. When a dog gets out of a squad and gets into his tracking harness he knows for sure there is someone out there for him to find. His motivator is the possibility of a fight at the end of the track.

Notice that I said "the possibility" of a fight. This does not mean that the dog is allowed to get a bite on every training track. It does mean that there will always be someone at the end of the track and occasionally that person will fight with the dog. This possibility of a fight is what keeps the tough dogs going when a lesser dog will tire and quit.

TTD was developed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Since 1935 TTD is the only training method the RCMP has used at their Police Dog Training Center in Alberta. Over the past 18 months I have spent 3 1/2 weeks at their school filming TTD tracking. After producing three training videos on this subject I have become a convert. If a police department is serious about increasing the effectiveness of their canine unit, they need to learn TTD.

In 1993, on my first trip to Alberta, the instructors took me out and showed me a young dog in Level I training (there are three Levels to certify at before graduating) we followed a 5 KM unknown track in the country that was 45 minutes old. The dog tracked at a dead run. This dog has been at the school for about 6 weeks and had 54 training tracks. There were 5 or 6 road crossings, 4 articles, a dead end where the track layer doubled back and jumped off to one side and more corners than I could count. I was only able to keep up with the handler for the first third of the track. In 35 years of dog training I had never seen anything like this. I was an instant believer.

In 1994, on my second trip to Alberta I saw a number of dogs in Level III training follow 1 1/2 mile, 25 minute old, unknown tracks right through residential neighborhoods during the middle of the day. These tracks went down alleys where dogs were barking behind fences and the dog tracked right past them. I saw dogs flush cats, track right by garbage cans, ignore dog waste in the yards, and track through groups of kids playing in back yards. These dogs still had a month of training left before they certified out of Level III and graduated from the school. I could not believe it.

So while there is no question that TTD has a 58 year proven track record that produces 10 times the results that FST produces, TTD faces an uphill battle to become the accepted training style here in America. The main reason for this, is the police dog vendors that supply departments with handler training and dogs.

I have to say that before I went to Canada I was in the FST boat along with everyone else. I thought FST was the "only" way to train a police tracking dog. I took a 25 page outline on an FST tracking video with me to Alberta on my first trip and threw it in the garbage the night I saw the 5 KM track.

The problem vendors face is that they have traditionally supplied imported dogs with either Schutzhund style training or dogs with the Dutch KNPV training. Both of these dog sports have inherent flaws in them that result in the dogs not being able to deal with TTD.

To begin with, I believe that Schutzhund is a great dog sport, but it is FST. It is also not uncommon for Schutzhund trainers in Europe to "force track" their dogs. Force tracking takes the drive right out of a dog. Once force tracked, a dog will never be trained in TTD. At the very least the amount of restraint placed on a dog in Schutzhund or WPO tracking restricts the dog to the point where an inexperienced handler will probably not be able to train the dog in TTD. The RCMP has not been able to take a Schutzhund titled dog and retrain it in TTD.

KNPV, on the other hand, is a Dutch sport that does not have any tracking at all, but it does have an area search exercise in the woods. This creates another problem, a dog trained in building search and/or area search before it is trained to track will almost never be able to be trained in TTD. The RCMP has also never tracking certified a KNPV trained dog at their school.

So not only are service dog vendors faced with a learning process on this new style of tracking, they are also faced with coming up with a new source of dogs for departments that want to get involved in TTD. This is going to be difficult because this work takes an extraordinary dog. What works best is actually finding young dogs from all working bloodlines with no training but a lot of socializing. These dogs not only require good defensive drive (which can be difficult to spot at that young age), they also have to have a really strong prey drive, the kind of prey drive that we want to see in our narcotics dogs.

If a vendor wants to train dogs that will certify in Level III tracking, he must be prepared to put 100 to 120 tracks on a dog. This is an awful lot of time and work. I have a great deal of respect for a vendor that would put this kind of work into dogs that he sells. I will tell you one thing, departments are not going to be buying dogs for \$7,000 and getting 8 weeks of handler training and a Level III certified dog. No vendor can afford to put that kind of work into a dog and then sell it for so little money. If they do, they will not be in business very long.

I believe we will begin to see a few vendors offering these dogs, but the price is going to be above the \$10,000 range. I also think we will see departments going out and buying young selection tested dogs and doing the tracking (and maybe the training) themselves. The bottom line is that a young, untitled dog with no training is cheaper than a titled import. But a word of caution on selection testing: it is called "buyer beware." We are looking for extraordinary dogs. The RCMP

goes through an average of three dogs for every handler that graduates from the school. Maybe this will be the subject of a future article.

What I think will happen in this country is the development of a few really good tracking teams at various departments in each state. These will be highly motivated teams with great dogs that will build their reputation through their find ratios. When something serious happens in other localities, these teams will be requested by neighboring departments.

This is the direction that tracking has taken in Europe. The basic patrol dog coming out of police dog school is trained in FST to pass a WPO, DPO, or PSP certification. When something really serious happens, they don't call for the basic dog, they have their special dogs that are called out. These are their super tracking dogs. In Canada, every RCMP dog (and there are only 110 of them) is a super tracking dog. It's not uncommon for an RCMP handler to have to drive 150 to 200 miles and then track and catch a felony suspect. It happens every day in Canada. With work, it could be happening here in the States.

After this article was written there was an article that appeared in Dog Sports Magazine that tried to justify foot step tracking. Trying to justify foot step tracking is foolish. My response to the article is as follows:

Police Dog Tracking Through Drive
A Response to a "Foot Step Tracker"

by Ed Frawley

Over the years I have written a number of training articles, but my article on police tracking through drive (TTD) has produced more interest than all of the other articles combined. For the last two months I have been getting calls or letters on a daily basis. Every single contact has been a positive response from officers telling me it's about time someone tell them why the old foot step tracking (FST) does not work.

The one and only negative comment on this style of tracking came in the May issue of Dog Sports. Joe Laney tried to justify foot step tracking (FST) for police service dogs. As far as I am concerned it is very important that every young K-9 handler understands that there is no justification for FST in police service dogs. Joe is a nice guy but he is way off base here. I think the problem is that Joe only read my article and did not watch the three videos that I have

produced with the RCMP on this subject. Joe has never been to Canada and seen the TTD in action and he just doesn't understand this new training system.

I am going to address Joe's arguments against TTD in an item by item fashion. I would like to do this in a fashion that I hope is not taken personally by Joe. It is certainly not meant that way.

To begin with Joe says that TTD is too fast for almost all cops. He says that "K-9 cops are physically not going to go out and run 5 miles behind their tracking dogs." I agree with Joe on this point. Most K-9 cops are out of shape and can not run long distances. But just because we have the wrong handler behind the dog does not mean that the training system is flawed.

To begin with, a FST tracking dog is never going to be able to follow a 5 mile track. In his article Joe admits that after 1,400 paces his own FST dog's temperature goes up to 106 degrees on warm days. So how could it ever track 5 miles? The answer is "it can't." But 5 miles with a TTD dog is not that big of a deal. The fact that a handler can't keep up with his dog is not the training systems fault. I am 47 years old and had knee surgery last year after an injury sustained while running behind my police dog. At this point I am not sure if I will ever recuperate to the point where I can continue this style of training. Just because I may not be physically able to keep up with my dog does not mean I should switch to FST. I am currently training a younger officer on my sheriff's department to run a dog. I will continue to work my drug dog and area search dog.

Joe's second point concerned officer safety with tracking at this speed. If I led someone to believe that a K-9 officer should run behind his dog on a swat call, it was a mistake and I did not mean to imply that. You would have to have a death wish to be so foolish. On the other hand 99% of the normal K-9 calls are not swat calls, in those cases you run.

In Canada the RCMP has dedicated ERT teams (Emergency Response Teams or Swat Teams). Many of their ERT teams will not go out without a dog. They have trained with K-9 and developed their own tactics to work together. The RCMP dogs are so good at article identification that they naturally point out booby traps. In reality, what is a booby trap if not an article left by the suspect?

In non-swat calls the K-9 officer needs to move quickly if he wants to make up distance and catch a suspect that's 15 or 20 minutes ahead of him on a track. Many times it's a good idea to take a back up officer with a long gun, but this needs to be an officer that can run and has had training with the dog team. He needs to understand the tactics of the dog team as it moves along the track. If the track turns out to be a long haul, its a simple fact that most backup officers can't keep up. They don't have the advantage of the dog pulling them along.

As far as Joe's "Man Trackers" are concerned, we don't have any in Wisconsin or Minnesota. My feeling is a "Man Tracker" is a rare item. I don't have any experience with these people. I have heard about them but I know that the average police department or sheriff's department does not have access to "Man Trackers". Besides, when someone starts to claim that they can track better than a dog, I start to question the training of the dog.

The question of officer safety vs. speed has come up before. I have a couple of standard comments to people who are concerned with officer safety on normal police tracks. First - I ask them when are they an easier target - Running or Walking Slowly Behind Their Dog? Second, if the danger of a normal police track overly concerns you, it is time to get out of K-9.

I think the RCMP would be inclined to argue with Joe when he implies a lack of guns in Canada. Don't kid yourself, the bad guys in Canada have guns. Many use sawed off shot guns rather than pistols. If I had a choice I would take a hit from a pistol any day before a shot gun.

Joe made a comment on TTD dogs missing articles on a track because of the speed. Article training is something that needs to be done correctly. It makes no difference if its TTD or FST. If the training is done poorly a dog is going to miss articles in either style of training. You see this all the time on the TV show "Cops" where the dogs can't find a gun thrown in a back yard. I always laugh at this because a gun is the easiest article in the world to find. Guns stink like hell to a dog.

Article training is a very big part of the RCMP program. It goes way beyond just article indication on a track. Their dogs go through small article training (similar to KNPV work) and alley searches. In small article training the dog must indicate on items the size of buttons and bullets in a given area. In alley searches they have to indicate on articles laying next to garbage cans and up against back yard fences. They must learn to ignore dogs that are barking on the other side of the fence. While this training is done "off a track" it still improves a dogs indications "on the track." What I am trying to say here is that there is a lot more to article training than most K-9 Officers know. I am currently working on a training video for article indication.

In my Level One training video you will see a solid black dog tracking in an open wheat field. There is a 40 to 50 mile per hour wind blowing across the track. This is a young dog with less than 50 training tracks. It is following the track about 40 feet off to the side of the track (because of the cross wind). When it gets to an article it comes back to the actual track, indicates the

article and then goes on. If you listened to FST trainers you would expect this dog to miss these articles. Dog's with the correct training don't miss articles if there is scent available.

Joe made a comment that in FST tracking, the dogs track with closed mouths so they can concentrate and in TTD they track with an open mouth. He also said that "if a dog's mouth is open when it reaches a corner, it will likely miss the corner." This is a widely held belief of SCHUTZHUND trainers and it is wrong.

Let me quickly explain the concept of corner training in TTD. Under the right conditions, a dog has the ability to smell a track 100 yards past a corner. In TTD training the dog is taught that even though he can still smell the track leg way past the turn it is unacceptable to go more than 20 or 30 feet past a turn before he gives a negative and starts to circle. This is the "KEY" to corner training. The dog's nose is sensitive enough to differentiate the declining level of scent. It's our job to teach the dog to indicate corners at 20 or 30 feet past a turn.

Escaping dog units / evading dogs .

In the right conditions ,

a dog can detect you from a mile away , your steps and breath too . Some attack dogs can be right on you before you know it ; Trained in silence , travelling up to 15 klm ph and weighing up to 48kg are just as lethal as being shot .

Tracking dogs and hunting dogs are both trained to detect and engage with or without their handler however the attack dog is more lethal and tracker dogs rarely engage a target .

Tracker dogs specialty is ground scent and do not usually attack but have been trained to do so if needed however their usual job is to lead their handler to the source of the scent where attack dogs would usually take over from there .

There are 2 types of tracker / search dogs . The tracker dogs are usually held by the handler whilst search dogs are allowed to roam free from their handler and usually search and sniff out meter by meter with a team of dog handlers using other types of dogs as mentioned .Your scent can be detected in the air as well as on the ground .

Some of the "Give aways".

Wet clothes , sweating heavily or over worn clothes can give off strong smells that the dog can pick up . When evading dogs , be aware of your cloths and kit. A dog can hear high pitched noises that humans do not , so the squeak of your boots or utensils clashing around in your kit will be more easily picked up by a dog than a human . Even lighting a match or the burning of a camp fire flame can be picked up over a mile away with a dog . An achilles heal that the tracker and attack dogs do have like many dogs is their eye sight . Most animals including a dog that has fantastic eye sight and smell , usually hold their heads near the ground for picking up scent , this is an indicator that their eye sight lacks where their scent of smell exceeds . This is why dogs are quick to see anything that interrupts the sky line as it offers movement for their vision to pick up . An advantage can be found in weather when it is raining . Rain offers background noise and can

muffle strong or high pitched sounds , so take advantage of rain when it comes , heavy rain also can wash away smells left on the floor and can make it quite hard for tracker / attack dogs to find you .

Another way to evade dogs is to go down wind from them as sound travels quite well in the wind and if the wind is blowing towards a dog , it is 3 times as likely that they will pick up on your position , so keep down wind .

The strongest smell comes from under your arms .So try not to get nervous or frightened when evading dogs as it lets off sweat that the dogs can pick up . Also if you are on the move and carrying heavy equipment , try not to move to the point that it makes you sweat unless ultra emergency , moving slowly and easy is the best way to escape tracker/hunter/attack dogs . Soap/washing your cloths , deodorant can also give you away , and if you touch a tree with molecules of these things on your body (deodorant/shampoo/soap/ the chances are , is that you will transfer these molecules onto anything you touch . Things like trees , bushes , branches etc . So be aware , don't be a "tarts handbag" when escaping from being tracked .Wet cloths can also give off strong smells , so don't let you clothes get damp .

It doesnt take much to allow a dog to pick up your scent . a persons sweat can last up to around 50hrs because of various reasons .

- 1) touch as mentioned .
- 2) sweat .
- 3) just movement alone .

The sweat coming from your feet is more easily detected from your toes than your heel points on your foot prints or where you have stepped . This is because people push from their step using their toes and this pushes out air from the shoe . The air that comes from the shoe will Carry scent which can be much different to the scent from the air that's squeezed out from the ground as you walk and because it can linger , it will be detected from a tracker dog . Even using a frequently used foot path may not throw off the tracker dog as it has as much smell recognition to peoples scent as we do regarding peoples faces , so do not think that a frequently used path will throw them off your trail although later you will see that it can help confuse them a little or atleast make them work harder .

The good news . 😊

Just because a dog can out smell you / out hear you and even out run you , it doesnt mean that it can out think you hence the good news . One can out think a tracker / attack dog .

You can out-tit and confuse these dogs .

- 1) Escape or approach down wind .
- 2) Move slow and easy - don't sweat .
- 3) Use what ever natural objects you can as cover like natural under growth , hedges and also keep as low as possible when your out in the open .
- 4) Only if you have too - use foot paths usually used by other people . It wont through off a smart dog but can help .
- 5) If you are about 150 meters away from them and have a target to reach , don't stop for

anything . Tracker and attack dogs have been known to pick up scent down upwind at this distance . So if your freedom lays beyond you less than 200yards , go for it and don't stop but keep as quiet and possible .

6) If you are in a compound or a built up area , try to get above ground before they track your scent . Dogs don't usually smell scent from up there and if they do , they might be confused as heck trying to find out where it comes from .

7) If near a dog and its handler -- keep still . People have been known to have tracker dogs pass them at less than 5 meters away and not detect them because they stayed still .

If you have "NO CHOICE" . 🤖

If you have been caught or are in attack range of a dog , the best method of affective immobilisation is to allow the dog to bite you 1st !

yep -- let the dog bite you 1st !

This allows for the dog to be committed to one part of your body whilst you are now able to assess all its weak spots . Wrap something around your arm and offer it out for a grasp that the dog will inevitably bite . This is also out thinking a dog , as it is trained to go for things like arms , answer you know this and offer it to them , thus fooling the dog into a false sense of security . If you manage to still stand as the dog bites , club the bastard ! (LOL) . Usually across the bridge of its nose or on the tip of its nose . You can thrust your fingers in its eye ball sockets and play with its brains or grab its wind pipe in the throat and squeeze your hardest to quickly suffocate the dog . Kill it ! if you just strangle it till it drops it might get back up once it has recovered , so if you have to crush its wind pipe and the dog does collapse , keep crushing for a good minuet if you have time otherwise club the git !

