This is the dog you'll want to pet. He's calm, neutral, and relaxed. There is no tension in his body and he's probably panting happily and waiting for you to come over and just say "hi".

CALM & NEUTRAL

He may just be really interested in what's going on.

RELAXED

It's usually safe to pet a relaxed dog, but make sure he hasn't "fallen asleep."

ANXIOUS & NERVOUS

He's calm, neutral, and relaxed. There is no tension in his body and he's probably panting happily and waiting for you to come over and just say "hi".

PLAYFUL

The Play Bow

This dog is uncomfortable or doesn't know what's going on. It's best not to pet him.

ALERT

This dog is uncomfortable or doesn't know what's going on. It's best not to pet him.

DOMINANT

Toward another dog: "I'm in charge!"

EXCITED

An overly excited dog may jump up, knock you over, scratch you with his paws, or even nip you with his teeth.

AGGRESSIVE

Don't run away from an aggressive dog. Stand still ("be a tree") and look away.

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