



# NOSE — to — TAIL



## **Top Tips for Choosing a Dog Daycare and Walking Service**

A companion to the book *Nose to Tail* by Louise Harding

[www.nosetotailbook.com](http://www.nosetotailbook.com)

# Top Tips for Choosing a Dog Daycare and Walking Service

## Dog Daycare

Pet care, boarding and training are much needed services, many people couldn't manage without them. Unfortunately, these industries tend to have little regulation therefore it's vital you protect your dog's welfare. Never leave your dog in care without having spent time watching the interactions between your dog, other dogs and the prospective carer. Trust your instincts and watch your dog's body language. Remember, you know your dog best.

## Walking Services

All good dog walkers should have a genuine love of dogs and an interest in other aspects of animal care like nutrition and general health. A meet and greet is absolutely essential when considering employing a dog walker. Ensure the 'face to face' meeting is with the business owner and also the person who'll actually be handling your dog. Detailed information should be asked of you, recorded and acted upon, regarding: how you like to walk with your dog - be it in front or beside you, what equipment you use, the way you reinforce or modify behaviour and how you reward your dog.

During your meet and greet you should take note of the following:

- *Does your dog like them?*
- *Are they coercing your dog?*
- *Are they interacting appropriately with your dog?*
- *Are they using aversive techniques to manage your dog?*

# Top Tips for Choosing a Dog Daycare and Walking Service Continued

## Questions to Ask.

- ***Can you provide me with a copy of the notes and the service agreement?***
- ***Do you have appropriate business insurance and how does that apply to the care and well-being of my dog?***
- ***Will you be using my equipment or will it be provided? What type of collar, lead, harness, halter, muzzle will you be using? Why? Ask to view the equipment. Ensure it's suitable for your dog.***



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