If the dog leaps at you , try to get at its throat or atleast hold the dog away from you at arms length and work your way round its back . You can then either break its scrawny neck or again crush its wind pipe . Another alternative is to make you way to its legs and split the front legs if you can really fats at 180 degrees or further . (Right leg to the right and left leg to the left as far as you can .) This will rip its insides or tear out heart in two if done right . Don't be afraid to go for the big cracking sound , that will fix good old Rex to an early night for ever .

Always offer your arm in padded cloths if you can , to convince the dog to bite your offering is far better than to scrap it bouncing around .

BASICS . 😊

AVASION .

Even if you have no idea whether you are being tracked by handlers and their dogs keeping as close to the ground helps to keep all smells less airborne and will help keep your scent to that area as other things like natural obsticles and plant growth can capture and prevent scents travelling far from your hide.

Place you clothing on top of you thus the ground will absorb most of your scent and your cloths may offer defence to stop your scent traveling in the air .

A small dugout can also help you . Get into a dig out below ground level as your scent will absorb into the near by ground that surrounds you and the undergrowth .

Breathing into the ground or towards it helps your scent to be absorbed . Stay still . No smoke or fires . No rubbish or things left behind . If you are discovered , then you might have to run your backside off .

Using tracks and foot paths can help make the dog work much harder to find you . If you are part of a group it helps to split up from time to time and also doubling back on your self also helps . Important - before splitting up create rendezvous for each party to know where to meet up later on during the escape .

Using streams .

Criss crossing in the stream and also creating doubling back tactics like creating a diamond shape from one side of the stream to the other and back on it self can really confuse the dog . Using streams can tire you out so be aware of your physical health .The doubling back diamond shaped criss crosses can confuse the dogs because they wont know which one is your exit route etc , so its a good thing to do across streams .

When preparing food of any kind be aware of the wind direction . Handle all foods and rappers as small as possible because if you have to disregard anything , the smell of food and your scent is the difference to that dog knowings its food -----or -----YOUR food . If you have to bury something , handle it as least as possible and also do not cover the rubbish etc with soul that is touched by your hands as you will leave a scent . Instead use a branch or a spade / anything that can help.

If you are sighted -- bloody well Peg it

.

Running fast if seen is the best tactic and if luck helps you , you can use cliff faces and or bad terrane to tire out the dogs and the handlers . This is a good tactic because it can knock their confidence and can also create mental fatigue and course arguments and hard feelings with the people in the tracker group .

If you are within reach of a dog , you will definitely know whether it is a tracker or an attacker . Attack dogs do what it says on the tin and just one look at it will let you know whether you are about to be lunch or not . Tracker dogs are trained to attack if needed but rarely attack , the dull deputy dog look on its face is the dead give away .Be more aware of the attack dogs than the tracker dogs as far as being face to face goes . the attacker dog is a nasty bit of work and don't go down easily so if you have got to this , you know what to do .

However ; if you have been caught up on by any of these dogs , its not the dogs that become the problem as they can be easily put 6 foot under , its the handler group and their back-up fire power .

if you have "put the dog to a good home as they say on TV) , move as fast as you can and get out of handlers sights . get rid of loose clothing and weight that can slow you down . If you have read the other threads in the survival section , getting rid of tents , bivvies or other equipment shouldn't really bother you as you would have packed a grab and run bag which will supply basic needs anyway even if that was all you had after dumping everything . If you do dump clothing and gear , spread it out or strategicly put in a route that you intend not to take , this can offer you time as the team searching for you will be distracted by it .

Once you have done this , various steps and tactical actions can be repeated as mentioned above

lets just hope , that we never have to use this knowledge .

For now I'll simply say keep moving, while they are tracking they won't be outrunning you. They are limited by the handlers speed. Also the handler is the weak link not the dog.

If you don't have a knife see if you can find a rock sharp enough to put a point on a stick. A short stick is fine it will be handy if the dogs catch up to put them out of commission, grab a very sturdy piece of hardwood and make a stake out of it.

Try to move downwind if thats impossible go over extreme terrain. Stay hydrated and keep going.

I'll detail my traps and dog evasion techniques later but if you saw the other post you know them.

Just a little tip. Raw amonia on the dogs snout and he loses his sense of smell for the next hour.

That's how burglars in South Africa get past scarey guard dogs.

If you can't physicaly apply it a good dog won't fall for it. My dog will not sniff any foreign objects because he can smell it from hundreds of yards away and I have applied such things to his snout to teach him not to touch.

A good dog will have had the same treatment. The best way to disable the dog is to take a dirty sock off and lace it with fishhooks or glass or other very sharp and pointy objects. The item covered in your scent will make the dog associate your scent with pain and hes trained to avoid that.. hes out of commission or is confused because the trainer is now double talking and wanting him to do something he has trained him not to. To follow a scent that hurts him.

Growing up around here we were militant little kids, we played alot of manhunt. And well hillbillies and hounds go hand in hand almost, its good to practice because you can find unique answers to problems and learn from others as well. I've learned a few more tricks for my arsenal reading here, for instance from now on when I set a trap and want to recon my quarry I will do as you say and get in a low depression that I can view my trail from downwind. And maybe if I need a club I'll use a sock with rocks, should have remember that from full metal jacket lol.

I don't recommend anyone tries to get loose from an attack dog without protection like that. I trained with leather greaves on instead of thick padding, but the exercise was about a sudden release of dogs on you without preparation time. Trying to see if its possible to get away from the dog and the following handlers, with one dog its possible but close, with two dogs if you have a weapon its doable easily. I got loose pretty fast, maybe 3-4 seconds. One thing I really should mention about that, don't wait for the dog to clamp down as soon as its mouth is open and you shove your arm inside it HARD, you will be at the pinch point but most dogs teeth there aren't as damaging at tje back of the jaw and as soon as you got its throat it looses strength fast. If its gripping real hard then use your arm as a level to twist the dogs head, it will loose some strength that way and the pressure will lessen dramaticaly. Your arm can be used as a lever and levers apply alot of force, even more than the dogs bite. Though I must admit its easier to do that with leather guards because I don't have teeth ripping my flesh, but still doable given adrenaline and shock and all. Its possible to do this with your arm wrapped up, make loose wraps so you can jerk your arm out the side it may be stuck on the teeth and the little roll might not work with padding. But don't try this at home, something to keep in the back of your head in case some jerk kids release their dogs on you or something you can go rambo on them.

Attack dogs are not used to aggressive targets, the dog I trained with was shocked and actually tried to get away from me. Granted it was a county attack dog so it wasn't as vicious as some the state have and maybe private citizens.

If a dog has managed to bite your hand and fingers , there are a few things that you might be able to do before they bite off your fingers .👊

Press down real hard on their tongue and force it to the back of their throat .
The dog (usually) will automatically try to reject your hand with their tongue and attempt to push your hand out of their mouth .

You could just use your finger as a spear and thrust it into their eye and use no mercy , go for the brain as they say , do it as hard as you can . It is that or have your fingers off .👊

If you do have your arm in their mouth , (well done on that lever thing BTW , very handy information to know) you could lever their mouth to grab the top of their nearest leg . with the other hand you could grab the other leg and pull the legs apart as far as you can and as hard as you can . Do it so hard that you split the dogs rib cage or the heart will split .

You could use the arm as a lever and fall down onto the dog to restrict its movements .
A real hard punch the the mid section of the chest or a grab the wind pipe and squeeze it like your gripping for your life .

The dog will faint .
Now you have a choice , either leave the dog to recover so that it can chase you again and who knows , this time they might just bite your throat and kill you or you could carry on until dead .

=====

This concerns normal street dogs .

(Not police or army attack dogs)

Have you ever walked down the road and been suddenly frightened or surprised by a dog out of nowhere ?

or

You can see the dog and it makes its way to you and starts barking and almost attacking you ?

How to stop this ?

It works for me and has worked for me over three times now .

I call it (the monkey position)

Squat down real fast (as though sitting on an invisible chair)

Open up your arms wide (like being on a cross)

Raw loud .

Watch the dog as it suddenly skids on the spot stopping instantly and backs off barking .

If you then run at it as soon as it skids and starts backing off the dog will run off .

two or three things have happened in those split seconds .

To explain this it does need a bit more detail .

1stly , Have you noticed how dogs always use their sense of smell and walk around sniffing the ground ?

This is because their noses are better than their eyes .

I am not saying that a dogs eye sight is bad , Im saying that their sense of smell is better than their sense of sight which is why they use their noses so much .

Most normal civilian dogs are used to this way of seeing the world .

That's why some small dogs like Yorkshire terrier are not afraid to bite a human being which can be up to ten times its height.

(in a way) its because they are unable to compare their body mass and height to ours .

That's why they come close up and bite the legs or why dogs jump up to attack us .Not just because of our height but in their own little world it brings them to the same height as us . It is an automatic reaction .

Now this gets me to this point about the monkey position .

Dogs don't see us in our entirety as a whole .

They mainly see our legs , the rest of us comes with how their approach us and as they approach us .

when we suddenly drop down to the seated position and open our arms wide , it increases our area at their height .

see what i am saying ?

at their height our body mass (according to their mentality) has suddenly increased 3 times .
The dog might just find this too much to take in , too much to compensate for .

Why ?

because before they approach you they have already committed their minds to what we are and how we are .

Which now gets me to this point .

It mucks up the dogs mind .

A psychological mind fk for the dog .

which now gets me to this point .

In that split second when the dog appears startled , keep your arms open wide , now you can stand up with your arms open wide and run at it .

the dog will now focus on your body mass and height and more than likely run away .

Some times they differ here and there , bark back , jump back and forwards all confused but they will eventually run away .

It is in those few seconds that you must strike .

when anything is caught off guard and is startled when attacking it usually will run .

All animals have two main instincts .

Prey (food)

Survival (run)

you can knock the balance knowing how their minds work .

DO NOT FORGET !

THIS TACTIC IS FOR STREET DOGS ONLY .

IT WILL NOT WORK ON A PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED ATTACK DOG !

Best way to stay artificially scented is to sleep close to animals/cow shed hen house etc, so you pick up their scent, whenever we were working with the sheep the scent is quite powerful and could be smelled for days on your jacket.

Also if you can kill the dog, take it for food, or cut the meaty parts of, take them with you and cook them later.

Gamekeepers often gas foxes with a nasty called Cymag, the dogs don't like this stuff and one whiff of it in moist ground and its toast.

Petrol buggers up their olfactory system also, so does certain kinds of soap left conveniently around, good old Vietnam trick.

We did escape and evasion many years ago and got past the RAF Reg dogs every time in Norfolk, it was great fun.

A well placed thorn bush or two around your hold up plays havoc if the dogs step on them, leave a forward position, a piece of clothing for them to hone in on and a nice nest of hidden thorn branches.

Sounds a bit gross but a small section cut from the bedding of a bitch who hasn't been spayed is the ultimate decoy.

Not 100% effective but coca cola poured on your tracks can interfere with SOME dogs sense of smell.

The easiest strategy is to carry a bottle of vinegar to cover your tracks. Very cheap but irritates the dogs nostrils.

It's not the dogs that will track you though, it's the choppers, night vision and IR.

nothing poured on tracks will top a tracking dog ,
dogs use other senses ,
scent is long range usually and any scent you give off is airborne it provides general direction ,
if dog loses scent nearby but out of reach for other senses it will circle again bypassing any lure on the ground and continue this action until reach ,
if you can get fresh scent from a bitch in season it would be effective but if stored it wouldn't work as it decays quickly ,
so you'd need a double bed sheet sized cloth cut into small pieces maybe a couple of days old max scatter the pieces in a figure of eight to bypass dogs instinctive tracking technique of circling and hide out within one of the circles don't leave if you do you break the scent loop and dogs back on your case .

you can't disguise or hide scent with another ,
dogs have fantastic scent discrimination .

anyone with a dog can test this , get three similar cups
and spray some aftershave into them allow to dry ,
now play find the treat dog will bypass the rogue smell without issue and find their snack no problem .

and

if you've a dog to set on attack dogs your not good at maths .
setting a dog on attack dog isnt going to happen ,
police know you've got a dog capable of injuring their dog they will just shoot your dog or remove the risk another way ,
now imagine you've set your dog on attack dogs to escape ,
well done you've removed any doubt of your whereabouts and secured your capture .
taking a dog on the run with you is a major bad idea imagine the situation ,

it's late at night your both sleeping , in the distance your pursues are heard by your dog and it barks to alert you bingo game up ,
now your wondering how they found you since you smell like a sheep and your sleeping face down in the dirt ,
what gave you away ?
it couldny have been fidos poop trail or pee trail could it lol ,

evading dogs is easy ,
learn to breath water or get distance between you and them .

Water is the key ellement that can mask your scent, if you have a great enough expanse of it between you and the canine olfactory, small breathing devices can be used to swin submerged and out of sight from all eyes and noses.

How about a garment tied to a temp captured wild animal to lead them off route, a line into a tree and pulled yourself straight up whilst letting the animal go well in advance.

if a dog has your scent your toast ,
if your trail leads to water and dog loses your trail the handler will lead dogs around banking until they pick it up again ,
dog would smell you up the tree .

the best way to avoid dogs is not to atract them don't leave a scent they can use to follow you with ,
and these days they might be supported by helicopters with all sorts of heat sealing and infra red detection devices on board .

btw o don't mind animals hunting naturally it's the human element that annoys me ,
the boar could've been despatched. quicker by gun

A dogs sense of smell is only effective for a short period of time. Hence why drug dogs etc only work 30 minute shifts. This is why trackers will use several dogs.

Also, anything above about the ten foot height mark rarely registers on a dogs radar.

With regards sound, if you were makung noise un a silent environment then fair enough. But silent environments are extremely rare.

My choice of guard dog is sound. He is a mongrel nit a mastiff and the terrier is nothing mire than a pet.

Remember the video I pisted you vorwhar? They were mine too. I used the german shepherd in that vid for tracking right up until she passed. I do know what Im talking about lol.

When we were doing the experiment we were at least 30 feet above the ground and had camped up their all night, the next day a friend walk our own dogs past the area we were in and they failed to find us every time, even though they had been given an item of clothing we had worn first.

In nature there are also many natural odour blockers that can be used to confuse dogs, one is called Meadow sweet, it acts on the olfactory of both humans and dogs and neutralises the senses for quite some time afterwards, this is why they often collected it and used it in smelly homes to stop the people smelling the stale room odours.

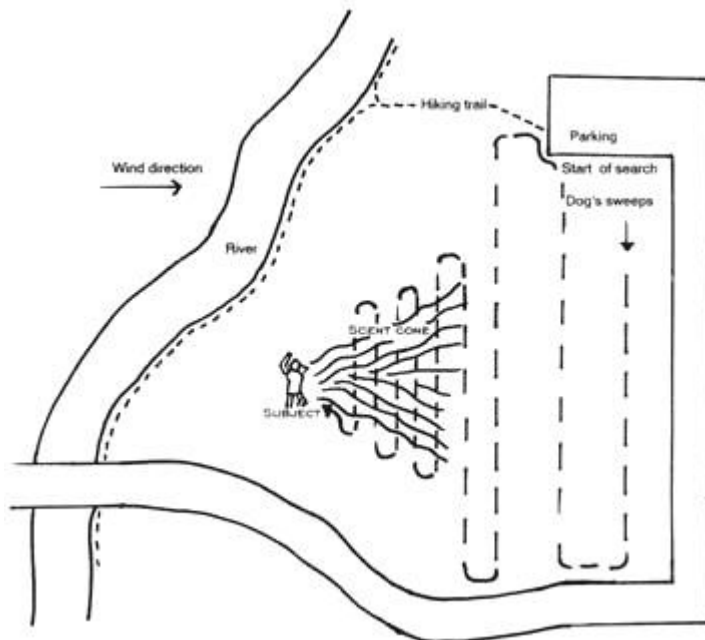
Perfumes were originally invented as a marinade for foods, the British Army made it for disguising rotten meat in a curry form, hence curry powder

here is a good article on sar dogs

<http://www.pedigreedatabase.com/arti...and-rescue-dog>

The dog will likely use more than one style of scent work to find you. Some dogs are more prone to air scenting naturally while others prefer ground scenting. Some dogs will flip between the two depending on the situation. They are always scenting the same thing: microscopic skin cells that we each continually shed all day long.

