



MGG K9 BarkMaster

Operator's Manual

The MGG K9 BarkMaster is designed to effectively and humanely stop excessive barking in dogs. An in-built vibration sensor in the collar-receiver detects the dog's bark which means only the dog wearing the bark-control collar can activate it. After the second bark, the system will deliver a harmless low-level static-stimulation. If barking persists, the level of intensity of correction will gradually increase, within a range set by the owner, from the second to the sixth bark. Should your dog have a fairly strong temperament and choose to continue barking beyond this point, the system will stop for 2 minutes then will reset at the mildest correction level to protect your dog. This way, your dog need only experience static-stimulations at the higher end of the pre-set range for a short period of time before learning that the mild correction level is a warning of increasing corrections to come.

This model features an owner operated level of correction intensity which you can tailor to suit your dog's unique temperament and training needs. In addition, the safety reset feature protects your dog against over correction. This is a simple and effective way to train your dog to be quiet, usually within a few hours.

Main Features include:

- An in-built vibration sensor which identifies the bark of the dog wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster
- 6-levels of static-correction which you set to suit your dog's individual temperament
- Safety 'reset' feature protects your dog against over-correction
- LED light illuminates approximately every 5 seconds to confirm the battery-life and collar-receiver is working
- Adjustable collar strap to ensure a good fit (neck circumference 18cm-45cm)
- Can be used with most breeds of dog over 5kgs in weight

Package Contents:

- Operator's Manual
- 1 x collar-receiver
- 1 x adjustable collar-receiver strap
- 2 x long-length metal probes for long-haired dogs
- 2 x short-length metal probes for short-haired dogs
- 2 x 3-volt batteries
- 1 x screw-driver
- 1 x test-lightbulb

About the Operator's Manual

This manual is divided into 3 sections:

- Section 1 – Setting up the MGG K9 BarkMaster
- Section 2 - Introducing your dog to the MGG K9 BarkMaster
- Section 3 – Trouble-shooting, maintenance and contact information

Please read the Operator's Manual fully before using this with your dog.

Caution:

- KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
- The MGG K9 BarkMaster is intended for use on dogs. It is not intended to harm, injure or provoke
- The collar-receiver should only be used under close supervision by the dog's owner
- We do not recommend this product to eliminate or correct aggressive behaviour in dogs. If your dog shows signs of aggressive behavior then please contact a professional dog trainer in your local area
- This product is not suitable for dogs with health problems
- DO NOT use the MGG K9 BarkMaster with any additional collars, tags, leashes or other items that may cause vibration and trigger a false correction
- Your dog may wear a harness for attaching a leash and/or tags while using the MGG K9 BarkMaster
- Before playing with your dog, remove the MGG K9 BarkMaster. The activity may cause your dog to bark, which could lead to him associating play with the static-correction
- Never leave the MGG K9 BarkMaster on your dog for more than 12 consecutive hours

Section 1

Setting up the MGG K9 BarkMaster

Please read the instructions carefully. Follow the 4 easy steps to ensure the correct and safe programming of your MGG K9 BarkMaster.

Begin by laying out all the components on a table and familiarize yourself with each of them as per the following instructions:

Step 1: Set the intensity level of correction on the collar-receiver

- (i) On the back of the collar-receiver identify 2 round compartments. The larger one is the battery compartment, the smaller is the adjustment screw to set the level of intensity for the static-stimulation correction
- (ii) Open and peel back the smaller cover which remains attached to the unit.
- (iii) Familiarise yourself with the + shaped screw inside.
- (iv) Taking the screwdriver, carefully turn the screw ANTI-CLOCKWISE. Do not overturn. This is the LOWEST-LEVEL position.
- (v) Turn the screwdriver CLOCKWISE 180°. This is the HIGHEST-LEVEL position.
- (vi) Once you are familiar with the range, set the intensity level to the LOW-LEVEL position, convenient for manual testing of the collar-receiver.

Step 2: Installing the battery

- (i) Install the battery by opening and peeling back the larger compartment cover on the back of the collar-receiver. The cover will remain attached to the unit.
- (ii) Insert the battery, ensuring the positive (+) side is upward facing, at a slight angle then press down gently until the battery slips into place.
- (iii) Observe the red LED light on the collar-receiver which will flash approximately every 5 seconds. This indicates the system is working and there is sufficient battery life.
- (iv) Replace the compartment cover.

Step 3: Testing the collar-receiver

Warning – never perform any tests on your dog.

