

# TRAINING THE NATURAL EAR

Raevon Boxers www.raevon.net

## PART 1 - TAPING



This procedure is not always necessary, but occasionally a puppy will fly its ears when it is teething, so this can be done as a precautionary measure. It is particularly useful if you work full time or do not have the time to do the massage method.

In my experience I have found that a dog with the correct weight and texture of ear will usually have correct ears as an adult, but if a dog has a smaller ear with strong cartilage the ears will persist in "flying" and taping or massage will not correct this permanently, but can be done as a temporary correction the night before a show. Luckily this small ear is not seen as much today as it was in the 1960's, but if you are worried about a pup's ears this procedure is not painful and the electrical tape used does not pull out any hair when it is removed.



First cut 2 pieces of electrical tape about 6" long. Shape the ear in the correct crease by folding it in half with both the edges touching about 1" from the top fold.



Apply the tape securely and check to see if the ear remains in the correct position (remove and start again, if the tape is too low)  
Trim tape to 1" above fold.

That's all! Simple, eh! **AND LOOKS SO CUTE!!!**

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## PART 2 - MASSAGE

This procedure can be done on either puppy or adult ears. Most owners of "show prospects" use this massage technique as a precautionary measure to encourage the natural ear to remain in the correct position. I also encourage "pet" owners to try it, as the correct fold is very attractive.

Massaging can be done as a form of petting when the dog is relaxed.

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Have the dog sit next to you or on the floor in front of your chair.  
Using both hands, place your thumbs at the top of the ear and your forefingers into the front crease.



Apply light pressure and use a forward and downwards movement, as if you were rolling a ball of dough between your fingers.

Roll your thumbs up the crease from behind, and rotate your wrists slightly forward and over. At the same time moving your forefingers downwards creating a definite crease at the top and in the middle of the ear.

Keep massaging for a few minutes. The longer the better!

That's All! **AND YOUR DOG WILL LOVE IT!!!**