

Beginner Obedience

Week 1 Class Notes

Play

The most important thing you can do with your dog right now is play with them! The two main games that you can play are tug and fetch, below are some videos to help you troubleshoot any issues you have during play time. Once your dog will play well in your yard, go play somewhere new!

[Fetch video](#)

[Tug Video](#)

[Victory Lap](#)

[Tug/Fetch Transition](#)

All Done

This is a release cue, use it any time you are done training/playing/relaxing. "All done" means the dog can go off and do their own thing (sniff, chew, etc.). Do not try to fight your dog for their toy once you have said this. If they have the toy and you say "all done", just start walking away with them while holding their leash until they drop it on their own.

Teach OK

This word means that your dog can stop doing what you asked them to do (sit, look, etc.) and get up and play with you! **LONG LINE ON**

1. Ask your dog to sit.
2. Say "OK", and step away from your dog, then present food/toy.
3. Encourage them to play WITH YOU for at least a minute! Longer is better!
4. End one of two ways:
 - a. Say "all done" and give them the entire 6ft of leash to sniff around and do their own thing.
 - b. Ask for another sit, then "ok" and play.
5. [Video](#)

Teach "Get it"

This is a game that means the dog can have something you've placed on the ground. **LEASH ON**

1. Say "get it" and throw a piece of food.
2. Let your dog run to get it.
3. After they eat the food, call them back to you and repeat!
4. If your dog likes toys, do this with a toy instead of food.

Teach "Good"

This word means that your dog is on the right track, and they should keep doing what they're doing. It's very easy to teach! Just say "good" and then hand them a piece of

food. We don't want them to move towards you at all in this exercise, so bring the food to them quickly enough that they don't have a chance to step towards you.

Teach Eye Contact

Work on this during play time.

1. Play with your dog.
2. Put the food or toy you're using away, and ask your dog to look at you.
3. If they don't look at you, give a little tug on the leash, then praise when they look at you.
4. When they look at you, say "OK" and present food/toy to play with.
5. Does your dog sit every time they look at you? Try to get them to look at you while standing or walking!

Sit

Use food to teach your pup to sit.

1. Let the dog sniff food.
2. Say sit, and move food slowly from their nose in a straight line up a few inches.
3. Hold the food up until their butt hits the ground, then say "ok"!
4. Deliver food when they catch you.
5. [Video](#)

Down

Teach your dog to listen to the verbal cue "down", this step is necessary if you want your dog to listen without the help of food/body cues.

1. Say "down".
2. Lure your dog into a down.
3. When their elbows hit the ground, say "ok" and encourage them to get up to follow the food.
4. [Video](#)

Discourage Pulling on Leash

Teach your dog that any time they find the end of their leash and start pulling you, you stop walking and snap your leash to get their attention.

1. Hold the handle of your leash and say "all done".
2. Follow your dog.
3. If you feel them pull, stop walking and snap your leash until they stop pulling.
4. As long as the leash has slack in it, follow them around your yard.

Goals

Here's what we are looking to achieve with you and your dog by graduation:

1. *Let's Go: Dog walks next to owner on a loose leash, not lunging towards other dogs/people/toys/food. Food/toy is not visible.*
2. *Sit Stay: Dog can sit and stay for 30 seconds without getting up. Food/toy is not visible.*
3. *Down Stay: Dog can stay down for 1 minute without getting up. Food/toy is not visible.*
4. *Wait: Dog patiently waits at the door until being released while the owner opens the. Food/toy is not visible.*
5. *Greetings: Dog can walk up to a person and sit politely before greeting. Food/toy is not visible.*
6. *Motivation: Dog is highly motivated to work with their handler. Handler knows how to use food, toys and praise to make training fun for their dog.*