



Take the *best* pet
photos

How to train
your man
like a puppy!

My Pet: We interview Princess Katalin zu
Windischgraetz, founder of luxury brand KZW Pet Interiors

My Pet

Princess Katalin zu Windischgraetz from Austria is the founder of KZW Pet Interiors. The company creates bespoke, elegant pet furniture which can fit with any interior design scheme. Born behind the Iron Curtain in Hungary, Princess Katalin is fashion royalty. As a high fashion model in Hungary she appeared on over 300 covers and was shot by the legendary Norman Parkinson. After modelling for some years, Katalin escaped communist Hungary and established her fashion brand in Vienna and before expanding her design influence globally.

After a successful career, she retired from the fashion industry and moved to Marbella, where she organised two international charity galas to help abandoned and tormented animals in Spain. This resulted in her building the first fully equipped clinic in a private animal shelter (Triple A) in Spain. She then went on to found her current business, KZW Pet Interiors which creates top end furniture which would provide the perfect furniture and toy boxes for some of the world's

most wealthy dog lovers. Exuding elegance, the pet beds have intricate embroideries and opulent styles and are made of the best quality materials. In



Princess Katalin zu Windischgraetz with her dogs Tinka and Sedi.

combining her love of animals and design, the Princess's bespoke pet interior service includes beds, sofas, mattresses and toy boxes and gives pet owners the opportunity to decide between a wide range of designs to suit their home aesthetic.

Princess Katalin speaks to Pets Magazine about her own beloved dogs, Tinka and Sedi.

What breeds are Tinka and Sedi and why did you choose them?

After my second beautiful pointer passed to the "Forever Hunting Grounds", I decided to adopt a dog from a Spanish state owned killing

station. Her name is Tinka, she is a mix of Spitz and long haired Chihuahua. I chose her because she was the shyest in the pen and I knew I could change her life.

My second dog is called Sedi, a Beagle and short haired Dachshund mix; she was found in terrible conditions, with parasites and a heavily infected right eye which could not be saved. The shelter in Marbella was totally full with almost 500 dogs and

nobody would have adopted a one eyed mixed breed dog. She therefore remained with me and Tinka. I now have two wonderful and happy dogs.

How long have you had Tinka?

I adopted Tinka on 10th July 2010 and Sedi on the 4th October 2012.

Do your dogs come with you to work?

Yes they do, they are DOGS WITH JOBS. They test all new pet furniture or pet beds to make sure they are comfortable enough, if the mattress is high enough or the cushion soft enough.



Do they have any tricks or special character traits?

Yes, they know tricks such as giving paw and bringing their toys to me and are very well behaved with people and other dogs. Sedi is very extroverted and loves charming people and other dogs. Tinka is shy and observes Sedi before taking any action.

Is there anything you feel strongly about regarding pet welfare?

Yes, I have been involved with pet welfare since I was a

They are also testing the durability of the fabrics, among other things. They also model and receive the other dog models to the photo session at every new collection and show other dog models how to pose.

What difference do your dogs make to your life?

I would not know how to live without dogs. My life started with them and I have lived with dogs ever since. My four-legged family members have ranged from tiny Yorkshire Terriers to large Pointers, from beautiful pedigree dogs to poor abandoned or tormented creatures, moving me to also be involved with animal protection.

Do you take pooch-friendly holidays?

I haven't been on holidays in the

past few years, but if I had to go, it would be wherever they could be part of the trip. Marbella is a lovely holiday resort and whenever I have time the dogs get great walks on the beach or up the Concha Mountain.

Do you take Tinka and Sedi with you to restaurants?

Yes, I only go to restaurants where my dogs can come with me.

What are your dogs' favourite things in the world?

Sedi is a passionate hunting dog that never lifts her snout from the ground, she loves the mountain walks, rolling in every new dog bed and blanket model and mostly taking out all her toys from her Toy Boxes. Tinka is only happy if she is close to me and petted. She does however like to play with Sedi.

child and have been part of many associations and committees over my life. In 2001 and 2002 I organised two large Galas in Marbella to raise funds and build the first fully equipped clinic in Spain for a private shelter called Triple A. I feel it is extremely necessary that people who decide to adopt or buy a pet learn beforehand whether the dog's character is right for the owner and if the pet would fit in their lives. That way we would not see so many pets in shelters. ■

To see the KZW Pet Interiors collection, visit: <http://kzw-petinterior.com>.



Be prepared when
photographing pets



Let your pet's personality shine through



Photograph by/© Venture Studios

Taking the perfect photo of your pet can be a tricky business - getting an animal to perform in front of a camera when you want them to isn't always straightforward, with luck playing a large part in your success.

