



## Puppy Homework • Week 2

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### Socialize that puppy!

Your dog should be meeting loads of people and getting treats from them to teach your pup not to fear, and even better, to really like them. Shy puppies often become adult dogs that lack confidence and can develop antisocial and even aggressive behaviors toward strangers. Doing the socialization now will help to avoid those problems in the future. Remember to watch your dog's body language so you can give support as needed!

### Sit to Say Please

Teach your dog to sit for the things they want in life! There are many things our puppies want – petting/attention, food, toys, to go outside/come inside, play with another puppy, eat meals, come out of the pen/crate, etc. Write down ten things your puppy did a sit for during the week, bring it to class next week and receive five Lucky Bones.

### Name Recognition

Add some distraction into your practice. Whenever you add distraction, you may need to start with distraction at a low intensity (with your dog at a distance from the distraction) and then gradually increase it (get your dog closer to the distraction).

Put your dog on leash. Simply wait for your dog to get distracted and turn away from you. Say your dog's name. When he turns away from the distraction and glances at you, say "yes" and treat. Practice this inside and outside the house.

#### ***Tips:***

- Avoid repeating your dog's name.
- If your dog does not immediately turn toward you, use your lure, or lightly tap his hip to get his attention.

### Down

Start with dog in sit position. Say "down." Place treat hand in front of your dog's nose and lure him into down position by moving your hand down to the floor. Say "yes" and treat.

Once your dog is successful at this stage, practice without a lure in your hand. Say "down" followed by the hand signal. As soon as your dog is in the down position, say "yes" and treat.

Now build some time your dog remains in a down. You'll simply delay the treat. Say "down," wait two or three seconds, say "yes" and treat. Build time incrementally.

### Come (Recall)

Set your dog up to be successful EVERY time! If you say "come" and your dog doesn't do it, you are quickly training your dog not to come. Make sure you follow through in your training every time. And remember, coming should always be great fun for your dog. Get that tail wagging!

**NEW:** This week, add a collar grab at the end of your dog's recall. Say "come". When he arrives in front of you, grasp his collar, say "yes" and treat.

- Play ping pong puppy! Get a partner and practice calling your dog back and forth. Each person uses an enthusiastic tone and rewards the dog for coming to them.
  - Run away from your dog and call him to chase after you (in a non-distracting environment to start). Dogs love this one!
- \* When your puppy is already coming to you (e.g. for mealtime) say "come" and reward!

## Handling

It is critical that your dog learns to be handled by you and others. This week we will work on gently restraining your puppy while you feed treats. If your pup is calm, release them so they learn calm behavior equals freedom. In addition, gently handle your puppy's ears while you feed treats. The goal is that your puppy learns to enjoy being handled in a variety of ways. This will make first aid and grooming much easier for you and your dog.