Many of your dog’s toys should be interactive. Interactive play is very important for your dog because he needs active “people time”. By focusing on a specific task, like repeatedly returning a ball, Kong or Frisbee or playing “hide and seek” with treats or toys your dog can expend pent up mental or physical energy in a limited amount of time and space. This greatly reduces stress due to confinement, isolation or boredom. For young high energy dog and untrained dogs interactive play also offers an opportunity for socialization and helps them learn about appropriate and inappropriate behavior with people and other animals, such as jumping or being mouthy.

**Active Toys**

- Very hard rubber toys, like Nylabone-type products or Kong-type products. These are available in a variety of sizes and shapes and are fun for chewing and carrying around.

- Rope toys that are usually available in a bone shape with knotted ends.

**Distraction Toys**

- The Buster Food Cube provides mental stimulation and a fun way for dogs to utilize excess energy in a natural way. “Busy box” toys are large rubber cubes with hiding places for treats. Only by moving the cube around with his nose, mouth and paws can your dog access the goodies inside.

- Kong-type toys, especially when filled with broken up treats or even better a mixture of broken up treats and peanut butter. The right size Kong can keep a dog busy for hours. Only by chewing diligently can your dog access the treats and then only in small bits – very rewarding!

**The KONG Company**


- Soft stuffed toys are good for several purposes, but aren’t appropriate for all dogs. For some dogs, the stuffed toy should be small enough to carry around.
For dogs that want to shake or “kill” the toy it should be the size that prey would be for that dog, (mouse-size, duck-size, and rabbit-size).

- Dirty laundry, like an old t-shirt or towel can be very comforting to a dog especially if it smells like you.

Get the Most Out Of Toys

- Rotate your dog’s toys weekly by making only four or five toys available at a time. Keep a variety easily accessible.

- Provide toys that offer a variety of uses – at least one to carry, one to “kill” one to roll and one to “baby”.

- “Hide and Seek” is a fun game for dogs to play. “Found” toys are often much more attractive that a toy that is blatantly introduced. Making an interactive game out of finding toys or treats is a good activity for your dog using up energy without the need for a lot of space.

Premier Pet Products
www.premier.com
888-640-8840

Gentle Spray, Citronella Anti Bark Collar
Spray Commander, Citronella spray collar with sound cues

Pet Peek ™ “The Window for Your Fence” www.petpeek.info
So what is Pet Peek? It's a durable, clear, hard acrylic dome 9.5” in diameter with a black trim-ring and comes with all necessary hardware for easy do-it-yourself installation into your wooden or vinyl fence. It retails for under $40.00