

As Seen In

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Home Alone?

Your dog might be playful and friendly around you, but how do you make sure the animal acts the same way in the hands of someone else while you're away?

Eric Albert, a certified dog trainer and owner of Best in Show Dog Training in New Rochelle, recommends having the sitter come over at least once before you leave to get acquainted with the dog.

"My dog acts the same regardless of who comes in," Albert said. "When I greet somebody at the door, he watches my reaction and knows this is a friendly person."

"Have the sitter come over and get adjusted," he said. "That way your dog won't overreact and realize the person belongs here."

Leaving detailed instructions on how to take care of your dog always helps. When he goes on vacation, Albert said he leaves about 10 pages of instructions for his dog sitter, explaining in extensive detail what his dog likes.