

# Advice for dealing with Dangerous Dogs

It may have happened to you before: you are walking or cycling or visiting a client during the course of your work, when suddenly an unfamiliar dog crosses your path. The dog begins barking, growling; maybe it even charges you. Even small dogs can be threatening if they are worked up, and just about any dog can inflict a painful bite.



## Some basic tips to stay safe:

1. Dogs that are chained or tethered to a stationary object for extended periods of time are more likely to be aggressive, so do not come within their reach
2. Do not disturb a dog which is eating, sleeping, or caring for puppies
3. If a dog approaches you with its head held high or low, it is probably not going to attack. A dog whose head is level means business.
4. A loping gait means the dog is playful and checking you out. An even, steady run means business.
5. If a dog stiffens up, shows its teeth, holds its tail high and stares at you, *try to remain calm*, avoid direct eye contact
6. Avoid sudden movements, do not turn and run away...back away slowly
7. A commanding "Down!" or "Go Home!" may stop an attack momentarily, giving you time to back away.
8. Do not appear threatening to the dog and don't open your hands and arms up to a bite by extending them
9. If you can, keep your arms flat and still by your sides with clenched fists to protect fingers
10. Hold your position. Dogs have short attention spans. Often after some barking, the dog will lose interest and go
11. If the dog is biting, the last thing you should do is struggle or pull away as this can cause open, torn wounds



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING  
DANGEROUS DOGS AWARENESS OR  
CONFLICT MANAGEMENT & LONE WORKING PERSONAL  
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