**Being a Great Dog Owner**

**By: Lucy S.**

 Do you have the responsibility of being a great dog owner? Dogs can be super fun but they are time consuming and very hard work. I’ve got four dogs and trust me, they’re a handful. If you want to be a great dog owner, but not be mean, you must have time for your dog, you have to train your dog many things, and you should make sure your dog gets enough sleep.

First of all, to be a great dog owner you have to have time for your dog. This has to happen because dogs can be very energetic. I only have four dogs, but it feels like ten, and believe me, they take up so much time and my me and my family have to give them lots of attention. Dogs need love, and somebody has to play with your dog. You have to walk them multiple times per day because dogs need exercise as well, but that’s another story there.

Adding on to that, you should train your dog. This is a great thing to do because then your dog will obey you. This should also happen because puppies will on chew everything, such as, shoes, couches, other dogs, silverware, and so much more. Even as adults some dogs still eat everything in sight. For example, you could train them to go to the bathroom outside or on a potty pad. Training a dog is very time consuming. It might be tempting to put your furry friend with you in bed but its best for a dog to be in a crate so they don’t go crazy during the night. You should put them in a crate right when you get them so they know that’s their spot. Make sure your dog knows that you’re the boss.

Last but not least, I strongly advise that you encourage your dog to get some sleep. Some dogs sleep all the time, but others barley sleep 5 hours. It’s important for your dog to get sleep because most dogs are active and energetic. You don’t want your dog to get only sleep, they need exercise, but they really need sleep. Like I said, most dogs are active. For example, my dogs go on 3 or 4 walks per day, and they sleep through the night. One more reason why dogs need sleep is because they need to re-charge for the next day.

As you can see, being a fantastic dog owner is exciting and fun, and dogs are the most amazing animals on the planet, but it takes time and its hard work. To be an excellent dog owner you must remember to have time for the dog, it’s a really good idea to train him/her, and you should encourage your dog to get enough sleep.