

As we approach the 4th of July I can't avoid to think that some of our puppies they haven't experience fireworks so how can we prepare to avoid distress in your dog and have a successful night,

You can keep your dog stimulated by distracting him with one of the following;

1. You can stuff his Kong with appropriate treats and chicken broth and freeze it. This will condition the dog to predict that scary fireworks means it's time for the best treat ever!!! However, use them when you really need them so this special treat will not lose its value.
2. You can also stimulate your dog's focus by playing fun games!
For example, when each boom of the fireworks outside you can initiate a modified fetch game inside. Rest when it is quiet between the explosions.
You can also play in what hand is the treat. Hide a treat in one hand and ask your dog to guess what hand has the treat.
This works well when the dog already knows this game.
3. Soothing your dog can come by your long strokes of your dog's body and ears. Let your strokes mimic your calm demeanor. A relaxed dog starts with a relaxed human.
4. Studies have shown stress during fireworks decreases when the dog owner is nearby so plan to be home with your dog during loud holiday celebrations.
5. Create a calm environment before a stressful situation. Your dog may respond to the effects of lavender essential oil through a diffuser or by applying a couple of drops in his collar. Playing classical music or running a fan also help to lower your dog's anxiety.

If you will like to see how your dog react and start preparing him for the 4th of July, Fiesta Texas has fireworks every night at 9pm. You can see and appreciate them outside of Barnes and Nobles at La Cantera.

Sea World also have fireworks every night at 8:45pm. You can see them outside in the employee's parking lot (if you go you may see me since is the time I normally walk Legend, please stop and say Hi)

Take plenty of snacks, his favorite toy and pay attention to his body posture. If you notice that he is getting stressed be prepared to leave. I personally will not recommend to take your dog to any event on the exact 4th of July day.

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns we are here for you. Have a safe happy 4th of July