

Double-Digging **Or Canine Cultivation Skills**

A pair of rambunctious Labrador brothers may not be the ideal horticultural helpers but they sure keep me on my gardening toes. Whenever my four-legged friends decide to lend a paw so to speak, I can be sure of two things: great fun (for them) and a lot of mess (for me). A flexible approach works best, each contributing according to his talents...



The Good- Top 5 Canine Cultivation Skills

Composting	***	Doggy digging in the heap improves aeration!
Dead-heading	***	Regularly munching on flower heads ensures they are dead
Pruning	***	Branches within reach are bitten off
Trimming	**	Yes. Favorite shrubs, especially when in flower
Re-potting	**	Shake plants out of their pots (de-potting) for me to re-pot later

The Bad -

Weeding	*	They prefer to watch me weed
Bed preparation	*	I make the bed, they lie in it
Planting	*	Immediately stimulates under-planting (digging under the new plant)
Watering	*	“Sprinkling” is definitely not encouraged
Fertilizing	*	Just don’t use bone & bloodmeal... or we’re back to digging

And The Ugly...

One man’s trowel is another man’s poop-scoop... this is one manure never meant for the roses.