Barking Diary

A free printable log from BestDog.au

Write down every barking episode as it happens - don't rely on memory. After one to two weeks the pattern usually jumps out (the postie, being left alone, the front fence). Use it to target training, or to support a council complaint. Most Australian councils ask for a diary covering 7-14 days. Start a fresh line for every separate episode.

DOG'S NAME _____ **OWNER / YOUR NAME** _____ **SUBURB & COUNCIL** _____

DIARY START DATE _____ **DIARY END DATE** _____

INTENSITY SCALE 1 = brief & quiet 2 = occasional 3 = persistent 4 = loud & frequent 5 = constant / very loud

Date	Start	End	Mins	What set it off (trigger)	Intensity 1-5	Where dog was / weather

Barking Diary - continued

Date	Start	End	Mins	What set it off (trigger)	Intensity 1-5	Where dog was / weather

How to read your diary

> After a week or two, ask: which trigger shows up most? Which times or days are worst? What settled it?
> Most barking clusters into a few causes - being left alone, guarding the boundary, boredom, or alerting to noise/wildlife.
> Each cause points to a different fix. Barking is communication, not bad behaviour - work out what your dog reacts to.
> For a neighbour's dog: talk to the owner first where it's safe, then lodge the diary with your local council.

General information for Australian dog owners - not legal advice. Council nuisance-barking processes and the required diary period differ between councils (commonly 7-14 days), so check your local council before lodging a complaint. For sudden barking or welfare concerns, see your vet or a qualified reward-based trainer.

Sources: Agriculture Victoria - Barking dogs - ACT City Services - Animal nuisance