



Puppy Homework • Week 3

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Name Game

The outdoors can be huge a distraction for most puppies. There are new sights and smells every time you step out the door. Begin using their name in an outdoor setting (be careful with disease exposure, you may need to stick to your backyard). Start by using a low trigger item such as a leaf blowing by or their favorite smelly bush. Remember to utilize natural jackpots such as a playtime whenever you can!

Sit & Down – Duration

Before we teach our puppies to “Stay”, we need to teach them to remain in position for short periods by building duration.

- Say “Sit” (lure if you have to) “Yes” and treat
- Slowly add duration by treating your dog for remaining in the correct position. “Yes” and treat for a two-second hold and gradually increase the duration.
- Add a release word to cue our pups they are done working. This also instructs our puppy to hold the position until they are released.
- Repeat the same steps for “Down”
- If your puppy immediately breaks their position when you stand up, begin shaping your own movement. “Yes” and treat for raising one knee, then leaning over, and then eventually being able to stand while your dog remains in the Down position.

TIP: Be exciting! If needed, toss a treat while saying “release” to encourage your dog to break the position.

Loose Leash Walking

“Stop and Go” technique: Take a step forward when there is slack in the leash, plant your feet and stop when there is tension. Use treats to help create slack and continue to walk. You may need to begin this by taking one step first, then two steps and so on.

Tips to avoid pulling:

- A tired dog makes for an easier training session. Practice loose leash walking after playtime, fetch, or any other stimulating activity. You will get a lot further with these techniques when your dog is more relaxed.
- Run with your puppy! By running with your puppy you can create slack in the leash avoiding any pulling
- Lock and Load with treats!! Don’t catch yourself without a treat!
- Training tools when necessary (please ask for a handout on top-rated harnesses)

Recall & Collar Grabs

Continue to practice recalls in a fun and exciting way to keep your dog motivated. Allow for a short playtime session after a successful recall. We want our dogs to learn that coming to us does not always mean that the fun stops!

- If your dog is comfortable with collar grabs, have your buddy grasp onto their collar. Otherwise continue to have them hold onto the leash.
- Start close up to your dog, gain their attention by showing you have a treat.
- Run away from your dog, after a short distance face your dog and say “come” in an exciting tone.
- Gradually add more distance with your recalls.

Rewards

To help eliminate the lure with commands, try introducing a different reward in place of a treat. Explore all the possibilities out there! Remember, they must LOVE the reward. Fill out the rewards chart and bring it with you to class next week. You will receive 5 Lucky Bones for the completion of the chart! You can also bring these items to class with you as long as they are appropriate and non-distracting for the other dogs in class!

Food Rewards	Toy Rewards	Other: (Praise, Playtime, etc.)
1)	1)	
2)	2)	
3)	3)	
4.)	4.)	
5.)	5.)	