Venture Studios, the UK's leading family and pet portrait photographer, has been taking stunning images of pets for 15 years, with demand for pet photography on the increase, having seen a 32% growth since 2013. Venture's creative director, Richard Mayfield explains: "Generally, families come to us for portraits with their pets, but we also offer single pet head shots, which work really well, especially straight-on head shots which can

Bring your pet's favourite treat or toy

Think out of the box with this one: is there a pair of socks, or a shoe or ball of wool they shouldn't really play with, but love to? These items

be blown up really large for a trendy living room piece.

"Every year we photograph thousands of dogs using the winning formula of eyes looking straight to camera and capture an almost human-like pose." For the devoted pet owner looking to recreate a professional pet portrait, Venture has put together a list of top ten tips to help *Pets Magazine*

readers take better photos of their pets.

are ideal to get their personalities shining through.

Get your pet to relax

To encourage your pet to feel chilled out in front of the camera, try starting the shoot by getting favorite family members to play and distract them from this unusual event. This will put them at ease and soon they'll forget the camera is there.

Be prepared to be really silly to get the portraits you want

Making noises or using key words your pet responds to can really get their character across in a picture, for example 'dinner time', 'walkies', 'who's a cutie?' etc.

Play to your pet's personalities and quirks

Does your pet lie like a diva across a cushion? Or do they look just like someone famous when you put an accessory on them? Try thinking outside the box with your portraits and you'll get some great results.



Photograph by/© Venture Studios



Photograph by/© Venture Studios

Get down to your pet's level

Remember what it felt like as a child being surrounded by tall adults? It's just the same for pets. Get down on their level and help them feel reassured enough to let their real character shine through.

Show your pet's size by using props and people

Small animals look great next to larger objects to get a sense of scale. When they are fully-grown this is a great way to look back and appreciate just how tiny your pet was.

Focus on the eyes

To create a portrait that really captivates the viewer, it's important to encourage a connection with the camera and getting your pet's eyes looking straight into the lens can create a really strong shot.

Expression

Consider how to get an eye-catching expression from your pet. Would they look content if you snap them just as they are waking

up, proud if you use a lower angle, or annoyed if you photograph them when they have just come in from being caught in the rain?

Be patient your pet will pick up on something new or different going on which can make them anxious or not

themselves. Be patient and wait until they are relaxed and their personalities will come out.

Lastly, resort to naughty treats, the kind you wouldn't give them

all the time, but the ones you know will get their full attention to capture on camera.

To get the most effective shots of your pet, there are plenty of tips that will help capture their character. But most of all, it's a case of being patient. Your pet will sense if you start getting frustrated, which will hinder their performance. So, just make sure that you are as relaxed as you want your pet to be, and the shots should come naturally.

Pet Portrait shoots start from £35 with Venture Studios. To book your experience, please visit: <http://www.venturephotography.com/book-your-venture-experience/> or call 0845 121 1085.



Photograph by/© Venture Studios



How to train your man like a puppy!

Remember the unconditional love and attention you get from your best four-legged friend? Well, life coach SLOAN SHERIDAN-WILLIAMS suggests that we can get the same from our partners - by training them as you would a puppy. Read Sloan's tips to keep your partner in check!



By celebrity life coach Sloan Sheridan-Williams

The way you would behave with a puppy actually says a lot more about you than your puppy.

Puppies in general are content with themselves, offering unconditional love and attention but how much of that is from within and how much is learned behaviour from the way we treat them? What I have found in my relationship coaching is that partners who follow a few simple puppy psychology rules in their relationships tend to having healthy loving partnerships based on the four pillars of relationship success which are honesty, trust, respect and integrity.

I do not condone training one's partner like a dog as that would be disrespectful and would not work to produce lasting results, but I do condone changing your behaviour to elicit a better response from your partner.

Everything in Moderation

With a puppy you very soon realise they do not know how to regulate their eating, playtime

'Communicate your wants and needs clearly to your other half in the way you do to a puppy...'

hours or even their behaviour towards other dogs. Just like you wouldn't put a whole bag of dog food out and allow a puppy to decide how much to eat or not, don't offer your partner everything on a plate. Puppies are taught early on they have to earn respect and rewards by good behaviour, using the same logic if you give your other half everything they want without them earning such they will never know how to regulate their wants and desires and therefore they will never learn how to appreciate you.

In nature, dogs like to form packs and therefore it makes sense to relate to people in the same way you would relate to man's best companion.