<http://airscentingsearchdogs.org.uk/>



even aircenting dogs will sometimes ditch to groundscenting .

When a airscenting dog detects scent, they can follow it to its source by staying in the area containing scent and moving upwind. By doing so they can detect over great distances .

tracking dogs and airscenting dogs work together so contaminating scent trails won't work and scent discrimination means disguising scents won't work either ,
your only real chance is a storm it would hinder sight scent and hearing maybe just enough but storms don't happen on Que .

From memory I vividly remember learning that certain times of day are beneficial to evade trackers/dogs, the heavy dew of the morning is a time when human orientated visuals can easily follow a set of track, in the dry and heat of the desert scent is quickly diluted.

The height advantage has always been a better way of evading the animal olfactory, AO's, skin shed would be carried away on the air for many miles by weather, and tiny sections of clothing containing scent can also be left in awkward positions to slow down the advance to contact.

I'm sure there are dozens of new techniques that have not been tried or thought about yet. A professional escapee, would have a plethora of other surprises for the basically brainless dog in pursuit

For instance, whilst serving in NI, the boys of Eire would use baited booby traps to dispatch search dogs who were lured via a bitch's bedding on heat, sniff/boom, same for other blocking odours.

The best evaders were the true natives like Geronimo who evaded even the most seasoned native trackers for many months, in fact he could have done it indefinitely, and actually gave himself up in the end.

When we did mock raids on the military bases on exercise in Norfolk we fooled a few dogs by placing a well positioned tin of tuna with a tiny pin prick in them to lure them off course so we could get through the wire and scarper, it worked fine.

In a military setting you would simply set pads for the dogs coming after you, handlers gone too.

Well lets not forget something very simple. If we are evading and we suspect we are being chased, surely we will have a knife or a short stabbing stick. Grabbing the throat is a desperate ill prepared measure, in reality you should have a knife or have collected a sharp object during your evasion. Simply stab the thing and go.

As the man said earlier a sock filled with rocks would crush the dogs skull too or at least knock him stupid. And normally they do in fact release two dogs so you have to deal with each dog with extreme prejudice and murderous intentions.

The main thing about the little boo boo trap I call my loose fish line with hooks tied on it, is psychological. Hemlock stinks very bad and they should smell it, but you can use mushrooms and fungus, or even rotted meat to give infection, or peat from stagnant waters, or even crap on the hook if you have to. The tricky part is setting the hooks not to snag vegetation yet still be undetectable but its relatively easy to do, and quick too, and it will scare your chaser to death they will either turn to check out whats on the dang hooks, or they will at least be very slow and cautious straining their eyes to search for more fishing line, jumping at spider webs and such. If you manage to snag one you probably will take him out of the chase by him getting sick, lol if you use the mushrooms found on cow patties you might even make him trip out and go crazy temporarily. I forgot a huge part of this trap, you don't want both sides loose because he may just drag the hooks behind him, one side of the line should snag something or be tied and tough but green sapplings so its not such a strong or detectable tug. The tie point has to be waist to neck level so it won't pull the hooks down to his feet or somewhere better protected, it pulls the

hooks from the other side into him.

I forgot to mention if you want to ensure a hook stick either have one of those three sided hooks, or make sure your tying your hooks so they step around the line 360 degrees on both sides of the line just in case one side doesn't snag right, keep them close together too.

I learned this from a guy up in Northern KY, I actually ran into it playing manhunt and let me tell you I was jumpy and slow trying to track him. I never did get him either he was LONNG gone, after one of those traps is a good time to make serious ground and get away. You can easily get a full day ahead, once your that far ahead if it rains your scott free.

lol, I should apply for mantracker I love evading can't u tell. You feel more alive when your being hunted, its better than hunting I tell ya.

dog evasion is an art form , and basic knowledge can help even an amiter survive through dog evasion .

for a start

a good sniffer dog ca smell a sheeple , oops herple oops simpleton oops what ever ?
2 miles away !

yes on a good day sniffer-dog can smell you 2 miles away !
i think it only takes 12 atoms and theyv got your scent .

when evading dogs , one such tatic is to get below the grund line.
ie , in a small dip or a small shallow ditch , and covered with ground stuffs .

this keeps the person cool , thus keeping hot air rising from them out into the open , hence then , your smell stays cool and low around you , not escaping out into the wind for a dog to smell you on the air .

shall post more on this soon

in one way only .

1st , clean shoes are needed , if not , a need to wash in a river is esential , or atleast rubb bare feet and socks in the mud or bank , but this also leaves a scent .

the shoes need drenching in the mud inside and out .

if you can do it , the shoes need to have leaves etc around your feet in the shoes .

also , if you can do it , ware a placky bag outside your socks but in your shoes.

remember !

this should only be done during dog evasion , and not all the time as it can severely muck up your feet .

also , when believing a dog tracking team are following you , it is best too -----if you can and have enough time , to create , if possible , a 5 pointed star over a couple of miles where , you have doubled back on your self a few times or gone the long way around to meet your past track somewhere along the line .

this will confuse the dogs and the owners and trackers .

if you can cross a river once or twice it will help , but !
remember to double back a few times on your self or atleast meet up at a path that meets your original tracks .

a temptoray "tree leaning" exorsize may have to be done .

this means , if possible , at some point where your tracks have lead back on the selves and you have now gotten to the point where you 1st doubled back or atleast gone a scenic route , to eventually meet the track some where behind you , and have ow gotten to the original part of deception tracking , from there , if possible , a small amount of - getting from tree to tree for a couple of hundred meters may be needed , but its better in thin wooded trees where tree laning from tree to tree can be achieved .

this is just a crap tactic that i consider should not be ignored , that all .

i will come bck to this thread .

shoea and socks will hold your scent , so masking that scent in as many ways as poss is esential .

but like i said , if you can actually here dogs

we used to play this game in the woods in Bradford/Ravenscliffe as some had dogs..
with time... backtrack over a few mile distance (I mean walk heavy or run there and back for strong body odour and if poss, climb a few trees..) .. lake up (wash down)..to mask smell ..weaken it really with stronger odour like cow poo or something natural to the surrounding area and as cool as possibly handle)..then use another route to get a point where you can see the first point you ran to, but can easily not be spotted and get away from unseen/noticed.... Now if your scent gets picked up, you'll hear the dogs approach point A you ran to, allowing you to get away again.... and never travel direct line unless absolutely needed.

amazing what you learn as a kid when knocking off school!.

On a serious note , don't leave any mess including human waste, Don't stay in the same place to long and ofc don't set up camp, in a good place to set up camp. Thats the first place they will look.

Honestly imo your best bet if you have the dogs on you is to keep moving , and try to get up cliffs etc , somewhere it would be hard for them to get the dog to go etc. If they have the dogs after you tho unless you some how get rid of the dog it dosnt look good for you . Just keep moving and hope they decide to just give up.

Sniifer dogs are used to go after people who have just escaped from somewhere which means they will stink as far as a dog's concerned.If you've just escaped from a prison for example,you're going to stink of human and the human environment.

Even I know if there is someone around before I hear or see them when I'm outdoors because most people reek;whether it's cigarette smoke or perfume.

Someone who has been living outdoors however will smell a great deal less. You're actually far cleaner and less odorous living outdoors plus the smell of woodsmoke is a natural scent mask. When I lived and camped in Canada for 3 months,I had one shower the whole time I was there and I didnt smell and was fairly clean just by going into lakes and rivers.

Hunters use the same principle by only using their hunting gear for hunting and storing it out in a shed when not in use so it doesnt smell of human habitation;it's also why alot of primitive societys had smoke cleansing rituals before going hunting.

I've sat under a tree while waiting for quarry and dogs have walked within 12 foot of me and not sensed me.Naturally the dog owners are oblivious to my presence too.

Having a still mind and body and being at ease with the surroundings so you're as much a part of the environment as the fox is, is a big part of it too.

Being hunted is pretty much the same as being the hunter. Poaching teaches you very quickly how to hunt whilst being hunted yourself and I recommend it. Poaching for pheasents for instance is a world apart form the man in a tweed jacket blasting a bird out of the air as it flees the beaters.

Become your true animal self rather than a "civilized" human.See how the fox moves through the undergrowth. Crouch down every few steps and study your surroundings.Get down close to the earth.Lay down on it.Dig holes with your hands.Smell every leaf and grass that comes in contact with your face. Move amongst the undergrowth and trees rather than through it. Follow the deer and rabbit runs. Make as little impact as possible. Eventually your surroundings will accept you as a natural part of it and the animals will tolerate and accept your presence.

A big giveaway for humans is when you see a low flying bird suddenly veer off from it's course giving away your position or a flock of pigeons burst out from the trees.These are the things poachers and gamekeeper looked out for as they tried to outwit each other.

A "naturalised" human is a hell of a lot harder to track than one fresh out of civilization. If you're on the run,immediatly wash yourself and all your clothes in any water available and rub earth,moss,plant matter etc into your clothes.

Thats my advice from years of stalking animals and avoiding them anyway and I reckon it would be alot easier to throw the hounds of your scent.

The SAS Guide to Tracking written by Bob Carss who spent 18 years with the 22nd SAS. ISBN is 978-1-59921-437-5.

Chapter 19 Dogs and tracking.

The chapter speaks of the dog their scent facility, the factors affecting the scent picture, tracker dogs to name a few.

The topic we are concerned with is Evasion and he has it broken down to Delay Pursuit and Break the Scent Trail.

Tactics that are taught to the SAS are crossing obstacles that will take time for the dog and handler to cross,

Travel with the wind, not into it. The scent will be blowing away from you and the pursuit team and can make it harder to follow.

Do not change direction in places at obvious places, do the unexpected.

Lay false tracks and backtrack, however the visual tracker if properly trained may notice this deception tactic.

Use streams and hard surfaces to include rocky ground, roads, railway lines, fences and dry stone walls. The scent will disappear more quickly particularly in the sunlight.

Mingling your scent with recent human scent by traveling down a road or path used by the locals for a couple hundred meters if the situation permits.

In essence this all boils down to gaining time to allow the scent to become faint by putting as much distance between you and the tracker team as possible. The best use of streams seems to come by laying false trails upwind of the entry point and moving down stream and trying to find a hard surface to exit onto. If possible try to travel at least a mile on a hard surface after exiting the water. Use the heat of the day to disperse your scent trail by laying up close to first light but only if you have enough distance between the tracking team and yourself.

The only known, totally effective scent breaking method is to ride an animal or a bicycle.

The next question of untrained dogs.

I remember a book (can't remember the name) that spoke of the OSS and SOE of World War 2. It spoke of some of the training methods used by these agents. The spoke of trying to decoy special trained dogs away from the perimeter by using food, the scents of bitches in heat and several other ways. The thing that stuck out to me was the statement that a properly trained sentry or scout dog could not be decoyed. They would have to be killed. This is much of what I was taught. If a tracker team got on your tail, kill the handler and the dog first if you could. Booby trap, well aimed shot or make double time. The dog can travel faster than a human but is

tied to the handler so this keeps it around 4 mph for the team-less in restricted terrain.

I recommend this book for learning the art of tracking as it is another skill one may have to use in the future.

Another manual you may wish to use is SH 21-77 Dismounted Patrolling if you can find it. It was published in 1985 by the US Army Infantry School. Besides the obvious benefit there is a section on Tracking and Countertracking.

Another manual is FM 7-40 Scout Dog Training and Employment-1973. This will give insight to how they are trained and used. I think I saw a link here on this board. You can also find this and may other manuals on SCRIBD.

Whiddle and plant small splinterlike wooden stakes behind you as you go

you can hide from infra-red by ducking behind a sheet of glass (glass blocks ir) or hiding inside a container (eg a dumpster) as long as your body heat doesnt warm the metal/glass.

smoke bombs with titanium dioxide mixed in while before you carmalise the sugar/Kpermanganate will also (in theory) block ir

I do know a few things about dogs having worked with and against them in SAR, Law Enforcement and the military. There are a few good ways to throw off the dogs.

Only a few dogs can track in the rain; some strains of Doberman, Hounds, shepherds and a few others.

No dog can track you *through* sizeable water. (However, bears can.) If you hit a river or a lake take advantage of it if you have the skills, time and effort. This is a great place and time to ambush them; the dogs will be exposed as will the trackers. Also, the wind blows downstream nearly all of the time on a big river so after crossing, moving quickly upstream in shallow water can throw off the dogs scent. and pursuers are exposing themselves for ambush.

Most tracker dogs are trained to hunt humans silently, so forget about hearing the bloodhounds while you are eating your samich'.

Areas with ski resorts or hiking trails will likely have very good SAR dogs that get plenty of practice year round.

Your problems will be compounded if they get the notion you are trained to handle trackers and dogs. They will often have a scout team or try to surround you with several teams over a large area. Be discreet but decisive if you have to.

Don't stop moving. Dogs get tired same as people.

Here are some techniques:

- 1.) CS powder on your trail or on your waste or urine. They will Yipe pretty good when they get a whiff.
- 2.) Anti-freeze but it takes longer to be effective.
- 3.) OC stream (15%) rigged on trip wire to cover a good amount of area or spray it down really good as you depart. The mist can blow away but the stream sticks pretty good and dogs, unlike bears, really don't like it. You can fill a balloon with OC and chuck it at them as well.
- 4.) Pound out broken glass until it's like powder (this can take a couple hours). Carry it in a dry sock. Powder up your trail. When a dog sniffs around, they will inhale the powdered glass. Their lungs will start to bleed and they will be dead in less than an hour and the handler and tracker team may be none the wiser. This works well in camps, at the edge of a river, a cliff, the base of a tree, in and around vehicles. It also works well on teams of dogs as they excitedly compete for scent as they do for food.

If you are being pursued by well trained dogs and personnel, the best way to deal with them may be to backtrack, sidestep and ambush the dogs and trackers. A suppressed weapon is quite useful as it will give you a second of confusion *if* they don't know you have it. Flechette rounds in a shotgun work well for this as they penetrate better than birdshot. Even minor wounds to dogs and trackers will seriously inhibit their effectiveness.

you set a trap it will work since most places dont have very many tracking dogs on hand. go places the dog cant (rapell down mountains ect. but the best way is to confuse the dog and handler by making circles and taking aggressive changes in direction.

The most dangerous place for a tracker dog is in its kennel. Kill them there before they are put on your trail.

We were trained to circle and ambush. The dogs are actually a plus. Handlers tend to trust them without reservation and watch the dog more than their surroundings.

Set the ambush at 100 yards and stay down wind. This is a good time to learn hand signals. If outnumbered stand off 200 yards, kill the dog handler with one shot and boogie. Make playing with the puppies a job no one wants.

The Man has night vision and infared too. If they really want you you are toast. Just take as many out as possible before they get you. They still keep score in Ranger Heaven

Dogs? They will be no better trained the police dogs right? Fox pee. They wont forget the smell and constantly want to go back. Or just lead the dogs with the pee, right to a trap. Either a leg trap, or explosive, using the match pull fuse. Trackers have a hard time. They have to follow your trail while moving at slower speeds, and avoiding false leads, and traps... It really shouldn't be that hard...

I work at a dog kennel, and although im not exactly a tracker, i do know that dogs noses are very sensitive. If you can make that nose bleed, then the dog will be smelling its own blood more than your scent. I reccomend what the guy on page 1 said, crush glass into a fine powder and lay it on the ground. Make an obvious scent around it too, like rub your B.O. into the ground around, so the dog sniffs that spot exactly. However if you are being pursued by dogs, theres a good chance thats not all they have, and if you become a big enough threat, expect bigger thinks, like Predator Drones, and those are impossible for you to knock out

The Escape Phase

Rule 1 - Escape Quickly

1st Rule - Escape Quickly

This is the first and most important rule of E&E and can be applied to many different situations. In this case, Escape Rule 1 refers to the period immediately after capture by the enemy. You must escape at the first opportunity because:

- a] The longer you remain in captivity, the more thoroughly you will be searched
- b]The longer you remain a prisoner, the further you will be sent behind enemy lines.
- c]Your captors will very probably be front line combat troops. These soldiers will likely have neither the interest, the time, nor the training in handling POWs. The longer you remain in captivity, the greater the chance of being sent to a secure POW camp with guards who have been specially trained in preventing escapes.
- d]Once incarcerated in a purposebuilt POW camp, the rules of E&E will change drastically (to be covered in a future article).

