

Bark Control Collar FAQs

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

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How do the collars work?

A vibration probe in the collar senses when the dog's vocal cords are being used. The probes sense the vibrations when the collar is placed in front of the dog's neck; however if the collar accidentally slides off to the side it can still pick up some of the vibration - it just won't be as sensitive. The collar works best when the box is in the front of the throat.

When the collar senses the vibration of the vocal cords, it will administer the electrical correction via two collar probes. Depending on manufacturer, some collars deliver the correction at the intensity level you selected, while others deliver a mild "warning" electrical stimulus prior to delivering a correction at the pre-determined intensity level. Still other collars feature a system that automatically increments intensity levels if the dog continues to bark.

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Do the collars pick up other noises, like collar tags or other dogs barking and correct my dog?

No, the sensor only picks up the vibrations from the barking, not collar tags clicking together or other outside noises.

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I have a small dog; will the correction be too strong for my dog?

The collars come with multiple stimulation levels, so you can pick the level that works best for your dog. No matter what size your dog, all manufacturers recommend that you start at the lowest level and work your way up to find the one that suits your dog best. Depending on the model you select, most collars are adjustable to fit from 6-1/2" to 24". Some collar units weigh as little as 2 ounces.

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If my dog "growls" will this set off the bark collar?

The collar will issue a correction if the growl (or whine) is loud enough to activate the vibration sensor.

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How should the collar be placed on my dog's neck?

The collar should fit as snugly as possible without restricting the dog's breathing. The probes on the receiver should make skin contact, and should be positioned an inch above or below the vocal cords.

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Can I use a bark control collar on my puppy?

We recommend waiting until your pet is at least 6-months of age before using an electronic collar. At six months of age your pet will be able to better understand the concept of electrical correction.

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Can another collar be worn with the bark control collar?

Most manufacturers recommend removing all other collars (especially metal collars or collars with metal tags) from your dog when he wears the bark control collar. This greatly reduces the possibility of anything interfering in the operation of the collar.

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How is the stimulation level adjusted?

This varies by manufacturer. On some models, the level of stimulation is adjusted with a magnetic "key." The key is swiped over a specific location (marked with a dot) located on the receiver. A light will flash to indicate what level of correction the system is set on. Other collars feature simple external switches that don't require magnets.

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How long can the collar be on my dog?

Never leave the collar on your pet longer than 8 hours a day. Since the collar needs to be tight to make contact with the skin, your pet may develop serious skin irritations if the collar is left on too long.

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How long does the battery need to be charged?

Before the first use of the system, the receiver should be charged for 8 to 12 hours. The charge will last for 30 to 72 hours of use.

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Is my electronic bark control collar returnable if it does not work for my pet?

All our [electronic bark control collars](#) are returnable to Drs. Foster and Smith for exchange or refund for up to 60 days. After 60 days these systems are covered under the manufacturers' warranties. Problems must be addressed by the manufacturer.

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