



Do you  
have a dog?  
Please hear  
my **plea...**



## Dear customer,

Do you have a dog? If so, please can you help? We just wanted to drop you a line to ask for your assistance.

Each time your postman or postwoman calls at your home to deliver a parcel or letter, could you please make sure your dog is secured in a safe place so that it cannot come into contact with the postman or postwoman.

We know that even the most placid of dogs can behave differently if they see someone they do not know approaching their home.

If it is a hot day or they are feeling poorly, dogs can sometimes react in ways that we do not expect, and of course, a dog's loyalty and protective nature – reasons why we love them so much – can mean they aren't always friendly to visitors.

Unfortunately, dog attacks are a significant hazard, faced by postmen and women on a daily basis. In a recent 12 month period there were over 1,500 attacks on Royal Mail postmen and women across the UK – some of these have led to permanent disabling injuries.

We should also point out that, following changes to the Dangerous Dogs Act, if you did fail to control your dog and it causes injuries to one of our postmen or women, even if this takes place on your own property, a prosecution could be taken out against you.

### **We are asking our customers to work with us and keep their dog under control whenever we call, please can you help by:**

- Avoid leaving your dog to roam freely in the front garden or street
- Secure your dog in a safe place when you know the postman is due
- As a distraction, give your dog some food or a toy when mail deliveries are being made
- Consider installing an external letterbox on the boundary to the property, ideally adjacent to the gate
- If your dog likes to collect your mail consider installing a letter box cage. It will protect your post, as well as the Postman or Postwoman's fingers

**Thanks for your help in ensuring we can deliver your mail safely.**



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