2nd Rule - Don't Talk

Being captured by an enemy is a severe psychological shock, even for experienced soldiers. Only those who have experience of such an event can appreciate the desire to talk to captors, sometimes without being able to stop. You must steel yourself from the very first moment of captivity to say as little as possible. Under the Geneva Convention you are expected to give your name, rank, number and date of birth (this allows the Red Cross to hopefully keep track of your

movements and health condition as well as to notify your next of kin that you have survived) but resist the desire to say anything else.

3rd Rule - Be The Grey Man

After capture, most soldiers adopt one of two attitudes. They either try to appeal to their captors by smiles and other friendly gestures, or they show defiance by scowling, cursing or exhibiting signs of aggression. Do neither!

You must attract as little attention from your captors or jailers as possible. This will prevent you from being singled out for interrogation, when you will be under closer guard, and will greatly help your chances of escape.

To play the grey man, stand or sit motionless with head slightly bowed. Avoid eye contact, but if forced to look at the enemy, focus on your opponent's forehead and show no emotion. Speak only if spoken to.

The Evasion Phase

This most important Escape Rule also applies to the Evasion Phase. You may have just escaped from POW custody, be the surviving member of an ambushed patrol or have been overlooked as enemy assault troops overran your position.

In any of these situations, you could be captured at any moment. You must now travel as far and as fast as you can. The further you escape from your last point of contact with the enemy, the wider the arc or area the hunter-killer force will need to search for you and the greater the area that tracker dogs may have to cover to pick up your scent.

Rule 2 - Evade In Pairs

The larger the evading group is, the easier it will be to track down. If possible, try and break down into pairs as this could split up the team tracking you or even leave them all tracking just one spoor. In most situations, two heads are better than one and when rest becomes a necessity, one can remain on guard while the other sleeps.

Rule 3 - Assume You Are Being Hunted

An evader has a very limited view of events around him and it's very easy to assume that he has given the enemy the slip. Often this is a mistaken view. Besides which, always assuming you are being hunted focuses the mind and this should lead to you making less mistakes.

Rule 4 - Carry A Compass

The sensible soldier will always carry a minicompass in his Survival Tin plus one hidden in his clothing. This is one of the most treasured E&E possessions. To allow for all eventualities though, learn to make an emergency compass by magnetizing a needle and sitting it on a free floating leaf on water. Practice now as you won't get time when you are an evader.

Rule 5 - Make Or Get A Map

Maps are important. Before a mission make a simple map on a sheet of paper from your waterproof notepad. Show just the basic routes, roads, rivers and major topographical features, then sew it into your uniform.

If captured, while awaiting escape, make a rudimentary map by drawing on the inside of your clothing as this will greatly aid your navigation plans. Once on the run, acquire a better one-search bodies and deserted buildings and, particularly in an urban environment, look inside vehicles or even check out phone boxes

Rule 6 - Ignore The Hay Barn

Don't assume the 'Hay Barn' mentality. In other words, never hide in obvious places. The barn on the hill will look tempting refuge with hide, but this is also the first place the hunter force will search.

Rule 7 - Become a Magpie

Never pass-by anything that could be of use. a discarded bin liner or even a plastic fertilizer bag can make an emergency waterproof overgarment. An abandoned steel helmet, not too common in these days of composites, makes a good cooking pot but look out for any metal container that will do this job and also transport drinking water.

Rule 8 - Camouflage Your Tracks

You must camouflage signs that you have passed, and especially your footprints, from man trackers. This is because the most common form of track to find and easiest to follow is the markings you leave on the ground-known as ground spoor. an even better find for an experienced tracker is a full footprint (a confirmed spoor) from which he will be able to tell how fast you are moving, how tired you are and much more information on you.

With a consecutive pair of prints he can tell how fast you are travelling, what distance you are covering and even if you are carrying a load. Despite your boot probably having the same tread pattern as the rest of the guys in your unit, individual wear marks and tread damage make your boots as individual as your fingerprints. No wonder trackers call full bootprints a confirmed spoor.

Consequently, avoid walking on soft muddy ground. Instead try to find hard, rocky surfaces. Remember, though, not to disturb loose rocks as these would give a tracker recognizable, though less useful, ground spoor.

Of course there will be times when you have no choice but to walk on soft or muddy ground, so remember the following techniques. They may only temporarily confuse trackers, but they may gain you valuable time.

- a) Often there are harder ridges on either side of well used, soft, muddy paths. Walk legs astride on these ridges.
- b) Step carefully into existing footprints.
- c) Walk backwards or on tiptoe.
- d) Walk in a stream. Remember not to leave scuff marks or other ground spoor on the bank as you enter or leave the stream.

Rule 9 -Don 't Leave Aerial Spoor

Spoor above the ground or overhead may not be as easy to spot as ground spoor, but a good tracker will find it nevertheless

- a) Don't break branches in your way - gently bend them aside.
- b) If you can't bend it, go under, over or around it.
- c) If you snag or tear clothing, don't be in such a hurry. Check to see that you have not left a small piece of cloth or telltale fibers behind you.

Rule 10 - Don't Leave Scent

Tracker dogs follow the microscopic body scent particles that continually fall from your body and settle on or just above the ground. Their remarkably sensitive noses will follow your previous route as accurately as if you could draw the dog a map. Even so, there are ways to slow down, confuse and even defeat tracker dogs.

- a) Use a vehicle or even a bicycle. This will not only break the scent chain, but will put you further ahead of the pack much quicker and with less fatigue.
- b) On foot, follow an erratic path through tangled undergrowth. This usually tangles the running lead of the dog and its handler, slowing them down.
- c) Use well traveled animal or human trackways. Even better, follow an erratic path through a farmyard, as a large collection of new scent may temporarily confuse the dog and hinder progress.
- d) When you reach water, don't just cross it. Walk in running water for a short distance before exiting on a part of the bank where your spoor will not show.
- e) If you can only find narrow waterways such as ditches, with still water in them, walk in them but cross diagonally, doubling back on yourself at least once to confuse the dog.
- f) If practical, wash regularly, but never use anything scented.
- g) If you cannot wash, roll around over the ground you are traversing, to add country scents to your own. However, remember that a man who has rolled in a dung heap smells just like a man who has rolled in a dung heap, to a well trained tracker dog with a good nose.
- h) Don't allow yourself to come in contact with strongly smelling substances such as smoke or animal droppings. If an article of clothing becomes contaminated and you have to discard it, make sure you bury it, or better still hide it under rocks in a stream. Now wash hair and skin. If also contaminated.
- i) Try to outrun the dogs. A tracker dog has to move comparatively slowly so, as stated before, escape as quickly as possible.

Rule 11 - Camouflage Your Identity

It should almost go without saying, that you practice the basic rules of camouflage and concealment when resting, laying-up, approaching a dangerous area, etc. You should also practice camouflage and deception when traveling.

- a) Avoid busy or populated areas and keep your distance from any civilians you see.
- b) Don't act suspiciously or appear to be nervous as this will attract attention.
- c) Never walk in an upright, military fashion-adopt a tired slouch.
- d) Try to at least keep the appearance of being clean and keep shaving if you can.
- e) If traveling in countryside, carry a spade or some other farming implement.
- f) Keep your uniform on underneath any civilian clothing as otherwise you could be shot for being a spy.
- g) Keep your watch in your pocket.
- h) If approached by the locals, unless you speak and look like a native of the area, pretend to be deaf and dumb or perhaps even half-witted. The latter often works.

Rule 12 - Disguise Your Hide.

Sooner or later you will need to lay-up or rest. Again, leave no traces of your presence.

It is a good idea to rest for 5-10 minutes in every hour that you travel. Don't just stop anywhere though. Choose an area of good cover and try to leave no trace of your LUP (Laying Up Point).

a longer LUP occurs when you sleep. lie facing the ground, and if you have a ground sheet or something similar, cover yourself with it. This should concentrate your scent in one place. Before you leave, cover your sleeping area with soil and natural debris to mask the scent.

Always bury any food waste, camp fire debris, feces, urine or anything connected with your stay. Try not to contaminate your skin with waste material. Finally, cover disturbed soil with natural debris. Waste on the surface will attract flies in warm weather and will be easily spotted by human trackers, and a dog's nose will pick up the scent a long way off.

Rule 13 - Disguise Your Fire

Opinions vary as to exactly when you are safe enough to light a fire. However, sometimes it is crucial to purify food or water by cooking or boiling, to provide warmth to prevent hypothermia.

If you have to light a fire, ideally you should dig a fire pit deep enough to hide the flames. Try not to make the fire too big and ensure that flames do not show above ground. Use only small pieces of fuel.

Dig a separate air shaft at an angle to the pit as this will make the fire burn quicker and prevent excessive smoke. If the ground is too hard to dig, is too waterlogged, or a fire pit is impractical for some other reason, light the fire under a canopy of leafy foliage to disperse smoke. Alternatively, light a surface fire against a high wall.

Above all else, when Escaping and Evading, **DO IT QUICKLY** and **DO IT CAREFULLY**

Q (Taken from Combat And Survival Magazine Volume 10 Issue 4 July 1998, an excellent magazine written mostly for the British Army. However, many of its articles are relevant to our present and future predicaments)

In many Hollywood films you see the hero evade hordes of pursuers and packs of bloodhounds with ease, in reality it is much harder to evade a well trained and determined pursuit.

Evading pursuit is always a balance between speed and misdirection; the general aim is to put as much distance as possible between you and any pursuit while using misdirection to obscure the tracks you leave. The first point to make is that tracking a human over rough ground is not easy (tracking techniques will be dealt with elsewhere) but in most cases the pursuers will have a massive advantage in man power and resources, they are likely to have trained dogs, vehicles and even airborne assets to aid in the capture of any fugitive. Secondly don't even think about hiding and waiting until your pursuers give up, they won't and successfully hiding if they have dogs is nearly impossible. All of the following techniques take time, the idea is that if they are successful you will gain time to make good your escape, if they fail then you will have wasted time.

Brushing out tracks

One of the oldest tricks in the book, here you simply brush away your tracks from an area using a branch from a tree or other improvised tool. The idea is that your tracks will just stop at a certain point and it will take time for pursuers to regain your trail. This is a waste of time, the tell tale marks left by brushing will inform your pursuers that you are on to them, use up time and energy and take very little time for a good tracker to re-discover your direction of travel. If the tracker has dogs it may not even slow them at all.

Stream Running

Another favourite of the movies, here you enter a stream to throw dogs off your scent. This has several problems, firstly it slows you down considerably and running through even shallow water can quickly sap reserves of strength. In winter icy water can very quickly tire you and could even lead to hypothermia and increased chance of frostbite. With muddy banks it becomes clear where you entered and left the stream and the stream may not be heading in exactly the right direction again wasting time. In upland areas streams can rapidly head downwards and suddenly lead to waterfalls or plunge pools, which can be very dangerous at the best of times, more so to a tired person evading pursuit.

In dryer, warmer areas you will leave a dripping trail as you leave the stream and in tropical areas breaking vegetation becomes unavoidable as you leave the stream, let alone the risk from water borne parasites (see article on parasites). Even shallow streams can leave a trail in the streambed and stony ones often have a thin film of algae on the stones, which can be disturbed by your passing allowing a tracker to follow. Dogs will quickly pick up your scent once where you left the stream has been determined. If a stream can be found that is going in the direction you want, is deep enough for you to float in, is flowing faster than walking pace and has no rapids or waterfalls then it could be used to your advantage but this is highly unlikely.

Rock to Rock

In this technique you avoid leaving tracks by hopping from rock to rock. This requires hard stony ground with plenty of large rocks that won't shift dangerously when you tread on them. This is normally along side a stream or river. This is slow work, which drains strength and stamina and risks a twisted ankle or a fall. Clean the soles of your shoes first to avoid smudges on the rocks as you travel. It will slow a tracker down, as it will take time to follow such a trail.

Jump off/ Backtracking

Used by military units where a few members of the group jump clear of a trail to circle round and ambush a pursuer. Less useful alone as a tracker will quickly pick up your new trail once your own trail ends suddenly. Also jumping clear can risk injury to ankles etc. Backtracking is literally walking backwards in your own footprints and can be useful when combined with other techniques. The problem is when you walk backwards your stride is shorter and your feet further apart which can alert a good tracker. Your prints will also become more well defined and deeper as they will have been trod in twice with earth displaced towards the heel rather than towards the toe as is normal. It is best to do this near a stream or rocks where tracks are becoming harder to follow that way a tracker might not immediately notice when your trail stops, buying you further time to get away, then once back 10 or 15 paces jump off or enter the stream possibly crossing it far back from where your trails stops.

Corner Cutting

This technique is used as you approach a road or a stream, as you get within 100 meters alter your course 45 degrees to the right (or left) continue until you reach the stream or road then turn right again making sure that it is obvious your trail is heading on the road or has entered the stream. Then you back track to where you met the road or stream and continue along it making sure you leave very little trail then leave the road or stream and continue up country. This will hopefully make your pursuers think you saw the road or stream and decided to cut the corner to avoid it as you intended to head right.

Avoiding Dogs

If the trackers have dogs then few techniques will be effective. The human handler can be fooled by visual deceptions such as backtracking and jumping off but the dog's sense of smell won't. Remember the dog is fast but the handler will slow it down, so climbing tall fences, rocky outcrops etc will slow dog and handler down. Your scent sticks to vegetation so try to find hard stony ground near running water this will make it harder for the dog to track you. A decomposing animal such as a dead sheep or road kill can also help mask your scent, drag it behind you on a length of rope but don't let it touch you or you will carry its scent. In urban areas seek out large groups of people, strong smells, butchers shops with meat hanging up outside, perfume counters, anything which could overload the dog's senses. One trick in an urban area is to get some pepper from a café table and pour it liberally behind your scent, or even cover some leftover hamburger or food item, as the dog investigates the food it will get a nose full of pepper, which can be very effective. In rural and woodland areas patches of ransoms or wild garlic can also upset the dog, as can mint, and covering a small item of your clothing with stinging nettles can also put the dog out of action long enough for you to make good your escape. Moving through livestock such as cows or sheep can slow the handler and distract the dog. Heavy rain will also help disperse your scent quickly and remember your scent can also be carried on the wind so try to keep down wind of pursuers.

Watch "Mantracker" maybe 10 or 12 shows, and watch the mistakes people make. Most of what he does is common sense tracking.

Pepper still works great to throw the dogs off. Only move fast when you can afford to leave sign. Angles work as well as distance in most cases. When you are completely still it is very hard to see you, camo or not. Stay in the shadows. There are very few straight lines in nature; make sure you are your kit do not have any. Sometimes you WANT to leave sign to mislead the trackers. Be aware of thermal currents carrying your scent up or down terrain. When possible, stay upwind of large bodies of water or open areas that allow your scent to disperse quickly.

I'll put my perspective in on man hunting. Ok Rat, let's say we win a contest and are selected for a game with a 1 million payout. You get 70 square miles of mountain wilderness and three days. After three days I come in looking for you. You have to evade for 60 days after my arrival. I have a traq gun effective range of 300 yards, puts you to sleep but not permanently. Here's my MO.

I will find the highest elevation spot over the largest stream in the area. I have night vision goggles and binos, no heat sensing though. I will sleep during the day as I would assume you would find day travel to risky. In the evenings I would glass the area, and at dark glass with night vision until morning, then to sleep. I would hold this position for 20 days. After 20 days and no spotting of you, I would assume that you have had plenty of time to get comfortable in an area you feel is secure. I would sector off grids and slowly work the water in each grid, looking for a track along the bank in the soft mud. One sector after another until I found some sign. Once I find some sign I would wait next to that water for just a couple days, if you didn't show I would assume that you are in the area, but I haven't discovered your core area. I would then run a big circle pattern slowly closing in until I found some more permanent sign. At this point I would assume I discovered your core area and would now look for the closest water as you have now had plenty of time to develop a false sense of security along with a little fatigue. Next to the closest water, and the easiest access point to that water, I would wait, and discover you, at

5:46pm, after a long sleep, and quietly shoot you in the arse with my tranquilizer gun, securing my 1 million dollar win.