Here are my top tips to produce the desired response in your partner:

Create Scarcity

Every dog owner knows that feeling when their puppy is off the lead and running towards a squirrel or worse still a busy road and our instinct is to run towards them, however the experienced dog owner knows that catching their dog's attention then running the other way is far more likely to get your puppy to start chasing you. In relationships the same applies, chasing your partner, checking up on them or making them feel that you are always there is going to inevitably push your partner away, or at the very least create complacency in them.

Apply puppy psychology by creating scarcity. Moving away from your partner when they pull away, be it in the form of catching up with friends or finding a new hobby enables them to come running back to you.

Say what you mean!

With puppies we don't give mixed messages, we clearly say no when we mean no and we clearly show them what makes us happy and what does not work for us.

Communicating your wants and needs clearly to your other half in the way you do to a puppy helps you draw boundaries as to what you will and won't tolerate. Deal breakers are such for a reason and it is healthy in a relationship to avoid making the unacceptable acceptable as that only leads to resentment down the line. It is unfair to expect your partner to read between the lines so be clear, concise and logical in your requests for the best outcome.



Sloan says to make sure your other half adds value to the partnership before you reward them...

Reward don't punish

When training a puppy most dog owners will tell you punishment doesn't work. The only way is to reward good behaviour and ignore bad behaviour. The ethos here is to forgive and forget but do not tolerate. It is important to be compassionate but don't be a pushover. The first step is to find out what your partner considers a reward and then come up with a plan to deliver such in a timely fashion immediately after the positive act. Here, timing and intensity of positive reward is key.

The final step is to decide which behaviours elicit a reward. Each couple has their own idea of good behaviour be it flowers or completing chores around the house or helping get the children ready for school; whatever it is make sure your other half adds value to the partnership before you reward them. Any reward scheme needs to be compounded over and over for long lasting results otherwise your partner will

lose interest in maintaining the positive behaviours.

Refuse to play if disobedient

You will see that other dogs will quickly teach puppies what is acceptable game play and what is too much. They show short sharp bursts of growling and then defend their space. You will see an intelligent puppy, back away lick its wounds and approach with more caution the next time.

Likewise, let your partner learn the hard way, sometimes he needs to get bitten to learn not to dip his toe in to the fire. Whether your partner has a wandering eye, doesn't do his chores or is lazy with your children although you obviously cannot bite them, you can make their life uncomfortable.

As I said before punishment doesn't work but if you change your behaviour to mirror the effect they are creating giving them a short sharp shock, your partner may retreat temporarily to lick

their dented ego but they will return with a vested interest in stepping up to the plate.

Be consistent, firm and logical

A puppy will know the weakest link in any pack and will often beg from such. The owners who show firm resolve never to feed their dog at the table will find their dog will not

ask for food because they will not waste energy on a fruitless task.

Consistency is key to talking to anyone be it a partner, a friend or a work colleague. If you show you are firm in what you believe be it your values, ethics or morals you will quickly find most people will realise they cannot shift your position and they won't bother trying. They will also clearly know that carrying out A,B and C will produce a specific result and then they can choose if they want the same result as you or they can move on. Either way you will not be bogged down with the weight of pressure to change which will enable you to make more powerful choices towards your goals and dreams.

Avoid exhibiting negative behaviours yourself

Dogs, puppies especially, are famous for selective attention. They have a filter that blocks out constant talking or yelling of their



name until they want to acknowledge such. Likewise humans have a way of filtering out the voice of a partner who nags, complains, whines or makes them feel a negative emotion. It is like the sound of your voice becomes white noise and they no longer respond and react. The best way to prevent this is to not display such negative behaviours and to try and keep upsetting conversations short and clear immediately turning the situation back to a more positive or interesting topic. That way your partner will not want to block you out as they will be genuinely interested in what you have to say.

Don't let him see your fear

They say if you are fearful your puppy can feel that ooze off you all the way down the lead. This can make the puppy itself agitated or play up or even turn on you as the weakest member of the pack. Applying the same psychology to your partner, it is imperative that you do not show fear or they will on some level respond differently to you than they would have, had you not shown fear of losing them. The best way to reduce fear of

abandonment, loss or rejection is to make sure that your sense of self comes from within and not from your partner. Focus on boosting your own self-esteem and confidence rather than becoming clingy and fearful around your partner.

Practice makes perfect

If at first you don't succeed at creating a change in your partner then try again. The lessons you learn are about making changes in yourself and just like with the gym you need to keep applying positive action to help you progress forward to the relationship you want and desire. If the prize is worth the effort then keep applying the principles over and over again until you see lasting changes.

