

Name _____

Chew-Friendly Home: Tips for Preventing Dog Chewing and Destruction

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Boredom or anxiety can contribute to destructive chewing in dogs because they may resort to chewing as a way to alleviate their boredom or relieve stress. Ways to alleviate these issues include providing regular exercise, interactive playtime, puzzle toys, and creating a stimulating environment for your dog.
2. Providing appropriate chew toys is important in preventing destructive chewing in dogs because it gives them an outlet for their natural chewing instincts. Chew toys provide mental and physical stimulation, satisfy their need to chew, and help prevent boredom and anxiety.
3. Signs that your dog may be feeling anxious or stressed include pacing, panting, whining, trembling, excessive barking, or changes in appetite or sleep patterns. To address these feelings and prevent destructive chewing, you can provide your dog with comfort items like toys or blankets, create a calm and predictable environment, and gradually desensitize them to triggers that cause anxiety.
4. Consistent training and supervision help prevent destructive chewing in dogs by teaching them what behaviors are appropriate and redirecting them when they engage in inappropriate chewing. Supervision allows you to catch your dog in the act and intervene immediately, while training reinforces desired behaviors and helps modify unwanted behaviors over time.

