



## Puppy Intermediate Homework • Week 3

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### Reminder

Let's limit our use of food as rewards! We use food heavily when teaching a new command. Once our dog understands the command, we should be using play, toys, games, access to other dogs or people, going outside, etc. as rewards for our dogs. As a result, your dog will learn to happily work hard for you.

### Stay

Now that your dog has built up some duration and distraction, introduce a bit of distance. Ask your dog to "stay" move back a step, return to your dog, say "yes" and reward. Don't forget the release word!

As your dog succeeds, increase the distance incrementally. If your dog can't remain in the stay, back up your training to less distance and build from there.

We've introduced the 3 D's of stay: duration, distraction and distance. You should build on each of these as separate exercises until your dog has a solid understanding of each. Then, you can begin to combine the three to increase the difficulty of your dog's stay.

### Leave It: Step One

Start with a treat in your closed fist held steady at your dog's nose level. Say "leave it" once. As soon as your dog takes his nose and paws off, say "yes" and reward.

### Go to Bed

Stand close to the bed. Say "go to bed" and toss a treat on your dog's bed. When his feet make contact with the bed, say "yes" before he eats the treat). As your dog remains on the bed continue saying "yes" and treating. Use your release word and have your dog get off of the bed. You can call your dog, clap your hands, etc to help her get off. Do several repetitions of this.

Now start one step farther from the bed. Continue with the process listed above. You can decrease the frequency of treats for your dog remaining on the bed. Also, gradually eliminate the lure after you say "go to bed." Don't forget the release word! As your dog becomes proficient with this, add a down once he gets on the bed.

### Come

- 1) On leashed walks: Continue calling your dog to come at random intervals during your walk. If appropriate, use access to the distractions (ie: other dogs, people, telephone pole, river, toy...) as rewards.
- 2) Play Catch Me if You Can with your dog to increase the speed of your dog's recall! Dash away from your dog and say "come!" As soon as your dog reaches you, say "yes" and reward with a favorite toy or treat. Now dash off in a different direction and repeat.

Goal for the week: Your dog learns the foundation of leave it and go to bed. He learns to stay with some distance. His recall is getting more reliable and enthusiastic. He is learning to work for a variety of rewards (not just food!).