

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. Please complete the anonymous on-line Feedback Form also available on our web site.

CONTINUE TO PRACTICE AND USE WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED SO FAR

This week at home, review the following exercises: Watch for 15-20 seconds, sit and down stay (with mild distractions), controlled walking with varied paces, halts, about turns and recalls on 30' long lines with mild distractions.

Once your dog understands the basic commands, begin making them a bit harder by adding in the following, one at a time:

- Duration – can your dog hold the exercise just a few seconds longer?
- Distractions – clap your hands, jingle your keys, can your dog stay focused?
- Distance – will your dog hold his “stay” when you add a foot to your distance away?

Don't forget to go slowly! You can always back up to a place where you achieved success and continue from there. When he does the exercise right, have a party and praise, praise, praise.

NEW EXERCISES:

ON/OFF SWITCH

Play, play, play with your dog and then command, “Sit”. The goal here is for your dog to learn self-control.



CONTROLLED WALKING THROUGH PYLONS

Keep your dog with you on a loose leash as you weave in and out of the pylons a serpentine pattern. Use all of your tools: voice, body language, treats. Moving quickly and with purpose will help your dog stay with you.

SITS IN HULA-HOOPS

Command your dog to sit inside the hula-hoop at the end of the serpentine pattern.

SITS AND DOWN STAYS

Do the following distractions one at a time and move to the next when your dog can calmly accept the previous one.

- Have someone walk around and talk to your dog.
- Have someone squeak toys and bounce balls.
- Handler claps hands kneels down, jumps left and right.
- Other dogs walk by.
- Drop cookies on the floor.
- A person pets your dog.

REMEMBER

The idea is to make the dog secure on the stays not to make him a nervous wreck, **GO SLOW**. If the dog makes a mistake two times in a row, that means the distraction is too hard, **BACK UP** and make it easier.

You want to teach the dog to resist temptation and learn from it.

WAIT

A less formal command than "Stay," but very useful for going through doorways, getting in and out of the car, going up and down stairs, etc. Start out slowly. Give the command, "Dog, Wait". You may need to apply light upward pressure if dog breaks. Once you have moved forward, call your dog. This is a time for big praise, reward and release.

STAND FROM SIT

With dog sitting on your left, have a treat in your right hand, reach across your body with your right hand and bring the treat slightly in front of dog's nose. Tell dog, "Dog, stand," while at the same time take one small step forward with your right foot. Dog's bottom should lift up as he follows the treat, you may allow him to nibble as he stands as your left foot comes up to join your right. Be sure your movements are not so big that your dog thinks you are taking off.

It's time to take a little break from obedience and teach your dog some performance skills!

Shake Hands

- Say, "Give me your paw" or "Shake", and pick up your dog's paw.
- Repeat until your dogs "light bulb" goes on.
- Praise your dog even when you are the one picking up the paw at first.



Play Dead

- Give your dog the down command.
- Get down on the floor with him and gently push on his shoulder to roll him over onto his side say "Bang" in a calm voice.
- As he rolls onto his side, pet him and give his tummy a scratch. If he starts to roll all the way over onto his back, gently bring him back to his side, petting his shoulder as you do so.
- Slowly lengthen the time that he must lay still and play dead. Add shooting your dog with your finger as you say "Bang".

Do not try to teach this when your dog is in a wild and active mood. This is best left for the end of the day or after strenuous exercise, when he is ready to rest anyway.

Catch

- Put a leash and collar on your dog. Hold the leash close to the snap so that your dog cannot eat any of the cookies that he does not catch.
- Hold a cookie just over your dog's nose and say, "catch" as you drop the cookie into his mouth.
- At first, your dog may not even attempt to catch them. Usually with a few repetitions and the realization that you are not going to let him pick them up off the floor, he will begin to try to catch them.
- After he is catching cookies drop directly above his nose, begin to hold the cookie higher and higher. Then you can begin to toss them with a gentle arc toward his nose.
- Once your dog is hooked on this game, try a ball or soft toy.

A variation of this is to teach your dog to balance a dog biscuit on his muzzle.

- Place a bone shaped biscuit on the top of his muzzle just behind his nose
- Quietly encourage him to stay still (use the stay command)
- Say your release word i.e. "OK, catch" and he will naturally flip his nose and the cookie in the air as he tries to grab it.

