

Basic homework week 4

Sit/down/stand

Down/stand/sit

Stand/down/sit

Now that your dog is familiar with 3 behaviors, ask her to do them in varying order. This will encourage your dog to discriminate what you are asking her to do. To further proof your dog's understanding of the visual cues, ask her to perform these behaviors when you are in varying positions. For instance, ask for the behaviors when you are sitting in a chair, lying on the bed, while your dog is tethered and while you are out on walks. At this point, your hand signals should be becoming more refined (flat open hand) and treat free (your treats should be out of view). Have your treats in your pocket, on the counter and/ or your food pouch hidden behind your back.

If she is doing well with this, ask her to do 2 or 3 responses before getting a treat. More work for less money.

Do these combinations throughout the day, repeating at least 20 times.

Impulse control

Practice the following exercises using a selection of reinforcers (kong/ kibble/ toy/ treat)

- Duration of 15- 30 seconds in 3 different locations (directly outside apartment door/ bedroom/ lobby)
- Novel person – have a friend practice your favorite impulse control exercise with your dog
- Add a drop or toss of treat/ kibble
- Step away from the object

Hand targeting

Have your dog hand target to earn the following

- 1/ a ball/ toy toss
- 2/ Access into the dog park (if you bring your dog to one)
- 3/ water from a sports water bottle at the dog park (if you go)
- 4/ Petting from you

- 5/ door opening opportunities
- 6/ having her leash put on
- 7/ access onto the couch (if you allow your dog on to furniture)

Tricks

Work on getting empty hand signals for your tricks. For generalization purposes have someone else ask your dog for the following tricks.

- Paw
- Spin

Loose leash Walking

If you have found the proper motivator and have been using it relentlessly, you should be seeing improvement in the loose leash walking.

Also, REMEMBER, your dog will continue to perform behaviors that work. It is therefore extremely important to never move forward with a tight leash.

Forward motion is a reward!

If you move forward for pulling, you are rewarding it just as surely as if you flipped the dog a treat for it.

If your dog is an industrial strength puller you might want to consider a power steering option to give you a technical advantage. We like 'easy walk harness' or 'gentle leader' both made by Premier and found at most pet stores.

This week be scale back on the number of clicks and treats you are giving. Have your dog do more work for less money. That means clicking and treating every 10 - 15 steps.

Also, practice having your dog sit at your side before crossing the street.