

# Arizona's Best Dog Parks

Written by Written by Julia Swem

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Large or small, all breeds can enjoy a dog park. Find the perfect place to let your pooch socialize and play.

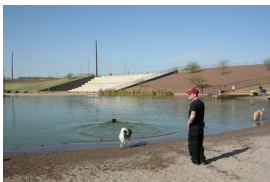


## Cosmo Dog Park

Cosmo Dog Park is in Gilbert and separated into three areas: one for larger, active dogs; another for smaller, timid dogs; and one including the lake. Joan and Mark Kuchta, visitors to the park with their dog, Harley, said it is easier to socialize the dogs in separate areas because the areas distinguish compatible personalities.

Jocelyn Mayes, who is not a dog owner but has been to the park, says, "I think the three areas work well. The timid dog area is a safe place for smaller dogs, some being under five pounds, and a good place to gradually introduce a dog new to the park."

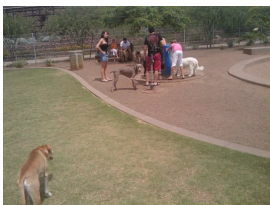
Kuchta says the park is safe, comfortable and pretty clean considering the number of dogs that go through it. "Personally, I think a newcomer should keep their dog on a leash and gradually socialize their dog instead of just letting them go," Kuchta says. "Later they can let their dog off the leash depending on how they do."



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## Chaparral Dog Park

Chaparral Dog Park is a mid-size park located in Scottsdale. This dog park is separated into three areas: one for "active" dogs and another for "passive dogs" and one always closed for maintenance. Although it may seem like these areas indicate large dog and small dog, that is not always the case. Sometimes an owner might see a larger dog in the "passive dog" area. The park is clean as the park staff can be seen cleaning up the park.



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## Mitchell Dog Park

Mitchell Dog Park is located in Tempe. The park is small and flat with some grass and a few dirt patches for pooches.

Although the park is not separated into different areas, Vanessa Grover, visitor of the park with her dog, Indie, said most of the dogs are very well behaved and seem to all get along well.

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Grover said the park is comfortable and clean. "I find the seating good and the park stays clean because it is closed on Monday's for routine clean-up," Grover said. She believes it's a simple no-fuss dog park where a dog can exercise and do it's thing. "This is a place to let your dog be your dog," Grover said.

