

Ten New Year Resolutions for Your Dog

(Part One)

By Nancy Secrist, Easdale: the best pet care

We could all benefit from thinking of ways to improve for our upcoming New Year! It's a chance to start fresh, change for the better and convert that optimistic hope into action! How to pick the best resolutions for success? Look to your pet and see what they have to say about how it's done. Here are the first five....

Resolution #1: I will exercise more. Too many hours on the couch combined with too many treats has made me, ummm, fluffy and it's not really just hair. I'll play fetch more but remember to wait for the throw BEFORE running after the ball. I'll go out to the dog park several times a week. I'll take up Doga--that's a real thing; yoga with a dog!



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Resolution #2: Don't discriminate. Be more accepting of others regardless of differences. Start by doing something nice for someone you barely know. I will not bite the vet because the vets and techs are just trying to help, although they need to take it easy with those needles!

Resolution #3: I will respect my and other's property. I will respect the difference between furniture and fire hydrants. I will not masticate crayons or pens, particularly not the red ones to avoid expensive emergency room visits for hemorrhaging when I am not. Will avoid chewing out dog toy squeakers; delight in the squeaker a bit longer before nipping it out.

Resolution #4: I will improve my personal grooming and social skills. I'll try to stay out of the cat's litter box. I resolve to resist the urge to stake out the cat's private lavatory – even though it's a lot of fun and really makes her act crazy. I will not use natural scents such as rolling in dead things and walking under the bigger dog when he is peeing.

Resolution #5: I resolve to live in the moment. Eat more nutritional tasty food and slow down so I don't eat like a starving wolf. I'll whine less, bark more. Enjoy more time for quality napping where I can chase rabbits in my dreams. Schedule more "me" time at the groomers. Relax with more time on the couch or beds and less on the floor.

Watch this space next month for Part Two!