POWER POOCHES

Better Dogs Brighter Lives!

WHAT CAN YOU TELL FROM THE WAY A DOG SITS?

Dogs speak without words

Dog body language: posture provides clues, but always consider the whole dog and the context.

Sitting with back feet turned to you



When a relaxed dog sits or lies with their back or hind feet turned toward you, it can be a sign of deep trust and comfort.

Why This Position Means Trust

- **Vulnerability:** their blind spots are exposed.
- **Letting the guard down:** an alert dog usually faces potential threats.
- **The "I've got you" message:** they trust you to watch their back because they feel completely safe in your presence.

Sitting with their back to you



When a dog sits with its back facing you, it is a strong sign of deep trust and emotional security.

- **Deep trust:** turning their back exposes a vulnerable part of their body.
- **Standing guard:** they may face outward and watch the room or environment.
- **Relaxed bonding:** sharing space without needing constant attention.
- **Seeking scents:** leaning or backing against you may help them mix scents and show affection.

Leaning against you



Dog leaning is a profound expression of trust, affection, and a way for your pet to feel secure by maintaining close physical contact with you.

- **The canine hug:** close contact can feel warm, safe and comforting.
- **Seeking reassurance:** body contact may help a slightly anxious or overwhelmed dog feel grounded and lower their stress.
- **Claiming and protecting:** it is a gentle way of saying you belong to their social group, while also keeping close tabs on where you are.

WHEN TO WATCH CLOSER

A loose, side-slung sit is normally just a sign of physical unwinding and relaxation: soft eyes, slow breathing, loose muscles, and casually shifting weight to one hip.

If your dog suddenly adopts this posture, or it comes with stiffness, reluctance to rise, whimpering, signs of hip discomfort (like a "bunny hopping" gait), it could indicate joint discomfort or hip issues rather than pure relaxation. Contact your veterinarian for advice.

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Read the whole dog, not one posture in isolation. Every dog is an individual.

Happier Dogs Happier People