
DVDs for dogs

PETS • If you're constantly coming home to destroyed possessions and complaints from neighbours of howling and barking, *Your Dog Companion* may be able to help you.

The DVD collection is intended to treat separation anxiety, loneliness and boredom associated with leaving your pooch home alone, thereby curbing or even eliminating problematic behaviours such as whining, barking and being destructive.

The four-part set is the latest creation from Dr. Stanley Coren, renowned dog behaviourist, bestselling author and host of *Good Dog!* on the Pet Network.

The series, including *Dog Farm Adventure*, *Dog Park Adventure*, *Dog Sports Show Adventure* and *Dog Friends at Home*, is shot entirely from your dog's perspective and has a 'desensitization' soundtrack feature, which claims to be scientifically formulated to soothe your pet and reduce hypersensitivity to noises such as doorbells, knocking and fireworks. A word of warning:

while the audio might calm your dog's shattered nerves, it just might get on yours!

The *Dog Farm Adventure*, for example, takes your mutt for a virtual car ride out into the country. Your pet 'interacts' with a variety of animals, from peacocks to horses, and even gets to go on a virtual rabbit chase.

The DVDs loop, so while you are away from home your pet can be continually entertained. While they might not actively watch the entire time, Coren says they will be listening, and will often anticipate "favourite" parts. When I tested the DVD at home, my pups were more interested in my attention than the show.

The DVDs offer a variety of settings and Coren advises a bit of experimentation to achieve desired effects.

The *Your Dog Companion* DVD collection can be purchased separately or as a collection exclusively from thedogdvd.com. Individual DVDs start at \$19.95, or \$39.95 for the collection.

— Meg de Jong,
for the Calgary Herald