I doubt he would travel at night since it would be hard to see and dangerous since he wouldn't be using a flashlight. Also during the 30 day period I don't think staying at a single spot for over 2-3 days would be a good idea.

The Air Force stopped issuing pilots in hot zones their WWII "scent packs" of rabbit's blood and cocaine, (desensitizes tracking dogs, gives you time to make distance) but I know of a few who carry pretty much just that..

They'd rather explain an unusable tiny amount of illicit drugs than be held for years in a hut or cave. ("rather be judged by 12 than carried by six" mentality)

I'd say it depends how badly you want to get away. A game with your friends, backtrack and zigzag. Hunted by a cartel, get upwind and light the forest.

Every evasion course I've ever taken agrees on a simple rule: Do Not Get Caught.

I got in a Pm to was to carry powdered chlorine in baby powder bottle for dogs, just thought I'd share it. Another suggested booby traps simple as a pen flare with a trip wire, it makes them really slow down to be more cautious, once tripped you really put some distance between you and them. It seems most don't want to talk about it or just there is not alot of knowledge out there?

What if he started hunting you during the day? The hunter becomes the hunted

I don't know what would be more fun, evading or hunting. Anyway, the scenerio I described is pretty much the way I hunt mule deer bucks. Waiting game. Slowly close in on their home turf. I'll take a high point and see what is in the general area, if i see one I am interested in, I will slowly close in on his home turf isolating him down to what I call a "core area". Sooner or later I'll get a shot, but more often then not, those big muleys give you the slip. Man they can just disappear sometimes.

I'll put my perspective in on man hunting. Ok Rat, lets say we win a contest and are selected for a game with a 1 million payout. You get 70 square miles of mountain wilderness and three days. After three days I come in looking for you. You have to evade for 60 days after my arrival. I have a traq gun effective range of 300 yards, puts you to sleep but not perminately. Heres my MO.

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You do understand you need to sleep to. Guess what happens when I take that shiny tranquilizer gun from you. Don't let the bed bugs bite. Some people don't like to be hunted and have spent most of their lives hunting. Problem is they do pick up some skills. If you ever get to be complacent your prey will bite you back. The hunter can always be hunted.

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A buddy and I were hunting up in Plains, MT for elk and we split up and made a wide circle toward each other. At mid day we met up at about the half way point of the circle. He took my route back and I followed his tracks in the snow out. After we parted, I walked maybe 200 yards and picked up a mountain lion track about 50 yards above his. I tracked this critter dang near 2 miles all the while they stayed above my buddies. The lion we supposed, had followed my buddy for some time, probably evaluating whether or not he could bring him down. We figured when we met up, the cat decided two were more than he could handle and took off. Freaked my buddy out when he discovered he had been trailed by a lion. It's not very often you trace your back track out when hunting. My buddy was also attacked by a moose, but that's a different story lol.

Pepper still works great to throw the dogs off. Only move fast when you can afford to leave sign. Angles work as well as distance in most cases. When you are completely still it is very hard to see you, camo or not. Stay in the shadows. There are very few straight lines in nature; make sure you are your kit do not have any. Sometimes you WANT to leave sign to mislead the trackers. Be aware of thermal currents carrying your scent up or down terrain. When possible, stay upwind of large bodies of water or open areas that allow your scent to disperse quickly.

I am a tracker and I have to say that this is an urban myth. While yes, pepper can throw off the tracking dog, you could not carry the amount that would be needed to do it. It would take a couple of dump trucks to carry enough pepper to throw off the dogs. Scentwise there isn't a whole lot you can do except get into a VERY large crowd because some dogs are trained for crowds or get in a car and drive away.

I have been in on many hunting tracking parties and one of things I have learned is if you want to get away from someone for a short period of time, you can. If you can make your tracker stop wanting to hunt you because of time, you win. If, however, you have a tracker that simply will not give up, you're screwed. You cannot remain hidden forever. You do have to crap, you do have to procure food, you do have to stay warm or stay cool depending on where you are.

Most people who have gotten away from trackers get away because the government hires mostly lazy a** trackers. You don't know how many times I have heard, "we'll just pull back and he'll surface eventually." While that is the case most of the time, there are the rare exceptions of people who are good at staying hidden or have family and friends that will cover the 'surfacing' of the hunted.

A few years ago we were hunting two men in the mountains in southern Montana. These guys had pvc pipe caches all over the mountain. We were finding the caches left and right. If we had just stuck with it we would have taken away all their stores and they would have been forced to show their hand. The Feds though said our presents were making them nervous so we were ordered to pull back. The people who lived in that area lived in fear for several months before the two finally turned themselves in. We left killer out there with all those people (though, being Montana the people were probably heavily armed, thank godness). It still p***es me off that we were ordered to leave these two men free.

It takes work to hunt people though. Even hunting for people who want to be found is hard. That's why search crews are large. Tracking someone that doesn't want to be found is even harder. The only thing is that people need certain things and if you know what they are lacking, what their background is, and where everything is in the environment the people are in, they will eventually show up somewhere.

As for the show Mantracker. You can not compare a show that has a time table and a requirement that the hunted end up at a certain spot by a certain time to be even remotely like real tracking is. If a 10 year old knew where their prey had to be at a certain time they could track them. I like the horses but the show is about as real as any other reality show out there. Not at all.

Anyone ever used Doe estrus or other hunting scent covers to confuse dogs?

Dogs tracking you is bad news (profesional dogs that is), THIS WILL STOP THEM / BUT WILL KILL THEM ALSO. fine ground glass particles in a sock, bounced along on sting or sprinkled (sniffed and enters lungs causes bleeding and death)

Having had some experience in man tracking and whitetail hunting; the basic principles are very much the same. As long as the man you are tracking is wanting to be found. Most man tracking in the US is based on search and rescue of lost individuals. Just as game animals are making no attempt to cover their tracks and sign; a lost individual will not be concerned with it either. If a person dose not want to be found and has basic outdoor skills; the potential for being found drops exponentially the more savvy and skilled they are.

Dogs will be relatively ineffective if you know how to cover your scent. My suggestion is not to use "animal based cover scents" this will only heighten the natural instinct of the animal and they may begin to associate your scent with the "fox urine-et al" you may be using. The best solution is to minimize your scent. Use charcoal impregnated clothing(you have alot to choose from ie cabelas and Basspro) and the more rubber on your boots the better; for hiding human

scent. Baking soda dissolved in purified/distilled water and routinely sprayed on the soles of your feet/boots and clothing will also eliminate scent. Scent masks such as "fresh earth" and "woodland bottoms" are also highly effective.

Whitetails have one of the keenest olfactory glands of any mammal. They will browse right thru the trail to my stand w/o even raising a tail or head when I use "fresh earth" on my clothing and boots. Breaking your scent trail will also slow down a dog/team tracking you. Rock out croppings and small rivers and streams are a couple. Just remember to expose as little of your clothing as possible to the water. When you emerge; the run off from your clothes will also drop your scent. Apply baking soda solution and the cover scent to minimize. Dogs are far more disciplined than game animals due to their breeding and training. They are still dogs..... and last time I checked we are still at the top of the food chain. Even under the most controlled conditions they will always have a tendency to pursue their natural prey..... mice, rabbits, deer etc. Not humans.... we prey and subdue them. The fatal flaw of human-dog teams is the humans tend to trust the dogs more than themselves; they forget that they have senses and reasoning and more often than not give up when the dog quits. FWIW I include mountain lions and bears in this mix too. We are superior and God builds that fear in them; It's only when we forget; and let our natural guard down; that primitive animals will make us our next meal.

Avoiding man is a different story. You are equals. Thought, reason and analysis are what we use to process the signs around us. A good man tracker knows that nature has an order and anything out of place has a cause and effect. He will be looking for "anything out of it's natural order". Over turned rocks; broken twigs; scrapped bark; trampled grass and matted forest floor. Flipped leaves and ugh....foot prints, snack wrappers; cigarette butts; fire rings and buried "crap" holes. Man will be primarily visual with auditory; and if God blessed him...olfactory being very distant second and third(thats why he has to use a dog). The one phrase that has been adopted by many organizations such as the boy scouts; special forces; and forgive me, "enviromentalists" is "Leave no trace". To be avoided you must take that literally and leave as little behind and undisturbed as possible. period.

Anything you can do to slow the "hunter" down works to your advantage; however, keep moving. It takes more time to track you than it dose for you to move. If a person is lost and they continue to move they will almost always put more distance between them and the search party; decreasing their chance of being found. If thats the case; think of the advantage you have if you don't want to be found. In almost every case of a fugitive man hunt; they were caught because they stayed in one place too long.

Traveling on foot with your family will pose many challenges; but minimizing your impact could make a significant difference. I am confident that if I were by myself; no man or beast would ever find me. All things, including technology, has it's flaws and weaknesses. Knowing the limitations of your hunter or predator will always give you the upper hand. It's only when your

hunter is just as relentless, as you are savvy, that it levels the playing field. Based on the comments from a previous post it's likely that if you maintain your discipline, you will always have the upper hand vs the "hunter".

An excellent web site to give you more info into the "head" of a man tracker:

http://selousscouts.tripod.com/combat_tracking.htm

The SAS Guide to Tracking written by Bob Carss who spent 18 years with the 22nd SAS. ISBN is 978-1-59921-437-5.

Chapter 19 Dogs and tracking.

The chapter speaks of the dog their scent facility, the factors affecting the scent picture, tracker dogs to name a few.

The topic we are concerned with is Evasion and he has it broken down to Delay Pursuit and Break the Scent Trail.

Tactics that are taught to the SAS are crossing obstacles that will take time for the dog and handler to cross,

Travel with the wind, not into it. The scent will be blowing away from you and the pursuit team and can make it harder to follow.

Do not change direction in places at obvious places, do the unexpected.

Lay false tracks and backtrack, however the visual tracker if properly trained may notice this deception tactic.

Use streams and hard surfaces to include rocky ground, roads, railway lines, fences and dry stone walls. The scent will disappear more quickly particularly in the sunlight.

Mingling your scent with recent human scent by traveling down a road or path used by the locals for a couple hundred meters if the situation permits.

In essence this all boils down to gaining time to allow the scent to become faint by putting as much distance between you and the tracker team as possible. The best use of streams seems to come by laying false trails upwind of the entry point and moving down stream and trying to find a hard surface to exit onto. If possible try to travel at least a mile on a hard surface after exiting the water. Use the heat of the day to disperse your scent trail by laying up close to first light but only if you have enough distance between the tracking team and yourself.

I second killing or disabling the person tracking you if possible. Perhaps a chokepoint where you can ambush him or a well place booby trap. Once you kill the tracker, others will sure think twice before they want to track you.

On the other hand if your group is large enough and not prepared enough they won't need them.

They can simply watch or smell for wood smoke, or look for what will probably be plentiful tracks in the ground or snow.

If you want to/need to hide, you need to plan for smokeless cooking (solar) and if in the north, warmth (underground).

As for tracks, for the main routes use hard surface roads, stream, or in my case the sea shore as the tide will erase them.

There could be many reasons just take your pick and these methods can also work on feral packs as well if they work at all. Feral packs have to be wiped out just like they used to be on Ft. Benning back in the 80's. Bad thing when a pack starts killing and no one is safe. On the other side our Government hasn't outlawed us yet. If they do all bets are off.

Dogs tracking you is bad news (professional dogs that is), THIS WILL STOP THEM / BUT WILL KILL THEM ALSO. fine ground glass particles in a sock, bounced along on sting or sprinkled (sniffed and enters lungs causes bleeding and death)

Dog handler will not take this lightly, but if SHTF all's fair.

This method has some problems though.

Well it will cause death, but unless the dogs are going to track you for a month I think you are still going to get tracked and caught. The amount of glass that the dogs will have to breathe must be significant, and then they can still track you as it will take a LONG time for death to occur due to this.

I work with stained glass and there are a lot of articles on this that we need to learn about. It's called silicosis.

<https://www.google.com/health/ref/Silicosis>

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The only known, totally effective scent breaking method is to ride an animal or a bicycle.

I remember a book (can't remember the name) that spoke of the OSS and SOE of World War 2. It spoke of some of the training methods used by these agents. The spoke of trying to decoy special trained dogs away from the perimeter by using food, the scents of bitches in heat and several other ways. The thing that stuck out to me was the statement that a properly trained sentry or scout dog could not be decoyed. They would have to be killed. This is much of what I was taught. If a tracker team got on your tail, kill the handler and the dog first if you could. Booby trap, well aimed shot or make double time. The dog can travel faster than a human but is tied to the handler so this keeps it around 4 mph for the team-less in restricted terrain.

Another manual you may wish to use is SH 21-77 Dismounted Patrolling if you can find it. It was published in 1985 by the US Army Infantry School. Besides the obvious benefit there is a section on Tracking and Countertracking.

Another manual is FM 7-40 Scout Dog Training and Employment-1973. This will give insight to how they are trained and used. I think I saw a link here on this board. You can also find this and may other manuals on SCRIBD.

As for a human tracker that knows what he is doing, you either have to outrun him or kill him.

Tracking and evading tracking are skills that must be used or lost.

very interesting information; but most of the reference material is decades old; scent elimination technology has advanced exponentially since. Not having the technology necessitates "killing" the hunter. I submit that using the age old counter tracking techniques you and I described as well as scent elimination technology puts the hunted at a distinct advantage in most cases. Dogs, regardless of their training, breeding and discipline; will at times go off the reservation due to instinctual behavior. The difference is the trainer or handler. I suppose it happens more often

than most trackers want to admit. Maintain your discipline; use available technology; and exploit the trackers mistakes to your advantage.

A quick incapacitator to buy time from tracking dogs and handlers in certain situations is powdered CS. This is a powdered form of what is commonly known as tear gas. When sprinkled along the side of a water crossing where dogs will be actively sniffing for a trail, it causes some pretty spectacular reactions due to the super sensitive olfactory glands of a tracking dog. It can also be employed in booby traps and will certainly buy a lot of time. Be careful that you don't become a victim of your own poison with careful handling and working upwind. Was SOP in many actions in Vietnam and Cambodia. Sure wish I knew where to acquire in the civilian world. Anybody have a line, PM or post. Mizzu

Anyone know how to evade Thermal detection???

<http://www.stealthbag.com/Stealth-Main.htm....>

also get a gillie suit or blanket....

When it comes to countertracking dealing with a dog team you need to know that tracking involves more than the dog's sense of smell. Dog tracking involves a team of man and dog. Dogs use their nose, eyes, and ears while the tracker uses their eyes and knowledge of tracking. While dogs are mainly scent hunters, they also have good short-range vision but are colorblind and do not have good distance vision. This means camouflage works extremely well against dogs but they can still detect slight movements. Dogs will use smell to approximate your location and then rely on sound and movement to pinpoint you. However, following a scent trail is the most difficult task a tracking dog can perform and they tire quickly, if you keep moving and stay out of detection range of human handlers, then you could technically outlast the dog until you clear the area.

The best defenses against tracking are basic techniques such as good camouflage and light, noise, and trash discipline. Dogs find things either by detecting a trail or by a point source such as human waste odors (bury all human waste deeply) at BOL/camp site. It is critical to try to obscure or limit trails and disruption of nature around the BOL/camp site, especially along wood lines and do not use trails, roads, or footpaths. As far as reducing trail signs you should walk on hard or rocky ground or wrap footgear with rags etc. or wear soft-soled shoes that make footprints rounded and less distinctive. Changing into different shoes/boots immediately following deceptive maneuvers like direction changes can be a useful technique. Deceptive maneuvers like changes in direction should be made at the open points of terrain to force the dog to cast for a scent.

