

Successful Therapy Dog Visits

One of the keys to a successful therapy dog visit is knowing what your dog is communicating through their body language. Know your dog - not only when they are happy and ready to visit, but also when they are worried or nervous about something. Some dogs are very clear about their communication and other dogs are quieter and more reserved in their communication.



Caring People and Sweet Dogs

ATD provides testing, certification, registration, support, and insurance for Members who volunteer with dogs to visit hospitals, special needs centers, schools, nursing homes, and other facilities. We're a network of caring volunteers who are willing to share our special canines to bring smiles and joy to people, young and old alike.

Whether you and your dog are looking to become a certified therapy team or your facility would like to start a therapy dog program, Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) is your #1 choice for pet therapy.



Therapy Dog Body Language

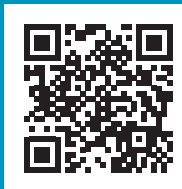


Contact Us

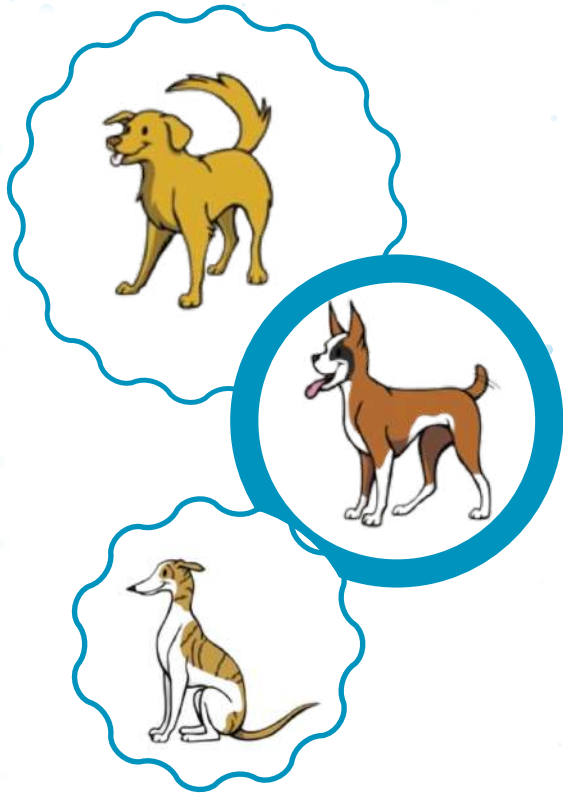
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Green Light*

- Loose
- Wiggly
- Comfortable Tail Carriage
- Relaxed
- Calm

Your dog is ready to visit!



Yellow Light*

- Furrowed brow
- Lip licking
- Inappropriate panting

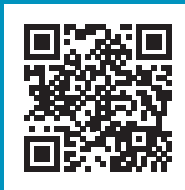
Your dog is uncomfortable or unsure about something. Evaluate the environment and consider if this visit is the best option for your dog or what you need to change to support your dog.



Red Light*

- Hiding behind you or things in the environment
- Body shaking
- Excessive shedding

Your best option is to end the visit immediately.



Scan the code to learn more.

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*This is not an inclusive list of body language and some dogs will not communicate using any of the behaviors we listed (they will use others instead). However, all dogs communicate to us using their body language and it's up to us as their therapy dog partners to listen and support them. This allows us to provide the best possible therapy dog visit for both your dog and those whom you are visiting.