



Is Reactive Rover Class Right for Your Dog?

When considering whether or not to enroll in Reactive Rover (RR) class, it is helpful to consider the following criteria.

The intro level RR class is the best fit for dogs that:

React by staring, barking, pulling and/or lunging toward other dogs when on a leash.

May be comfortable living with other dogs or interacting when leashes are off.

Are comfortable with most people and objects in the environment. (Dogs that react to multiple "triggers" often have trouble in the classroom setting.)

Are not necessarily aggressive, but may be fearful and/or overly excited when they see another dog.

Are able to focus on the handler and eat a tasty treat (or play with a favorite toy) if the other dog is five to 35 feet away.

Are comfortable wearing a front-attachment harness (or in some cases, a Gentle Leader head halter).

Live in an environment where they can be kept at a distance from other dogs during training.

Please note:

If your dog demonstrates reactive behavior to multiple triggers (dogs, people, bicycles, etc.), we recommend that you pursue one-on-one training with a qualified trainer.

If your dog is having a difficult time with a specific dog (or dogs) in the home environment, we recommend that you pursue one-on-one training with a qualified trainer.

If your dog is truly aggressive toward other dogs and/or people (snarling, snapping, biting), we recommend an evaluation with a qualified animal behaviorist.

If your dog is distracted by small animals (cats, squirrels, rabbits, etc.), the Control Unleashed class may be a better fit.

If you have questions or need a referral for individual training, please contact the instructor directly:

Amanda Boyd, amanda@sidekickdogtraining.com.