Zigzag (through your legs – 15 steps in a training session are enough).

- Your dog is at your left side, stretch out your right leg as far as you can, hold a treat on the outside of your right leg so your dog can see it and encourage guide him under your extended leg, praise and reward.
- Now extend your left leg and repeat.
- At first offer treat for each stride, you take forward, and then make him go through two strides before a reward. Add the command "Zigzag" - right, left, right, left, right, left etc.

Impress Your Neighbors – Teach Your Dog to Get the Newspaper

After your dog has learned to retrieve from the floor, you can easily start to teach him to get the newspaper for you. Save a small section of the paper, and the plastic bag that the paper came in.

1. Place the folded smaller section of the paper back into plastic bag that it came in, place it at the end of your driveway and then get your dog.
2. Walk your dog on a leash to where you have placed the paper,
3. Touch it with your finger and say your retrieve command, "Get It".
4. Encourage the dog with your voice to pick it up.
5. When he picks up the paper, offer him a treat (this is the same as the trade game).
6. When he is able to retrieve it every time from a few feet away, change your command to, "Paper, Get It".
7. Finally, drop the command get it and just say "Paper".
8. Follow retrieve steps, increasing the distance, until you can stand at the backdoor, hair a mess, in your robe, coffee in one hand and a dog treat in the other. WHOOPEE!

Never send your dog to get the paper without a long line attached his collar until you are sure, no matter what happens, your dog will come when called.



1. You're doing it!
2. FINE!
3. You've just about got it.
4. Nice going.
5. SUPER!
6. OUTSTANDING!
7. That's right
8. TREMENDOUS!
9. That's good.
10. FANTASTIC!
11. You're really working hard today.
12. That's great.
13. You are very good at that.
14. Right on.
15. That's coming along nicely.
16. You're really improving.
17. GOOD WORK!
18. You're doing beautifully.
19. That's very much better.
20. Superb.
21. I'm so proud of you.
22. You've got that down pat.
23. You are doing that much better today.
24. Keep it up.
25. You've just about got it.
26. You did a lot of work today.
27. That's the best you have ever done.
28. That's it, oh my gosh, that is it.
29. You're doing a good job.
30. I'm so proud of you.
31. THAT'S IT!
32. MARVELOUS!
33. Now you've figured it out.
34. I like that!
35. That's quite an improvement.
36. Way to go.
37. GREAT!
38. Now you have the hang of it!
39. I knew you could do it.
40. You're doing fine.
41. Congratulations.
42. GOOD THINKING!
43. Not bad.
44. You're learning.
45. Now you have it!
46. Good going.
47. You are learning fast.
48. Keep on trying!
49. Good for you'.
50. You out did yourself today.
51. That's the right way to do it.
52. Good for you
53. You're getting better every day.
54. I think you've got it now.
55. You did it that time
56. You are so Clever
57. That's not half bad.
58. Good job (dog's name).
59. Nice going.
60. You figured that out fast.
61. You haven't missed a thing!
62. PERFECT.
63. WOW!
64. That's much better.
65. That's the way.
66. Much better.
67. Keep up the good work.
68. WONDERFUL!
69. TERRIFIC!
70. You remembered!
71. Nothing can stop you now.
72. That's nice.
73. That's the way to do it!
74. That kind of work makes me happy.
75. SENSATIONAL!
76. Better than ever.
77. That's better.
78. WHAT A DOG!
79. First class work.
80. You're really trying
81. EXCELLENT!
82. YES! !!!!!!!
83. That's the best ever.
84. Look at you

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85. You're so SMART!
86. That's what I wanted.
87. You did that very well.
88. ALL RIGHT! BRILLIANT
89. What a girl/guy.
90. You look like a professional.
91. You're the best.
92. You can do it.
93. Almost got it.
94. How did you get so smart?
95. Look at you go.
96. Is there anything you can't learn?
97. Unbelievable.
98. That's my boy/girl.
99. BINGO!
100. It's a bird, it's a plane, and it's a *super puppy*.
101. Too cute kiddo.
102. That will get you a cookie for sure.
103. A round of applause for a wonder dog.
104. I love you, you smart, boy/girl.
105. Look at you.
106. Oh my goodness.
107. Hurray!
108. That's the way...ah huh...ah huh...I like it.

Of course, you could still just say "GOOD DOG" sometime too.

Make your dog smile with your praise.