Tracking dogs build a scent picture of the person that they are tracking and the most important element in this is the actual ground such as earth and grass. The ground contains living microbes that are always disturbed by your passage. Artificial surfaces such as concrete and

inorganic surfaces like stone/rock provide little or no living microbes to form a scent track. Scents may be short-lived and their life span depends upon the weather and the area that the you last passed through. The sun and the wind, as well as time, destroy the scent. There are both airborne and ground scents. Airborne scents can be blown away within minutes or a few hours while ground scents can last longer than 48 hours under ideal conditions. While traveling, you should consider avoiding areas of dense plant life, as these areas hold the scent longer but can also slow trackers. When the situation permits, move across open areas that the sun shines on during the day and that has the potential of being windswept. The wind moves the scent and will eventually blow it away; the sun destroys scent very rapidly.

Dogs also use other odors left behind or around you to find you, sweat from exertion or fear is one of these just as your soap or deodorant can help the dogs find you. Foreign odors such as oils, preservatives, polish, and petroleum products also aid tracking dogs. To minimize this aspect you should move through areas that have been frequently traveled by other people, as this can confuse the scent picture of a tracking dog. If you have more than one person in your group you should split up from time to time to confuse the dogs especially in areas frequently traveled by other people. Another tip to confuse a dog is to use items of clothing not belonging to you or your group carried in a plastic bag as drop items to leave on back trails. However, if dogs are very close behind, moving through water will not confuse them, as scent will be hanging in the air above the water. Moving through water will slow the tracking team down a little. I have read in several military manuals with the last one dated 2003, that say some common ideas like teargas grenades, blood, spice mixtures, or any other concoctions can prevent a dog from smelling your scent, but it will not be effective on well-trained tracker dogs.

Tracking: Beat the handler, not the dog. The dog WILL find you, but if you reduce the handlers confidence in the dog, he will stop. Tie a sock or underwear to a string and toss it to either side of your path. Also make false paths for 20-40 feet or so off your path along your route. If intersecting a creek, don't cross it directly. Enter the water and move down/upstream for 100 meters or so and then continue on. All these techniques will slow the tracker, so you will either just flat outrun them or they will give up.

Chili powder also works to reduce the sensitivity of the dog. This could be used as a partial solution, but in itself will probably not save you.

tracking dogs are leashed. if you are on the run, weave your way through thick brush, cross and recross fences, anything to make the handlers job as hard as possible.

you just have to outpace the trackers and that will give you time to evade your pursuers permanently

One way is to do a U turn so that you can see the path you just came down, and wait till the tracker and his dog walk in front of you.

I'll put my perspective in on man hunting. Ok Rat, lets say we win a contest and are selected for a game with a 1 million payout. You get 70 square miles of mountain wilderness and three days.

After three days I come in looking for you. You have to evade for 60 days after my arrival. I have a traq gun effective range of 300 yards, puts you to sleep but not permanently. Here's my MO.

I will find the highest elevation spot over the largest stream in the area. I have night vision goggles and binos, no heat sensing though. I will sleep during the day as I would assume you would find day travel to be risky. In the evenings I would glass the area, and at dark glass with night vision until morning, then to sleep. I would hold this position for 20 days. After 20 days and no spotting of you, I would assume that you have had plenty of time to get comfortable in an area you feel is secure. I would sector off grids and slowly work the water in each grid, looking for a track along the bank in the soft mud. One sector after another until I found some sign. Once I find some sign I would wait next to that water for just a couple days, if you didn't show I would assume that you are in the area, but I haven't discovered your core area. I would then run a big circle pattern slowly closing in until I found some more permanent sign. At this point I would assume I discovered your core area and would now look for the closest water as you have now had plenty of time to develop a false sense of security along with a little fatigue. Next to the closest water, and the easiest access point to that water, I would wait, and discover you, at 5:46pm, after a long sleep, and quietly shoot you in the arse with my tranquilizer gun, securing my 1 million dollar win.

How do you know they are on to you? Did you see them? Tracker dogs are trained not to bark especially when they are close. Police dogs do the opposite.

Handlers are usually fit and carry a radio to bring in help ahead of you. There is no outpacing a dog. They do get tired, they are all afraid of heights and they don't have good peripheral vision either.

Tearing through and weaving in and out of the bush, will leave lots of sign and dogs will not stay directly on your trail. They follow your scent, not your tracks. You can lay a booby trap with an article of clothing and other counter measures but not much you can do to slow them down. If they are on to you, and they get within a few hundred yards, it's time to back track, side step and take them out. Otherwise, you have had it unless you have air support.

Well, "taking them out" all depends on the circumstances regarding your evasion. Odds are you are a lone wolf. Taking anyone out in a situation like that is suicidal. I know a lot of people in here think it is possible, and indeed it is, but you are trying to survive the situation and escape.

Use speed, mobility, and deception. Odds are if they are tracking you, then there are many of "them." Stopping during a situation where you are being tracked is not smart. You are probably going to get found or killed if you stop.

Take into account determination. You are probably more determined to get away than they are to catch you.

All you need to be concerned with is moving as fast as possible and being quiet while you do it. Get all the Rambo stuff out of your head.

Great and very large tracking site. The guy who runs it is a member of a California Search and Rescue team.

Good site to learn both animal and man tracking techniques.

<http://www.bear-tracker.com/>

But one thing about evading pursuers is how about floating down a river? If a person can float for many miles at night then hide and sleep in the daytime I would think one could get far far away. And hopefully never be found. I have heard of at least one case of that happening.

And has anyone heard of this case from 12 years ago about two "survivalists" really criminals who gave real survivalists a bad name. But here is how they evaded law enforcement >
<http://articles.latimes.com/1998/aug/23/news/mn-15693>

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No its called sit wait and hope the enemy isnt bigger then you think and wait till they close then open fire.. If you are hidden they wont know what hit them till to late.. But then again it all depends are they tracking you ie military durring a war to hunt then kill or are they tracking you because you just robbed some old lady..

mud... hide in the mud or dont look like a person simply make your body as small as you can so they think your something else.. not many animals walk on 2 legs and are the same size of a man..

You must've read it in the comics because it's really funny....sorry. Doesn't matter what you put on your foot your body weight still contacts the ground (unless you can fly). If you contact the ground you leave sign....period.

I don't think he meant you would not leave any sign, but rather that you would leave less.

I can see how applying a flat surface to the ground would be harder to read than a shoe print.

A good pair of mocs would probably be the best compromise, not tough rubber tread to leave a distinct imprint.

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I know that's what he meant and in theory it sounds good, but it doesn't work. The drug runners on the border use to use shag carpet and yes it didn't look like a shoe. It did look like carpet prints in an alternating pattern about 16" apart. The moccasins do the same thing. If you contact the ground you leave sign. I understand that most people might overlook it, but Rateater asked about trackers and they are not so easily fooled.

I guess we better bring some red bull in the woods with us then. (gives you wings)

Now that's the best advice I've seen. I don't mean to be a smart a\$\$\$. I track lost folks, some are lost by accident and some are trying to be lost. I've seen a lot of funny attempts, but covering feet isn't what works.

In my EDC in the field I always have an inhaler, I can cover almost twice the distance and it keeps me awake and alert. I also can set a faster pace but it comes at a price, if you have not lost your pursuers within 24 hours your spent! In the last 3 to 5 years I have seen them move to rely heavily on their tech and thats a good thing. I would much rather be pursued with tech than a human tracker and most often I find they blow it early on and waste precious time and destroy sign. I often track hikers and others for fun, I start to build a journal on them and when I locate them it's always interesting to see how right I got it, their weight, condition, load, how many and it helps me learn what gave me the most problems and how to apply them to counter tracking. I love going out with a friend of mine and one day I will track him and another he tracks me. Great fun when you start to anticipate where they will be next and get ahead of them! Thanks everyone

Tracking dogs are bad enough but if the SHTF I think the main thing we will need to worry about is thermal imaging or Infared. Beware the FLIR cameras!

Anyone know how to evade Thermal detection???

I've seen films of actual FLIR counter drug missions where the drug runners were moving by both boat and on foot. The boats wake just formed a big arrow pointing to the boat. Every time

you break the surface of the earth, or water, it produces a slightly different temperature pattern which the operator sees. During the first Gulf War the attack aircraft located Iraqi tank units by following their tracks in the sand due to the variance of ground temperature from undisturbed and disturbed soil. They can even spot where you recently urinated if you were on foot. FLIR is not easy to beat unless there is a lot of heat around you such as a desert in the daytime. That could be part of the reasoning why the Iraqi units lit up the oil fields.

No its called sit wait and hope the enemy isnt bigger then you think and wait till they close then open fire.. If you are hidden they wont know what hit them till to late.. But then again it all depends are they tracking you ie military durring a war to hunt then kill or are they tracking you because you just robbed some old lady..

That is why you would die and I would live. The situation dictates if you would A. survive the engagement B. Survive and escape or C. Survive the engagement, but **** a lot of people off in the process and motivate them to find you even more. And last, not least, and far more likely is D. Get shot in the face while trying to set up some ambush you saw on Rambo 3.

Travel during heavy rainfall; keep steady pace Skunk Cabbage helps lower your bodys signature.. avoid loose gravel and sand. do not under any circumstances leave anything behind that is not part of the natural setting. If you hear somthing stop and listen.but dont bolt.. footwear should be soft soled and rounded. hope that helps

How do you kill a dog with your bare hands?

Personally, I have been attacked by a dog only twice in my life. Where I'm from, lots of people keep dogs for protection and there are some strays also. The key to defending yourself against a dog is first realizing that you will not walk away unscathed. You will get bit, you will bleed, and you'll probably need stitches. Thats why, whether or not you can successfully defeat a dog attack, you should always try to avoid (ie. if there is a fence, jump it and avoid the attack, etc.)

Second, you have to realize that dogs do not have pride or ego and once they are actually hurt, will most of the time back off.

Third, know a dog's weaknesses. They are very susceptible to being kicked in the throat or ribs, which are generall their weakest points. Quadrapeds tend to have weak abdomens because they do not rely on abdominal muscles for stability.

Fourth, you cannot be afraid. Everyone has apprehension when a dog attacks, but if you are genuinely afraid, you have no chance. The slightest hesitation will cost you a limb and maybe your life. You have to go forward at the dog and attack back, not simply defend.

The first time I was attacked by a dog (probably about a 60 lbs dog - mutt), I was 14 and got really bit up and a neighbor came to my rescue. I got stitches in 4 different places, but was more scared then anything; basically in shock.

The second time I was attacked by a dog (probably about an 80 lbs dog - rotweiler), I was 23. This time, i remembered what happened the last time when I tried to back away and defend, so I went on the attack. As soon as the dog charged at me to bite, I went forward as well and kicked him as hard as I could under his jaw/neck. That backed him off for a second, so i kept coming

forward, kicking the dog with soccer kicks anywhere they would land. Eventually, it backed off and left me alone. *Note, i was never bit, but still had several cuts on my legs from his teeth because dogs move in very unpredictable ways.

If you're not afraid of the dog, you'll have a good chance of doing well should you be attacked. I wouldn't try grabbing the dog unless you are well trained because that will only allow the dog closer proximity to your neck or anything else it wants to bite, and all it takes, even if you grabbed it and are in control, is one wiggle for the dog to free itself and bite. I wouldn't take that chance.

carry a really good strong hard stick, or club, heck even some lead pipe. imagine the face of the charging dog like a baseball. and imagine that the pipe or stick or club as a baseball bat. hit a home run.

This is a very difficult question to answer. Even having a little personal experience in the matter (not killing a dog just fighting one off), I can only give ideas as to how you could fight off or... kill a dog or a wolf.

And note: I only answer this to provide help in a dangerous situation where you seriously fear for your life, serious injury or for the help of others. Personally I like dogs.

Firstly, I would run like hell to somewhere safer, where if you couldn't get help you could at least find something for a weapon, find something to climb out of its reach or try use your environment to your advantage. Eg: gates, pools, trees, rocks, houses, fences, branches, etc..

Secondly, do everything in your power to avoid being bitten because when they do they can really latch on and its close to impossible to unclench their jaws.

Thirdly, most dogs of a certain size and larger are heavy, muscle-bound creatures who can shake off or even ignore heavy blows to the head or body. Usually when they're attacking something and in a state I would call 'bloodlust' or 'attack mode'. You could try gouging it's eyes, or even attempt to strangle it (though that would most likely be a waste of energy and might just put you in more danger being closer to its head), or you could try to pin it on its back while pushing down hard on its throat with both hands or your knee both to suffocate it and keep its head down.

Also, some people may say to stick your hand down its throat to make it release you when its biting you. This will not work unless its a really big dog or wolf as most times your hand wont even make it sufficiently pass the teeth let alone down its throat. Especially, as the dogs mouth will be already half clamped shut because its biting you.

This is something only experience can help you. Having somebody tell you is not going to help when the situation occurs.

That being said, a charging creature often has more weight than you do (Force is mass times acceleration). As such, you must use this to your advantage. You cannot stop anything charging directly at you that weighs more than you, so you must avoid being directly in front of the animal when it reaches you.

Slamming the animal laterally (To the side) will knock it off balance. Quickly grabbing the neck, you would force it down towards the ground. Keeping the animal on the ground at this point is a case of holding the neck firmly to the ground, and keeping the animal on its side and not on its belly.

Again though, this will not work if you try it. You need experience to do it right. In other words, don't go pissing the dog down the street off so that you can pull a Steve Irwin on

i have been attacked by a dog a pit bull to be exact if possible grab a weapon if you cant dont run there is no way to out run a dog i know ive tried and paid dearly for it try to scare it of loud noises or throw anything you can if it charges you kick it in the bottom of the jaw it will stun it temporarily you have to act fast almost immediatly or it wont work right when ou kick immediatly apply the rear naked choke or you can break its neck by grabbing it by the ear and bootom jaw and applying a very violent jerk if you choose the choke watever you do DO NOT LET GO UNTIL THE DOG IS NEUTRALIZED or you will pay the consequences

Jimbo Jones has the best points (and stories!!) on this one. Fear is a key factor. People grow up amongst friendly and violent people on a regular basis. Fearing people is dealt with, in peoples minds, before they, usually, ever have to deal with a fight with a person. But a dog! Not many people think about what it's like to fight a dog!

I myself have never been attacked by a dog. I watched, as a child at the age of 9, my mom defend herself, and a dog we were walking, from a dog that was about twice the size of the dog we were walking. Exactly what Jimbo Jones said, is what my mom tried. She ran up as the dog was attacking our dogs throat and she nailed that F***er in the side. He cried out loud and ran off. Our dog was a little injured, but no worse for the wear.

Depending on the size of the dog, theoretically, a dogs rib cage, and other bones in their overall structure, cannot take a full forced hit from a full grown (or even a teenage) human by any means. The trick is making sure you have a chance to swing. Knowing that, I would imagine it is kind of like fighting a person. If they are trained or not, on how to attack, it is always a wise decision to avoid confrontation as is best possible. A police dog might be a lot more difficult to kill, rather than a wild dog as well. The biggest key would be to use your size to take the dog out. Don't let the dog get close enough to you, to bite you; and do not be afraid. Remember that a dog is 1/4 the size of you on average. As well, there is a reason that humans are the dominant species on this planet (as far as we know).

Fighting off a huge dog would be no different than fighting off someone bigger than you. Go for shots that get you a kill. Eye gouging, as someone here mentioned already, ear grabbing and ripping, and attacks to other various areas on the dogs body should all be taken advantage of. I know a dogs nose is extremely sensitive, and the same rules apply, for adrenaline rushes, from an animal, that apply to a person. So once they attack, it may become a life or death situation, you must be ready! If you wind up killing the dog, that's better than you being mauled to death by a dog!

This is actually a really entertaining question to me! I really have never thought about being attacked by a dog. I have thought about how screwed I would be to fight a bear or tiger or lion or something though! That's a total one sided fight, just by size alone! This is a little trickier though...

How to Defeat a Pit Bull with Your Bare Hands



Fact: Any breed of dog is capable of attacking a human. But 56 percent of all fatal dog attacks in the United States in the past five years were committed by pit bulls, according to a report released last week by the organization DogsBite.org. "During the 1980s and 1990s, fatal dog attacks averaged 17 per year. The death-by-dog-bite rate now is nearly double this amount at over 30 per year and largely due to pit bulls," the group says. The tips below can be used against any breed of dog that happens to attack, up to and including the pit bull. (And to those who claim that humans' anxiety about pit bull attacks is fostering an environment where pit bulls are subliminally encouraged to attack: I will not discuss matters of human culpability and mind-reading pit bulls because YOU ARE INSANE.)

