

Dogs love TV? Our canine partners have evolved human-like traits

It's likely no surprise to dog owners, but growing research suggests that man's best friend often acts more human than canine.

Dogs can read facial expressions, communicate [jealousy](#), display [empathy](#), and even [watch TV](#), studies have shown. They've picked up these people-like traits during their evolution from [wolves](#) to domesticated pet, which occurred between 11,000 and 16,000 years ago, experts say.

In particular, "paying attention to us, getting along with us, [and] tolerating us" has led to particular characteristics that often mirror ours, says [Laurie Santos](#), director of the Yale Comparative Cognition Laboratory.

In humans, aging hastens declines in short-term memory and logical reasoning skills, making it more difficult to learn new tasks.

Previous research has found similar declines in dogs, but long-term memory is a little-known aspect of dog biology.

That's why scientists are studying how dogs both young and old memorize tasks, and whether the animals can remember them months later.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [Dogs Are Even More Like Us Than We Thought](#)