- (i) Ensure the level of intensity for correction is set to the LOW-LEVEL position, ie turn the adjustment screw ANTI-CLOCKWISE as per step 1.
- (ii) With the LED light upward facing, take the collar-receiver and gently slide the metal contact probes along a hard, non-glass surface such as a table top. Sliding along a soft surface will not create the static required for testing. Do not apply too much pressure, just enough to create a friction between the probes and the firm surface.
- (iii) Slide for a distance of at least 30cms in one direction only. This mimicks the vibration of your dog's bark. Observe the LED light.
- (iv) At the first slide, the red LED light should flash once to indicate that the first 'bark' has been registered.
- (v) On the second slide, the red LED light should flash more frequently and a soft 'pa-pa-pa' sound will be heard, denoting that the static-simulation is being administered. This should continue on each consecutive slide until you reach number six.

- (vi) On the seventh slide, the LED light will not illuminate and neither should there be any friction 'pa-pa-pa' sound while the system resets itself and rests for 2 – 3 minutes.
- (vii) When the LED light begins to flash again, approximately once every 5 seconds, the collar-receiver has reset to the original low-level of correction.
- (viii) If the level of intensity is set higher than the low-level position, the slide friction will need to be strong enough to initiate the static. However, permanent damage of the entire system can occur as a result of over-testing the system.

Step 4: Attaching the collar-strap

- (i) Unclip the fastener of the collar-strap and lay the strap out in front of you with the seam, attached to one end of the 'female' end of the fastener, facing downwards.
- (ii) Remove the 'male' end of the fastener together with the slide buckle from the strap.
- (iii) Take the collar-receiver with the metal contact probes facing away from you and begin feeding the free end of the strap into the right-hand loop, towards you. Then, feed the strap through the left-hand loop of the collar-receiver. The strap should lie flat along the back of the collar-receiver, not on the side with the metal contact probes.
- (iv) Pull the collar-receiver along the strap to create enough room for the slide buckle.
- (v) Ensure the flat side of the slide buckle is facing downwards then weave the strap through the two holes. The slide buckle prevents the collar from becoming loose around your dog's neck.
- (vi) Pull the slide buckle along the strap to create enough room for the 'male' end of the fastener.
- (vii) With the flat-side of the fastener facing downwards, weave the strap through the loop furthest away, so the strap surfaces towards you, before feeding into the second loop. You should be able to adjust the length of the strap and tuck the excess end beneath the slide buckle.

Once you have installed the battery, manually tested the collar-receiver and attached the adjustable strap, you are ready to introduce your dog to the MGG K9 BarkMaster.

Section 2

Introducing your dog to the MGG K9 BarkMaster

When you are familiar with the MGG K9 BarkMaster, installed the battery and performed the manual test, you are ready to introduce the system to your dog.

Warning: We recommend that you DO NOT leave your dog alone for the first few occasions he/she receives a static-stimulation correction.

Follow steps 1 and 2 to ensure the safe and effective use of the MGG K9 BarkMaster with your dog.

Step 1: Fitting the MGG K9 BarkMaster

Important: The proper fit and placement of the collar-receiver is crucial for the safe and effective use of the MGG K9 BarkMaster. The metal contact probes must have direct contact with your dog's skin as follows:

- (i) To fit the collar-receiver you will need to attach the collar-strap to the receiver box as per the instructions in Section 1, step 4.
- (ii) Remove the battery from the collar-receiver during fitting to ensure your dog does not receive any unnecessary corrections. To remove the battery, open and peel back the battery compartment cover. Using the small screwdriver supplied with the unit, carefully depress the silver plate the battery sits on. It should spring-release to allow easy removal of the battery.
- (iii) Select the correct length metal contact probes to suit your dog. Long-length probes for long-haired dogs and short-length probes for short-haired dogs.
- (iv) With your dog standing in front of you, place the bark control collar high around its neck, close to the ears, so the receiver box and probes are on the underside of your dog's neck, making direct contact with the skin. You may need to trim the fur to ensure good contact.
- (v) Fasten the collar-strap. The fit should be snug, not tight. You should be able to place one finger beneath the collar-strap around your dog's neck.
- (vi) Allow your dog to wear the collar-receiver for several minutes then check the fit of the collar strap again. As your dog becomes more familiar with the collar-receiver you should ensure the fit is comfortable.

Step 2: The first corrections

Warning: We recommend that you DO NOT leave your dog alone for the first few occasions he/she receives a static-stimulation.

- (i) Ensure you have plenty of uninterrupted time to spend with your dog when it first starts wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster.
- (ii) Insert the battery as per instructions in section 1 and set the level of intensity of correction to suit your dog. We recommend starting at the LOW-LEVEL setting by turning the adjustment screw anti-clockwise.
- (iii) Remove any other collars from your dog before fitting the MGG K9 BarkMaster properly.

