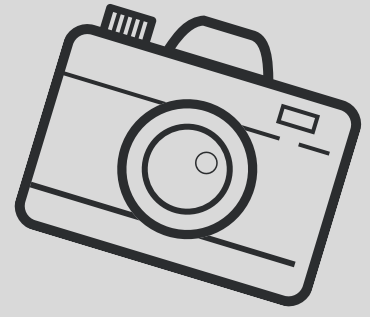


What to think about when taking a photo of your DOG with your young children



Safety first

Consider your dog's CHARACTER - are they easily excitable or nervous? What relationship style does the dog have with your child? What about their previous learning experiences around children or babies. Consider your dog's level of training - how reliable are these behaviours across a range of contexts. Hone your dog body language skills so you can be aware of both the subtle and not so subtle signs of stress.



Have helpers to hand

Whenever you are setting up a photograph with your little ones and your dog, always have TRUSTED handlers that are familiar to your pet and child with you. There should be a handler for the dog and a handler for the baby. Have plenty of space between the dog and child, and have the dog on a lead to reduce the risk of the dog accidentally knocking into the child. Leads and handlers can be easily removed from photos using Apps when taking your own pictures.

Some professional photographers will also provide editing and retouching services even if they haven't taken the original shot.

Enable choice



If your dog wants to move away and have a break, let them. NEVER lay your child on your dog, allow children to squeeze them, or hold the dog unassisted. Again, this is where handlers can assist and be edited out of shot. Be patient - give both your little one and dog time to adjust to the situation you're attempting to capture.

Use common sense

Remove any other distractions from the environment to reduce the risk of startling your dog or young child. ALWAYS ask yourself is this photo really worth it?