



## Counter-surfing

Counter-surfing is a very common behaviour and is very challenging to modify since it is self-rewarding. If the dog jumps on the counter and gets something, even once, he/she has learned that counter-surfing gets something delicious. Management is the most important aspect of modifying counter-surfing; if nothing is on the counter, no matter how many times the dog jumps up to check, he/she will eventually learn that nothing good comes from checking. Even when your dog is checking less, or not at all, it is still very important NOT to leave anything on the counter, as one self-rewarded attempt can restart this behaviour. It is very important not to 'punish' the dog for checking, this will teach him/her to be afraid of you, and only check the counters when you aren't in the room.

### **Support:**

Our Behaviour Support Team can help to provide resources and tips if you experience concerns in the home environment. With your adoption the GTHS will provide an over the phone consultation in order to provide you with tips and resources to set your new dog up for success. In all cases of dog adoptions, the GTHS recommends hiring a professional dog training or behavioural consultant to ensure your relationship with your new dog starts off on the right paw! A list of local trainers is enclosed in your adoption package.

Our Behaviour Support Team can be reached at [behaviour@gths.ca](mailto:behaviour@gths.ca)

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## **Georgian Triangle Humane Society**

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