

Trainers Corner Ask Jindo



Help! Fireworks are scary!

Jindo is a rescue dog adopted by trainer, Suzanne Mackay. Together they help other dogs and their owners achieve a more balanced and enjoyable relationship.

Dear Jindo:

My owners said they are having a 4th of July party at our house and there's going to be fireworks. Yikes.. last year I became destructo-mutt when the fireworks started. I tore up my owners favorite stuffed animal and broke all the houseblinds (my owners were really mad at first then very worried once they saw how scared I was). Help! The fireworks are really scary – my owners aren't sure what to do this 4th of July.

Signed, Snickers the Lab Mix.

Dear Snickers:

There's only a couple celebrations that include fireworks – Fourth of July and New Years. Fireworks can startle and frighten many pets. There are lots of things your owners can do to keep you safe and ease your anxiety:

- After the 4th of July shelters are filled with lost pets. Make sure your collar has an identification tag with your phone number on it. As another precaution have your vet microchip you.
- Have your owner make a nice safe space for you, a crate or bedroom that you can't get out of. Lots of toys and nice music/TV shows (relatively loud) will help keep you entertained during the fireworks. (*Kongs with peanutbutter are my favorite*).
- If you are really tired, you will be less anxious. Have your owners give you a really good walk, go to doggie daycare or play ball a lot a couple of days before the 4th.
- If you are still a scardy cat dog, have your owners consult your vet. There are medications and supplements that can ease your nervousness.

If your owners plan to leave you alone on the 4th of July and you know you will conduct a search and destroy mission in the house, tell your owners you want to go to **Sunny Dog Place** (www.sunnydogplace.com). There's always someone there to watch you, and Sunny Dog Place has cage-free daycare and boarding all year round. Here you can play with all your friends - 2 and 4 legged alike. Just give us a call we'd like to meet you!

Sunny Dog Place

Cage-Free Daycare, Boarding & Training

25024 Broadwell Ave. Harbor City (near Palos Verdes, Torrance, Redondo Beach)

(310) 325-0070

www.sunnydogplace.com

open 7 days a week