1. Avoid Conflict

"Trying to make friends with strange dogs is not a good idea," says David Wiley, a Seattle dog behavioral therapist with BarkBusters.com. "Don't try to pay attention to a dog in a car or behind a fence—even friendly dogs can be territorial." Never let yummy little kids—who make sudden, startling, unpredictable movements—anywhere near unleashed pit bulls.

If you find yourself on what feels like the verge of being attacked: "Don't run—the movement can make the dog more excited and chase you. Stand completely still and cross your hands in front of you. Don't make direct eye contact, which can come across as a challenge. Don't turn your back, as it may embolden the dog. Just stand still. Once the dog loses interest, back away," says Wiley.

2. Stand On A Car



So you've stood still and avoided eye contact, and still the dog in question shows signs of dangerous aggression. If you can get yourself somewhere higher than the ground, do it. If you can stand on a car, stand on a car. (You can worry about possibly denting a stranger's hood and roof later—just get the fuck up there.)

3. Cover Your Face and Play Dead



If there's no car or any other higher level handy, "don't try to defend yourself, just protect yourself," says Emily Keegans, behavior program manager at the Seattle Humane Society. "That basically means to get down on the ground, pull your knees to your chest, clasp your hands behind your neck, put your elbows around your face." This play-dead-while-defending-your-tender-face-and-lap-bits approach is seconded by Wiley: "Stillness is the best thing. If a dog gets its teeth into you, fighting back can make things worse."

4. Mace The Fucker



There's nothing as low drama as spraying the animal with a pain-inducing repellent. If your life regularly takes you through areas populated with dogs, get Mace (or pepper spray, or citronella). Do it now, because all other "fighting back" options are nauseatingly violent. Butch's Gun Shop on Aurora Avenue sells a small container of Mace for around \$12, while REI sells an eight-ounce "bear spray" for \$30.

5. Bust Its Head, Break Its Knees, Or Choke It



Is there something heavy you can grab? A rock, a brick, a boom box? If so, smash it against the dog's head until it retreats or loses consciousness.

Or can you or someone else grab the attacking dog's legs? If so, yank them apart to break the dog's knees.

If that's not possible, choke it. Don't straddle the dog, but get into a position with the bony part of your forearm against its throat and put pressure on the windpipe "for at least 30 seconds until the dog is unconscious and has stopped struggling," says self-defense specialist Charles Prosper.

6. Gouge Its Eyes Out

Is choking not in the cards? Do you have something to wrap around your arm? Say, a jacket? If so, wrap it around your nondominant arm and let the dog bite it. Then fall on top of the fucker and dig your fingers into its eyes. Don't stop until the dog's a whimpering mass of blindness, then get yourself to safety. ★

- Turn fist sideways (thumb at top). Push it into the dog's face - it won't be able to resist the temptation to bite it, but it has to open its mouth past the point at which it has sufficient strength to cause any damage. Its jaw will lock onto your hand and you will be able to lift it sufficiently to kick it in the balls. You only get one shot at this, your life literally depends on you kicking hard enough for the dog to lose consciousness. You can then finish it off by bringing your heel down hard between the ear and eye.

If it has a collar pull up hard on its collar whilst pushing down on its neck and head, this will force the dog to open its mouth as it will gasp for air, pull whatever or whoever it is attacking out from its mouth. No need to kill it, pitbulls aren't vicious, it's the ppl who own them who make them like that!

A convicted rapist broke into a house one night. The mother and 3 year old daughter were home alone. Their Pit bull grabbed the man's arm. The man stabbed the dog with a knife that was his weapon. The dog was stabbed a total of 6 times and still managed not to release the man's arm until the cops arrived. The dog was rushed to the vets and sadly lost his life within a few days. This is a true story. I wouldn't try to kill a dog with my bare hands. I may be a lot of things, but stupid isn't one of them.

i dont know why you are asking this but:
 when it jumps for you, dodge and jump on it from behind, put both hands around its snout so it cant turn around and bite you, and sit on its back or hold its back down with your legs.
 as for killing it, thats horrible.
 while you are wrestling the thing, just keep holding its snout shut and keep pinning it down while someone else calls animal control or the cops

What Would I Do If Attacked by a Dog?

by Ed Frawley

This is a 2-part article.

1. The first part deals with what I (as a professional) would do if I were attacked by a dog.
2. The second part deals what the average pet owner should do if they or their pet are attacked by stray dogs.



What Would I Do?

I was recently asked what I would do if I were attacked by a dog. The question was not what should someone else do if they were attacked, but what would I do. Considering the recent death in San Francisco by Presa Canario I thought it an appropriate title for this article.

The first thing that people need to understand is that 99.99% of the dogs that attack and kill humans are dogs with weak nerves or extremely dominant dogs with no training. These are not trained dogs with solid temperaments that are killing people. But even so, I will address both kinds of dogs.

Keeping in mind that question asked "What would I do?"

I will start by saying that it only takes me a very few seconds to evaluate a dog as it approaches. I can tell from a dog's body language and eye's if it's a sharp, nervous dog.

With sharp dogs simply facing the dog with a loud, deep-throated confident "NO!!!!" will often be enough to stop the dog in its tracks. Most will turn and leave. The fact is these are not strong dogs that want to fight a human, they are weak dogs who show aggression, because they have learned that aggression makes people leave them alone. Dogs from this category that don't turn and leave will stand off and bark. I would continue to stare at those dogs and give them a loud "NO, GET TO THE HOUSE!!!" Eventually they will slink off and leave, trying to act tough as they go.

Dogs like this are the ones who have the hair up on their back as they approach, they may (or may not) show a lot of teeth. Their body posture is not forward, they will stand with their feet apart like they are real close to "fight or flight" (which they are). If I can stop these dogs with my voice, I will pause and give direct eye contact for a second and then take a quick step toward the dog - yelling in a strong confident voice. The majority of them will bolt into flight.

These nervous dogs that don't bolt will bark and circle as they try to get at you from behind. Simply turning and facing them with direct eye contact is going to prevent this. Very, very, very few dogs are going to do this, at least not to me anyway. Dogs sense strength and confidence in my body posture, eye contact and voice. For those dogs that don't leave after a minute, I can slowly (and I mean slowly) back out of their territory. Which, depending on the dog, could possibly be quite some distance. I testified in court several years ago against a lady in Kansas whose Rots killed a 9 year old boy. These were allowed to roam the neighborhood. They

considered their territory circle of several blocks around their home. By the way, this woman is now serving 11 years in prison. It's too bad that she will not spend more time there. She had no remorse.

The average person can do the same thing that I do when they are confronted by a nervous dog. What they don't want to do is turn and run. No matter how scared you are, you can't out run a dog, and running will only trigger prey drive and increase the possibility of an attack and being bitten.

The second group of dogs, (those that know how to fight humans), are a different situation. The only way to deal with an attack from these dogs is to climb a tree or fight them.

As the dog approaches, I would square off and offer a target, my left arm. Trained dogs have almost all been started on left arm bites. I would stand in a balanced position similar to someone trained in Karate. As the dog approached, usually at a run, I would wait until the dog was about 3 meters away and swing my arm up (in front of and across my body). This movement will trigger the dog's prey drive and it will target the arm. As I do this, I quickly pivot to the side and jerk the arm away just as the dog was about to grip the arm. This is done when the dog is in the air with his mouth open, in other words "at the last possible instant." Making the dog miss his grip obviously takes a little experience and coordination but it can be done - it's surprising how focused one can be at times like this.

As the dog goes flying by I would try and disable the dog with a strong kick to the back of the ribs or groin. The odds are this would not work. The majority of these dogs will turn and come again. The second time will not allow as much planning. I have been successful in 3 passes of a dog before it was stopped by its owner. When an untrained dog misses a bite three times in a row its nerves get turned on. When that happens these dogs can be pushed into flight with an aggressive move towards them.

I have no idea how many times in the past 20 years that I have fought police dogs in muzzle fighting training, more than I can remember. I can say that the more experience one has the better you get at fighting dogs. I have run tough KNPV trained dogs that were sent after me in muzzle.

With that said the fact is the more experience a dog gets at fighting humans (Schutzhund training is not considered fighting humans) the better they get too.

What gets difficult is when an experienced dog goes for your legs. Most police dogs that have bitten a lot of people will learn that leg bites are more successful than arm or upper body bites.

They figure out, through experience, that the last part of the body to move are the legs. French ring dogs know this too. But most French Ring dogs would not bite a person if their life depended on it (kind of reminds me of the French government). One of my best friend's police dog broke a criminals leg when he hit him at a dead run. This dog figured out that the weight-bearing leg was the best target. He had over 200 street bites and the majority of them were leg bites.

You can make these dogs miss but you need to be quick. The older I get the slower I get. So I guess at this point I would have to go to "Plan B" (which is nasty). In Plan B, you have to let the dog bite you. You just have to suck it up and take a bite. Chewing on your lip helps, but I heard of a bad criminal who bit through his own lip when a police dog bit him because he did not want to scream and let the K9 officer know where he was hiding. They still found him - he just had a hole in his lip and several in his leg.

Of course there is always the possibility of taking the leg bite and then trying to choke the dog out - the key here is to not stop choking when the dog passes out. When dominant dogs are choked out in a fight drive they wake up and are still in fight drive. These dogs will wake up (usually pretty quickly) and if you are still there they will come after you again. So when you choke these dogs you have to finish the job (choke him until they are dead).

I can see all the PETA people here rolling their eyes, clutching their chest and saying I am worse than those dam Mink Farmers!! If you are a PETA member and it makes you feel better, I will say that there are police dogs out there that no man is going to beat. I can't tell you how many tough guys have shot their mouth off about being able to beat a police dog with his bare hands only to cry like a baby when the dog bites him in his arm pit or upper inner thigh.

My grandmother once told me a very important statistic. That is: "you have 20 times more chance of being hit by lightning than being attacked by a trained dog." Grandma was always great with statistics and making chocolate chip cookies. I cannot say that you would have the same odds with nervous dogs and irresponsible owners that allow them to run free.

I get asked about Schultz dogs (sport dogs) all the time and the truth is that the vast majority of Schutzhund dogs will never bite a person without a sleeve on. Sport dogs require weeks of additional training to convert them to police service dogs.

Sport dog training is actually good for dogs. It helps them relieve the stress in their lives (similar to us going out to play a game of racquetball). The training also teaches them when they can and

cannot bite. Now there are always exceptions to this rule, like the lady I testified against in Kansas, her male Rot (the pack leader) was Schutzhund trained.

I have talked with friends about what the lady from San Francisco could have done to prevent her death when she was attacked by the Presa Canario. In my opinion there is probably nothing she could have done to save herself. These dogs had already had confrontations with her in the past and therefore they knew that she was afraid of them. So the option of facing them off was not there. The woman only weighed 110 pounds and the male dog (if my memory is correct) outweighed her by 50 pounds. She was attacked in the hall of her apartment and did not have any place to get away from the dog. I am not even sure if pepper gas would have stopped this dog. The only thing that may have worked would have been to drop to the ground, curl up in a ball with your hands clasped behind your neck and your arms and elbows protecting your neck and throat. Not many people can keep their wits about them when they are being bitten this badly. They go into flight mode and try and get away. I was pleased to see the owners of these dogs were also sent to prison to spend some time with their drug dealing friends.

If anyone that is reading this article lives in a similar environment (near aggressive dogs) you should always carry pepper gas and a walking stick. In fact, if you have to walk by a house or apartment with aggressive dogs, get it out and have it in your hand. If an attack comes you will not have time to fish around in your purse or pocket.

What To Do If You or Your Pet is Attacked by Stray Dogs

I get a lot of emails from pet owners who are out walking their dogs when stray dogs come out of no-where and attack their dog. This is NOT AN UNCOMMON OCCURANCE!

When this happens the pet owner needs to be assertive. Sometimes (not always) if you are lucky, simply taking a step foreword and screaming no at the dog in a confident tone of voice will turn the stray around.

More often than not the strays will come in to either attack or to posture over your dog. If your dog is at all annoyed by this, the stray will attack to show his dominance.

This is where the owner needs to be prepared. He or she should have a stout walking stick along with pepper gas or both. If a dog will not back off with verbal threats then its time to get cracked right between the ears. The harder the better.

I continue to hit a dog until it backs off. If that means 3 hits or 10 hits. I will not allow a stray dog to hurt or kill my dog. As a pack animal your dog expects you as the pack leader to protect him. So hang in there and whack the snot out of the stray. If the owner of the other dog is there - don't allow this to intimidate you. If they don't jump right in to pull their dog off - then whale on their dog.

When the aggressor finally comes off - get your pepper spray out. If the dog does not turn and leave. Spray the dog right in the nose. Empty the can on the dog. Pepper spray will not always have the same effect on dogs that it does on humans, but it does give them all something to think about other than trying to kill your dog.

Is unarmed defense from attack dogs taught in any of the traditional martial arts, or to special forces personnel? I'm not talking about fending off ill-tempered house pets through body language, but somehow stopping a trained and determined attack dog without the use of a weapon.

I don't see how any unarmed human could stand up to even one dog...

But weren't there Roman gladiators who specialized in fighting dangerous animals with their bare hands? If I remember correctly, the technique was to let the animal close distance, and then "feed" it one of your hands. If you can stay on your feet, the next step is to grab the back of its neck with your free hand, and proceed to shove the hand that's in its mouth all the way down its throat, and suffocate it.

Supposedly, men were able to kill full-grown lions in this manner...?

I also recall reading somewhere that Mossad agents were taught a similar technique for dealing with attack dogs. That account included a suspiciously ludicrous embellishment, however - supposedly, rather than waiting for the animal to suffocate, the agent - whose arm is buried to the elbow in the dog's throat - forcefully drops his elbow and raises his wrist, snapping his forearm to the perpendicular and breaking the dog's neck...

Yeah, right... Or not?

What's the Straight Dope?

Whack-a-Mole

05-28-2011, 03:17 PM

A human should be able to kill a single large dog in most cases.

The human needs to come to terms with the fact that they will get hurt.

Ideally proffer an arm to the dog and let it clamp down on that. With your other hand kill the dog (grab its trachea and squeeze as hard as you can, poke its eyes out, break its arm/wrist and so on). Make no mistake where the dog bit you is going to be messed up. Puncture wounds, maybe shredded skin, maybe broken bones but better than being dead.

This is not to say a dog can't be very dangerous and that they can't kill a human. They certainly can. But if we did a series of Thunderdome tests where two enter and one leaves my money is on the human most times.

I suppose if you get a truly massive dog like a Mastiff things might be different.

In the wild remember dogs/wolves are pack hunters. A group of dogs will mess you up.

Dogs also have some distinct weak spots. If you can grab the forearms of the dog pull them sideways from the dog's body. They do not go that way and you'll dislocate both of their shoulders. Fight over, dog won't be going anywhere after that.

I also saw a small woman at the dog park stop a dog attacking her dog by grabbing him by the hindlegs and lifting its rear end off the ground. The dog was not pleased by this and clearly wanted to turn on her but was utterly foiled. It was helpless. Of course you have to let go sooner or later but I was surprised at how well that worked.

I have never seen a martial art offer training to ward off animals but perhaps it exists.

With the dog attacking him, what happened next is amazing. Pardue was able to drag the dog all the way down the street and to his house."

"I thought he was going to take that finger off," said Pardue. "I was going to try and grab him by his jaws, but his jaws were so big and powerful, I couldn't pull my hand out of his mouth. So the only thing I could do was hit him in the ribs as hard as possible and it popped his mouth open. Then I pulled my hand out and got him by the collar."

Pardue says even though he had the dog by the collar, it was spinning around, trying to bite him again. With no way to call for help, Pardue dragged the dog to his back door.

"I just had him like this and had him by the collar and head and you know, flipped him around here and held him and banged on the door," said Pardue.

Pardue's wife called 911. By the time authorities arrived, the dog was dead. Pardue had choked the dog. Police say the dog's owner thought the animal was in the back yard.

Big springer spaniel -v- my hand.

