

# MYTH-BUSTING DOG BODY LANGUAGE

1

## WAGGING TAIL = HAPPY

A dog with a steady wagging tail and a relaxed body is probably feeling pretty good but a tension in the body and a stiff wag or a tucked wagging tail is not happy.

2

## RAISED HACKLES = AGGRESSIVE

Piloerection (raised fur on the back/ shoulders) is an indication that a dog's arousal level has increased but this can be for other reasons, such as feeling fearful.

3

## TUMMY UP = WANTS TICKLES

When a dog rolls over and exposes their tummy, they might want tickles but if their body/ face looks tense then they're more likely to be asking you for space.

4

## YAWNING = TIRED

Just like us, dogs can yawn when they're sleepy but it can also be a signal that they're a bit stressed - look for clues in the context and their body language.

# CONTEXT IS CRUCIAL!