

# Sumara of Weymouth - Idiot Sheet Number 10

## Tilman the Woofers



### Breed

Tilman is a Parson Russell Terrier. He is basically a high-speed Jack Russell. These terriers were bred to be able to run alongside horses and to dig out rats and foxes.

### Character

He is a very affectionate dog which also means he doesn't like being left alone for too long. On the plus side, he doesn't tend to run away except very rarely if he gets a scent of some interesting small animal. This has only happened once! I suspect he might go for a fox if allowed. He seems to ignore squirrels which is good news. Tilman is very alert, maybe a little nervous, although very courageous. He likes plenty of exercise and is very active. That said, he sleeps an awful lot too! He is good with children. He barks at visitors until he meets them when he jumps up and says hello. If he gets over excited, he might "mouth" you affectionately, but he never bites. He doesn't like being man-handled although you can lift him up. If you need to move him, it is best to coax him with a treat rather than physically push him which might result in a growl.

### Training

Despite our efforts, he isn't very well trained, although it is surprising what he will do if he sees a treat in your hand. He is fully house trained, although he might pee if he is left locked up alone for too long.

We use the following commands with varying degrees of success:

- Sit
- Stay
- Down
- Tilman Come
- Leave (deep voice)
- No (deep voice)
- Roll over (plus a hand signal)
- Find it
- In yer bed
- Heel (you'll be lucky)

- Good Boy! (Whenever he does anything good)
- Bad Boy (Deep voice whenever he does anything bad)

## **Play**

The ball is king. He loves playing with a ball and will always bring it back. Sometimes he may refuse to "LEAVE" it (especially the ball on a string). Having two balls can solve that problem.

It is entertaining to put some treats into a cardboard box (or loo roll) and tape it up. He will totally decimate the box and seems to enjoy it.

Hiding behind a tree and shouting "TILMAN COME" is entertaining. He will need a treat as a reward when he finds you. This requires two people!

If he begs and whines late in the afternoon, he probably wants a game with the ball. Just ignore him if you are busy and he will soon stop.

We have a long training lead which can be used if there are lots of other dogs around and you want to throw the ball.

## **Other Dogs**

Tilman does not like Frenchies! Nor is he very good with some small male dogs but he is fine with all female dogs. For this reason, we keep in on a lead when we go for walks. We normally just drop the lead when playing ball with him, just in case we need to pull him away from another dog. However, when he is playing ball, he doesn't really notice other dogs. If he is wagging his tail, he will be fine with another dog, if his tail is bolt upright then he may start to growl and its best to pull him away.

Tilman is not neutered but he is chemically castrated. He has a small hormonal chip in his neck, the effect wears off after about six months (September 2022)

## **Eating**

We feed him half a pack of meat mixed with a big handful of dried food twice a day at about 11:00 and 19:00. It is best to remove the bowl after 15 minutes even if he hasn't eaten everything – apparently it helps him know who the pack leader is. If he has lots of treats, then the quantity of dried food can be reduced a bit. He mustn't have chocolate, raisins, grapes and some other things that I have forgotten. He likes munching a carrot. Just before bed we give him a Dental Stick, which he gets very excited about.

## **Sleeping**

He likes to sleep near people. We now stop him from coming onto our bed and make him sleep in his bed on the floor. He seems quite happy with that. We might let him on the bed in the morning but only at our command. Sometimes he hears something in the night and lets off a huge howl, but he soon settles back down. He sleeps a lot during the day too.

## **Walks**

We take him for a short pee and poo walk around the block when we first get up. We normally take him on a longer walk at about 11:30. The walk could be anytime, but he may sit and beg with a very appealing little whine if it is left too late. Ideally, but not always, we try to include a bit of ball throwing. There are three fields just past the farm which are ideal if there

are no other dogs too near. Sometimes we throw the ball into some long grass and hang on to the dogs lead. We then release the dog with the command "Find it". It is surprising how he will run straight past it without spotting it! Tilman tends to pull strongly on the lead but settles down after he has had some exercise. When his lead is slack, we normally say "Good Boy" and sometimes give him a treat. I'm not convinced he knows why he is getting the praise! Before bed, we normally walk him around the block again.

## Eating Out and Pubs

Most pubs are dog friendly, but restaurants often require you to eat on the terrace. We try to take his furry blanket and put it under the table so he can settle down. We toss a few treats onto the blanket to encourage him. Basha, at the Ship and Whale, feeds him with lots of treats so Tilman is always on "Max Alert" waiting for her to pass by. Generally, Tilman will settle quietly under the table - unless a Frenchie walks in!

## Cars

Tilman is a speed merchant. We are not sure why, but when travelling at 50 mph or faster he settles down and has a snooze. This is handy for long trips. On shorter journeys he sometimes barks when you go very slowly or are about to park. We leave him in his cage in the van while we do our supermarket shop, and he seems fine.

## The Tube

He has been going on the tube since a puppy but is still a bit nervous. He doesn't mind being carried on the escalator, in fact he waits to be picked up. I suspect if he went a bit more often he would settle down.

## Likes and dislikes

- Vacuum Cleaners 
- Being left alone 
- Small male dogs 

- Cuddling up to any human 
- Playing with his ball 
- Snoozing in the sun 

## Equipment and Stuff

For day care we will supply you with:

- Poo bags
- Harness (he will always have his collar which is fine for walks around the block)
- Lead
- Long training lead (optional)
- Ball on string
- Ball
- Treats

If he is staying overnight, we will also supply:

- Bed
- Furry blanket
- Dental Sticks
- Foil tins of dog food (one a day in two halves)

- Bag of dried food (big handful mixed with each half of meat)
- Seat belt clip (if you are thinking or driving)

**If there are any problems phone Alasdair on 079313 76140 or Grit on 077045 78756**

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