The dog was a rescue dog, who always snarled/growled
i.e. he was an unhappy dog - even with himself.
In 30 years of keeping dogs, we never had one like that spaniel.

My 2 year old daughter was playing with a 'cuddly toy' bear about 9 inches high.
The dog had been chewing it earlier, and decided that he was going to have it back.
He lunged at my daughters face, but seeing what was going to happen,
I got between them, and my hand got between his teeth,
and he didn't let go, he just hung on, and I could feel the fingers parting!
With my free hand, I grabbed his throat, and squeezed, and lifted him off the ground, pushing
the hand further into his mouth
to try and get a gag reflex, and get my fingers back.

The dog past-out still gripping my hand - about 1 minute had past, although it felt a lot longer. When he flopped, I got my hand back, and he got thrown out of the house - literally. By the time he came round, I was on the way to A&E to get washed and stitched. Daughter was fine but scared and crying, If I had snatched my hand away, I think my fingers would have been swallowed instead of crushed and cut.

So, based on that experience, I would wrap and 'sacrifice' one arm, pushing it into the dogs mouth, forcing its mouth open wider than it wanted , and choke, and if possible knee and try to land on the dog to damage its ribs, poke its eyes, similar to attacking a human attacking me. When I saw choke, I mean close your hand to close everything off with intention that it doesn't ever wake up.

MANY moon ago, I was attacked by two Dobermans, while erecting a building on a piece of land in the country. The owner of the land/building had told us on day 1 that he had two professionally trained Dobermans to protect his wife and daughter as he was gone often. He also suggested that if EVER the dogs were out of the main house (by accident) we should just leave the premises.

Like so many construction projects, our electrical power was a T pole (4X 4 post, with an exterior rated breaker box) and our demand for power using big saws and other power equipment often stressed the breakers and the power went out. Being a young guy at the age of 19 - 20, I was generally elected to walk the distance to go and reset the breakers.

At an outage, the foreman yelled for me to go reset the breakers, so I dropped my toolbelt (leaving me without my trusty hammer) and headed towards the T pole. After attempting reset a few times I finally got the breakers to hold, and as I turned around I saw two Dobermans racing downhill my direction. I remembered clearly what the owner had said,,,,, " they were trained killers". I also was raised on a homestead that raised dogs on a professional basis, and had been taught by my father,,,,, "be smarter than the dog, you are in charge". I had no fear.

The first Doberman jumped up towards my throat,,,,,, as he did I "fouled off" with my left arm, which jammed my left wrist into his jaws. Somehow,,,my right hand grabbed the lower jaw, and wrestled free, at which point,,,upper and lower jaws were both in my hands. I know it sounds bad,,,but jaws were separated. The entire scenario took only a few seconds. I was stunned after wards. I remember finding the foreman with a bloody left wrist, and telling him what happened. We went back to the shop early that day,,,not knowing what else to do.

** The second Doberman never seemed to eager to get in the fight. That was a blessing I am quite certain.

The next day, the landowner thought I was going to file suit on him,,,,as his wife had let the dogs out by mistake,,, and I thought he would have me locked up for killing his dog. We both shook hands, and went our ways, happy that it wasn't any worse.

*** Maybe two years ago, I had just arrived home form work. Gun in holster, and two knives in pockets, I headed to get the mail out of the mailbox. Our neighbor has a real friendly boxer, and he was out to do his "thing" along with an adult. Suddenly, a Pit Bull (who had been running loose in our neighborhood for a week or so) appeared and headed towards the Boxer for an obvious attack. Without any further thoughts I produced a knife and headed towards the Pit Bull. He high tailed it in a BIG hurry, the other direction. My mind was prepared to cut him up

like a Sunday roast. Personally,,,,,,I feel animals know JUST how you feel. They know when they are whipped. If you display fear,,,,, sense it they will,,,, be prepared to fight it out.

agree re attacking the throat, choking. That alone is not enough. You need to use your weight against them to get them off their feet and on their backs, or in a body scissors from the rear.

I owned a Doberman for twelve years that I use to roughhouse with.

Agree, have to get them pinned down, or you will just be playing tug of war with them. given the time i would wrap my hand in my shirt or jacket, but better to sacrifice the hand, than the throat, which they will go for.

they want to protect their underside, so kicking/hitting their chest and belly should get a release from the bite, except those breeds like pits that never release i suppose. haven't dealt with any of them

if you can't choke them, you can stun them with blows to the head.

more than 1 dog and you will be infor some serious trouble.

I spent a few years getting bit for a living.

Arms look like someone played tic tac toe on them.

If you are attacked by a "big" dog, put all your fingers together, thumb in the middle and jam it as hard down the throat as possible If you can get the heel of your thumb to the hinge in his jaw, you have it. He loses leverage and you just make a fist to lock your hand in position and do as you please with him, like open your pocket knife and bleed him out.

You can also grasp the lower jaw with your other hand and disassemble it.

Choking a dog to death or incapacitation is very difficult.

Don't hit them in the head with your hand, the hand will lose.

I had an old 50 lb lab /chow mix when I got my American bulldog who now is 75 lbs and young. Both females and had many fights I had to break up. IMO the best thing is to take them off their feet by a hand under the neck and the other under their stomach . Of course its easier when the are locked up with another dog 🤪 control of the head is essential, its ingrained in them since birth .Momma dog used to grab them behind the ears and they would go limp, a good strong claw grab will work on the neck. A chock type hold and take them up off their feet and deposit them somewhere they cant get to you.

My experience regarding attitude so far has been like Slinger56's. I treat big, loose dogs like people, and decide up front how I'm going to kill them if they give me a problem.

It has worked several times, most notably in Sugarhouse Park in Salt Lake City, where I was out walking for excercise, using small dumbbell-like weights called "Heavy Hands" to increase the aerobic value.

I was passed by joggers all the time, but one jogger was running with his loose German sheppard, who for some reason decided to race ahead of his owner and come snarling up behind me and seemed about to grab my arm. I looked down at him to gauge where to smash his skull and we made eye contact. He decided to shear off and go back to his owner, who said as he

passed "Don't worry, he won't bite you." To which I said, smiling, "Good, then I won't kill him." For some reason that drew a strange look from the owner.

If a dog is trying to bite, don't pull back, this just rips your flesh and plays into his instincts.

Instead violate the script by **STUFFING YOUR HAND DOWN HIS THROAT.**

Once your hand is deep he cannot bite (jaw is jammed open) effectively, he gags, and typically experiences something he had never dealt with before.

This also can free your other hand to choke or eye poke or strike or draw a weapon.

IF you shoot (or knife) the dog in the head, do avoid shooting yourself as well

How do you kill a dog in self defense with your bare hands?

If my child or I are ever attacked by a pit bull or other dog what is the best way to fight the dog?|||A pit bull has powerful jaws and uses them. If you have enough courage, you can use this to your advantage. Goad the dog into attacking your arm. Insead of pulling your hand away, make a flat fist and ram it down the dog;s throat. Maintain enough forward pressure that the dog cannot dislodge your arm and the dog will choke to death. If the dog has something in its grasp, you can grab the windpipe and squeeze it shut. If your fingers are closed around the back of the pipe, the dog will be unable to break your grip. If that doesn;t work, you might be able to force it to release its grip by closing off its nostrils.

There are other stragegies to take advantage of its vulnerability when it has something in its grip--it can;t defend itself without letting go. It will be crouching to protect its vital organs, but its entire spine will be vulnerable.

Learn to do a kick where you pivot forward from one foot while snapping the other straight from the hip to the heel. Connect with your heel directly on whatever part of the spine is easiest to hit

with maximum force. If you can fracture or dislocate the spine at any point, the fight is over.



You don;t necessarily have to fight with your bare hands. Almost every environment has weapons in it. Rocks, big sticks, garden tools. Metal garbage can lids make great shields. If you can find something to cut or stab with, the lower abdomen and the throat are the best soft spots. You can quadruple the impact of your blows with a club of any sort.. anything that is hammer-like can be aimed at the base of the skull for an instant kill.

I hope you never have to use this. I love dogs and would hate to see one hurt. But humans come first, especially children.|||Poke the eyes of any animal and they will run|||You would want to

kick the dog very hard in the nose: it is their most sensitive spot. Usually, once you've done this, you wouldn't have to kill them, because they'll scoot away in pain. When a dog is running up to attack you, simply bending down as if you're about to make a field goal kick is often enough to intimidate a lot of dogs and make them hesitate. When you kick them, make sure you go for the nose. The best way to disable a dog is to grab his lower jaw and push down. Whatever you do, don't let go.



It's not recommended that you get into a 1 on 1 fight with any dog especially a bull terrier, Rottweiler, doberman or German shepherd. You might be better off to carry pepper spray. Get a dazer. It's a tazer especially for dogs. It shouldn't come to that.

If you have a dangerous dog in your neighborhood, you can carry an air horn (from a boat supply place) to scare it.

If you see a dog that looks aggressive, don't look him in the eye, but don't turn your back. Look at him sideways, and back away. Usually he won't attack.

If you have a belt or something that looks like a strap, take it in your hand and wave it a little. Many aggressive dogs have been punished with a strap, and are scared of it.

If he charges you, raise your arms (to look bigger) and roar at him. This will usually stop him.

If this doesn't work or you have no time, hold something between you and the dog (purse, sweater, whatever) and roar.

Of course, the majority of serious dog bites on the street happen when you don't see the dog coming. If you are already bitten badly, it may be hard to respond.

If a dog bites your arm and holds on, he is an attack-trained dog. Don't try to pull away but yell for help. Hopefully the owner will come, or at least somebody. An untrained dog bites wherever it can reach. (The owner will probably be anxious to settle; if your attack-trained dog attacks without justification, it's a serious matter. An attack dog is trained to go for the arm because the "intruder" may be holding a weapon.) (I was attacked by an attack dog one time; the owner was distraught, and had the dog put to sleep.)

Most dogs that bite do not hold on. If the dog is biting you, hit it hard in the face and eyes and yell loudly, until it leaves. If the dog is biting your child, yell loudly and attack the dog. If you have a stick, so much the better, but if yelling and hitting or kicking doesn't make the dog go away, attack the dog from behind and put your arm around the neck and your legs around the torso and strangle him. (I haven't tried this, but I know dogs pretty well and it's what I would do if I couldn't make the dog leave my child. I think it would work.)

Notice that I advocate a lot of yelling or roaring. A loud voice impresses a dog. Usually if two strange dogs meet on neutral ground, and if they decide to be hostile, the one with the louder bark will win without a fight. |||If this is an immediate concern, then look into preventative measures first. Make sure you know where the dog is supposed to be and get to know the people who own the dog. If it has done anything aggressive you should an animal control place so there is a paper trail. Also, learn how to read an animal;s behavior. There are usually signs that a dog is about to attack. Many mail carriers, public utility workers, people who work in neighborhoods will sometimes take a class to better learn how to defend themselves.



Keep in mind, that if it does happen, chances are that the owners could have prevented it and chose not to. This is true for pets, the owners must be willing to take responsibility for their pets; actions.

One more thing, I have a rottweiler and will always have a rottweiler. My crusade is to show people what a well behaved dog is like regardless of breed. Any dog can have an idiot owner. |||Steel yourself. Make a fist and shove your arm straight down its throat. Could be a slight rabies risk. If it doesn;t kill the dog it will incapacitate it. You might sustain abraisions. I used to be a vets assistant; this is what the vet would instruct people to do if nothing else is available or other methods fail. Look for something big; heavy first for a weapon. But since you asked about bare hands i gave you my best shot. |||Dont worry. I will rescue you. Woof woof! |||Lay in a ball on your knees and cover your head. ANd if you are with your child, do the same by covering them in your ball.



First instincts would be to kick the bone in their chest so hard! Ive heard that can disable a dog. |||a swift kick will disable them then follow with a head stomp. in self defense a head stomp is always recommended to permanently disable the attacker. try to kick the dog in the throat or ribs. head shots are less likely, try not to use your hands or expose your face and throat. keep your child behind you and dont run or turn your back. most animals will run from you after a kick. |||1st don;t run stand your ground dominance is key if this ever happens to you. If it;s just one you can run it off by hitting it hard on the snout just above the nose. You can also jam your thumbs at the back of the dogs mouth where the jaw bones meet,with your other fingers grip it;s head and neck this keeps it from closing it;s jaws, thus unable to bite. From this point you can

do many things to make the dog harmless or dead. This works on all K-9s|||like... punch it real hard? give it a concussion or something, i don;t know. if you;re really that worried maybe you should carry a tazer or something.|||A dog does not feel pain like a human, so you have to really injure it.

The best thing is to go for the head. Eyes and nose are ;soft; parts that cause a lot of pain. You might try choking the dog, although many dogs have a thick flap of skin on their neck to protect them.

I successfully fought off a dog by grabbing it;s throat in my right, and hitting repeatedly on the head with my left. (I didn;t instigate the fight, I was jogging and she attacked me). This kind of tactic is usually successful, but bear in mind that you will be bit and scratched be teeth, and it will hurt like hell.|||if I tell you, someone will give me a violation of email.|||If this is a serious attack and no other way out the only defence is to jab a sharp stick into the dogs privates. Unpleasant, but in all other areas any strong, muscular dog will outclass you. A riskier tactic is to put the stick through the dog;s collar and twist it to cut off its air supply - gives you more control, but you;re at risk of being overpowered near the teeth. In the beginning if you feel a situation may happen, keep your hands tucked in close to your body and avoid eye contact. Dogs will normally attack because they are fearful or wound up, not for fun.|||Since you said bare hands, remember dogs have one weapon, their teeth. You have two hands (two arms) and you would have to let the dog bite onto one arm so you could use the other hand to grab it;s throat. A big dog can eat your fingers like pretzel sticks so stay clear with fingers. After the dog bites onto your arm, grab his throat with your free hand and lift it into the air and bring it down on its side dropping onto it ribs with your knee. This will break a rib, force the air out of it;s lungs and allow you to complete the choke. You will have to take a bite to get to it;s throat. Good luck.|||I heard the best way to kill a dog is kick them in the throat as hard as you can.

choke them. why did you make an extra effort to mention pitbulls? Why not just ask how you can you defend yourself against a dog attack.|||honestly, grab its back legs and try your hardest to lift them. if you cant get to its back legs, lay out the ground curled in a ball with your back to the air so theirs less places for him to bite you.

Your chances of killing a large dog attacking you are slim. Dogs have very good survival instincts and the breeds that are most likely to attack have far quicker reflexes than most humans.

Disregard the poster who said break the dogs neck after it clamps down on your forearm. Much easier said than done. It is hard to do much when massive tissue damage is being inflicted upon you. When large dogs clamp their jaws down on you, they start shaking their head side-to-side, which causes a lot of tissue damage, and hurts like hell. Larger dog breeds also have very strong neck muscles (it aids in the shaking of seized prey) which makes it harder to break their neck. Chemical agents are the best way to deal with dogs.

Yes, avoid the fight at all cause. It is never good even when you win. But if you must I will say always have something on you. The spray is good. I just read that the wasp spray is better than the pepper spray for dogs. Pepper spray does not work on all dogs and you do want to find out to late. The knife, the stick and anything else that can help you create some distance are not bad ideas either. The guy that said to stand your ground is right too. Do not run; remember the dog is faster than you. If you stand your ground the dog will know that he is in for a fight and not just picking on some easy prey. This may not stop the dog but it is a good choice rather than running. Plus you will see the dog coming at you and can prepare better.

One more time avoid the problems and do not walk alone. It is more difficult for the dog to attack two or three than one.

This is why you should always,always,always carry a good lock-blade folding knife in your pocket.

Going barehanded against a big,angry dog that is in all-out kill mode is just insane.

kick it in the throat

Use rear n'a'k'e'd' choke or arm bar

I think it is possible to defeat a run of the mill dog in a fight. However killing it would be much more difficult. There are many ways to hurt a dog. A couple of things i can think of would be to double eye poke it. Also grab an ear and listen to them scream. Be prepared to be bitten however if you can handle that it should be possible to win. Many humans are intimidated by dogs and

will run. This is the worst thing to do cause instinct says the canine will chase you and easily catch you. I have on a few occasions stood up to a dog and they have backed down. The best thing to do is avoid confrontation if possible.

