



Atlanta's Dogwood  
Obeyance Group

**CANINE GOOD CITIZEN • CGC  
WEEK FOUR  
AFTER CGC: What's Next at ADOG?**

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Atlanta's Dogwood Obeyance Group (ADOG) congratulates both you and your dog on your participation in the Canine Good Citizen® (CGC) Program. CGC is an excellent place to start training your dog because it helps your canine companion understand how to respond to basic commands and be under good control on a leash. It also helps to teach you how to communicate to your dog in a way your canine companion can understand.

With CGC as a fabulous beginning, ADOG strongly encourages owners to continue training their dog beyond the CGC level. Your instructor will recommend the next class available to you based on your goals.

### **Obeyance**

Dogs are intelligent creatures and they enjoy having a purpose in life and some form of "work" that provides intellectual stimulation. Obeyance training is an activity that can satisfy the need to learn and greatly enrich the lives of both you and your dog.

Obeyance progresses through different levels with each one becoming increasingly advanced. Check with your instructor for a recommendation on your next class.

There are several organizations that provide you and your dog with the opportunity to compete and earn titles in the obeyance ring. These organizations include the AKC (American Kennel Club), UKC (United Kennel Club) and ASCA (Australian Shepherd Club of America). **Mixed breeds are welcome to compete in all of these organizations.**

### **JOIN THE FUN!**

At ADOG, we consider that dog training is first and foremost about the wonderful relationship that develops between you and your canine partner. The sense of satisfaction and accomplishment that comes from the experience of successfully training a dog is well worth the effort it takes to accomplish. We encourage you to continue at ADOG to learn more about advanced training. Along with building a stronger relationship with your dog, you'll meet wonderful people and dogs on your journey

**Registration for the upcoming session is next week. You will need to register during week five in order to receive priority placement over new students. Current student registration forms are at: [www.adog-ga.com](http://www.adog-ga.com). Please complete the anonymous on-line Feedback Form also available on our web site.**

**THIS WEEK AT HOME YOU WILL BE:**

**Practicing what you have learned...**

- Name Response
- Recall – One per day adding more distance to 30 feet.
- Sit and Down – Begin to randomize praise with food rewards and praise alone.
- Sit Stay and Down Stay – Add more time and then slowly add distance.
- Come Up Sit
- Controlled Walking – Add distractions. Take your dog for a stroll at a local park or school playground. Take him along for a visit to a dog friendly store (Pet Smart, Home Depot, Pikes, etc.) and practice controlled walk down the aisles, make him sit for visits with strangers and sit stay while you look at sale items.
- Ears and Feet – Work on examination if needed.
- Sit for Exam have someone else briefly brush your dog during exam.

**NEW...**

- Formal Recall
- Reaction to Distraction
- Out for a Walk
- Walking through a Crowd

**FORMAL RECALL:**

Step 1: Put your dog on a long leash or line.

Step 2: Leave dog in a sit or down.

Step 3: Walk 10 feet away and call the dog to you. Your dog should come straight to you without running around.

Step 4: Grab a hold of the collar and Praise and reward.

**REACTION TO DISTRACTION:**

Expose your dog to new sights and sounds in a slow and steady manor.

Sight Examples: leave an open umbrella in the living room, walk near where holiday decorations are up, walk by a park with kids playing or riding bikes.

Sounds: Walk by the garbage truck or a van beeping in reverse.

**REMEMBER**

**Always verbally praise your dog for all the correct things they do.  
Remember you may not have toys or treats, but you always have your  
voice. Praise is free, use it often.**

## **YOUR DOG SHOULD NOW KNOW**

- Quickly respond to his name.
- Sit on command.
- Down on command.
- Beginning to sit automatically when you stop while walking him.
- Sit Stay
- Down Stay
- Remain calm while he is examined or brushed.
- Come when called.
- Remain calm when separated from you

If you are having difficulty with any of the exercises, be sure to ask your instructor if there are any suggestions that she may have specific to your problem. The solution may be as simple helping you with timing or they may have several other methods for teaching the same thing, and a different method may be more effective for both you and your dog. Remember like people all dogs are individuals and may learn in different ways and be better at some things than at others.