

*Are You Looking for a*  
**Protection Dog?**



**Practical Issues**

Dogs are time-intensive animals with many requirements. Aside from good food, water, regular veterinary care and proper shelter, dogs need training, time socializing with people and with other dogs and activities to pass their time. Without these, dogs are likely to develop behavior problems, ill health or both.

If you plan to keep your dog in your yard all or most of the time, the resulting boredom will make him more likely to bark indiscriminately at passers-by, to dig and attempt to escape.

Also, although your yard may be secure, an outdoor dog cannot protect the contents of your house.



**Civil Litigation**

Dogs cannot tell the “good guys” from the “bad guys” – they discriminate familiar people from strangers. For this reason, a dog who is not well-socialized to strangers is at risk to behave aggressively towards them. This is what people want in a protection dog, however they don’t usually consider the possible legal ramifications of their dog biting an unfamiliar repair person, visitor or child.

Be sure your home owner’s insurance will cover you in the event your dog bites. Many insurance companies will not cover civil litigation damages resulting from dogs who bite, especially if it can be ascertained that the dog was not properly socialized or was trained to attack.



**Welfare Issues**

Dogs are social “pack” animals whose mental health is profoundly compromised by prolonged isolation. Backyard dogs have sub-par, lonely lives. Please reconsider using a dog to enhance your family’s sense of security. Alarm systems have become fabulously sophisticated, and models now exist for every conceivable need. Why not invest in one and allow your potential protection dog a life integrated into a family who will love and spend time with him.