Re-home Him

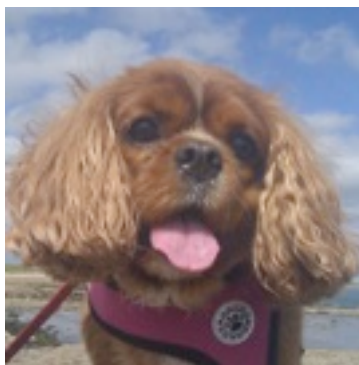
In some instances it really is them not you, in which case just like with any disobedient terror of a puppy who cannot be trained by you, rehoming is the best option. You really only have two choices that will result in lasting happiness, which is to be

authentic and accepting or to walk away. Although it is terribly hard to let go, it might prove better for both. There is always someone else who will fall in love with that cute face and then your partner can become their problem not yours.

Training yourself and ultimately changing your partner's response to you should be a fun process, think of it as behaviour modification and lifestyle changes over rigid rules. The brain does not like loss and so if it perceives the change to be too drastic in you then it will be harder to keep to your new way of life. Make little changes every few days until they start to feel natural and authentic to you increasing your repertoire until you have adapted to all the rules that you wish to implement. Remember to keep focus on the bigger picture, which is to move towards positive emotions such as forgiveness, love, acceptance after all you chose to be with your partner and if you choose to stay then you need to accept them as a package. Do this by moving away from unhelpful emotions such as fear, lack of trust, and game playing and instead lead by example.

The power of puppy psychology can be adapted to more than just relationships, when you have mastered the 10 basic steps, have fun applying them to a multitude of situations for long lasting results. ■

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www.sloansw.com. Follow
Sloan on Twitter at
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Sophie's Choices

Top product picks by our resident reviewer Sophie, the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel.



Lily's Kitchen pet food

Loving the fantastic and tasty range of fresh wet and dry pet food and treats available from Lily's Kitchen. We sampled a range of both dry and wet food and tasty doggy treats including the ultra tasty Bedtime Biscuits with soothing chamomile.

Go to www.lilyskitchen.co.uk for a great selection of pet food.

Natural Pet Treats Company

This brilliant company does a range of natural pet food and treats with no additives or artificial flavours. The products, which are UK Farm Assured, are great treats and supply nutritionally balanced meals for dogs. We particularly loved the liver treats, and the duck and potato food, which went down a treat.

For more information and to order, visit:
www.naturalpettreatscompany.com.



Forthglade Natural Pet Food

Another top contender for most favourite food is the fantastic range from Forthglade. The freshly prepared meals are packed with tasty vegetables and contain a minimum meat content of 70%. The only minor quibble is that while the size of the packs was very suited to medium to large dogs, we would have loved to see the cat sized packs for small dogs like me! Otherwise, would recommend. Go to: www.forthglade.com.

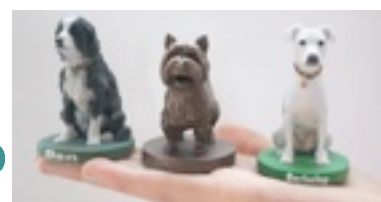


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Pop Art for pets!

Poparted makes bespoke pet portraits from peoples' photos of their pets, and other subjects. We love the 'pop art' style, and this one of our office dog Sophie looks fab on the wall. The portraits also come in more traditional styles.

For something a little different and special, Poparted provides a great gift, either for yourself or for any pet lover.

For further info, and to order, visit: www.poparted.co.uk.

READER REVIEW: Lick-e-Lix cream with milk and yoghurt cat treats

By David Cliff of [Gedanken](http://Gedanken.com) & his cat Lola

David says: "This type of treat is not an entirely new experience for her; Webbox, the manufacturers already produce a range of sachets that have a yoghurt-like treat involving salmon, liver and chicken. She likes the lot, particularly the salmon one. I did have some doubt that Lola would not go for the milk and yoghurt variety, as she tends to fight shy of all forms of cat milk. This was not the case at all and she rapidly lapped up the first sachet with obvious relish. The product contains no artificial colours flavours or preservatives. It also contains added calcium and a natural prebiotic inulin. It also deals with a key concern of all animal feeds in that it has no added sugar. The great thing about them is that they are an aqueous treat, is especially good for getting a little bit more liquid into your cat. For house cats in particular, dehydration is often a problem and this treat effectively gives them a drink in with the nourishment. Another valuable thing about these types of treat is the opportunity to disguise other substances in with them. So if you have a cat that has difficulty in taking medication - subject to the vet saying it's okay to mix in with food - simply mix it in with the Lick-e-Lix treat and the job is done."



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