- (iv) Wait nearby until your dog barks. This may require you to set up a situation which you know will make your dog bark.
- (v) Remember, the first bark is registered by the collar-receiver. After the second bark, the static-stimulation will be delivered. This will come as a surprise to the dog and may even startle the dog at first. Some dogs may bark more after the initial correction. Don't forget that after 6 barks, the MGG K9 BarkMaster will stop delivering static-corrections for 2 -3 minutes before resetting itself to the low-level correction you have preset. Being nearby means you can monitor your dog's individual reaction and assist as necessary.
- (vi) Most dogs learn very quickly that the MGG K9 BarkMaster is interrupting their desire to bark and will relax and restrain from barking. However, on rare occasions a dog may get into a bark-correction-bark-correction situation. Should this occur, immediately reassure your dog with a calm soothing voice until it stops barking. Once the dog is quiet, corrections will cease and your dog will understand that by becoming quiet he/she will not receive any further static-stimulations. The small minority of dogs that have this reaction will only have it the first time they wear the MGG K9 BarkMaster.
- (vii) You should notice a reduction in your dog's barking within the first couple of days of your dog wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster. However, it is important to remember that the learning process is not yet complete. Dogs will 'test' this new learning experience and it is often within the second week of wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster that a dog may increase their desire to bark. If this happens, remain calm and consistent with your approach. Ensure your dog is wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster in every situation you would expect him/her to bark. Otherwise, if your dog is not wearing the collar during these times or intermittently, he/she may resume barking and their understanding of corrections would be hampered.

Section 3

Troubleshooting, Maintenance and Contact Information

Table 1 is a summary of potential problems and the required action to resolve them

Problem	Action
The red LED light on the collar-receiver is not flashing	The LED light should flash intermittently, approximately every 5 seconds when a battery has been installed. If the light is not flashing, check the battery compartment and replace the existing battery with a NEW 3-volt battery as per instructions in section 1
Your dog continues to bark persistently even when wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster	Check the position of the collar-receiver and the fit of the collar strap as per instructions in section 2. The strap should be worn high and close to the ears with the collar-receiver situated on the underside of your dog's neck. The metal contact probes must make direct contact with your dog's skin. Change to the longer length probe if necessary and/or trim back the fur in the area where the probes make contact. Should the dog continue to bark after these checks have been resolved, then you may need to consider increasing the level of intensity of correction following the instructions in section 1. Any increase in intensity must be in <u>small increments</u> starting with the lowest-level and gradually working up.
Your dog stopped barking for a few days but then starts barking again	Dogs quickly understand that corrections delivered by the MGG K9 BarkMaster are associated with its barking. In most situations, a dog will become quieter within a few days of wearing the collar. However, the learning experience is not fully complete and a dog will 'test out' this new experience, often in the second week when it may resume a desire to bark. Ensure your dog is wearing the MGG K9 BarkMaster in every situation in which you would expect it to bark. Check the position of the collar receiver and the fit of the collar-strap. Ensure the red LED light is flashing intermittently to signal the battery-life and function of the system.
The skin beneath your dog's neck is red and irritated	The MGG K9 BarkMaster should not be worn by your dog for longer than 12 hours at any one time and only in situations where it is likely to bark. If the skin shows signs of irritation, remove the collar-receiver and observe. If the irritation persists beyond 48 hours then contact your local veterinarian. Once the skin returns to normal then resume use with the MGG K9 BarkMaster and closely observe your dog's skin where the metal contact probes make direct contact.
The life of the battery doesn't last very long	The consumption of battery-life is dependent on how often your dog barks. You may find in the initial stages of training the first battery does not last as long as subsequent batteries.

Maintenance

Care of the MGG K9 BarkMaster

- Regularly check the fit of the collar-receiver on your dog and make any necessary adjustments
- Ensure the metal probes are in direct contact with the skin under your dog's neck. This may require you to keep the area trimmed during periods the MGG K9 BarkMaster is worn
- Regularly check the metal contact probes are sufficiently tightened on the collar-receiver
- The collar-receiver should not be worn by your dog for more than 12 hours at any one time and only in situations where your dog is likely to bark
- Check the skin where the probes make contact for signs of any irritation. Should this occur, rest your dog from the collar-receiver and if the irritation persists beyond 48 hours you should consult the advice of your veterinarian
- The collar-receiver can withstand light rain showers but is NOT WATERPROOF and should not be submerged in water, either through swimming or rolling in puddles etc.

Battery life

- The life of the batteries varies according to how often your dog barks. In the initial stages of training, you may find that the life of the first battery does not last as long as subsequent batteries.
- Regularly check the strength of the battery by observing the red LED light on the collar-receiver which will flash intermittently, approximately every 5 seconds, when a battery is charged and the system is functioning
- Please remove all batteries if the MGG K9 BarkMaster is not being used for long periods of time

Contact information

Should you have any questions or concerns about the MGG K9 BarkMaster, please do not hesitate in contacting the team at MGG:

Website: www.MGG.co.nz
Email: info@MGG.co.nz