

Impulse control - Teaching the dog good manners around food

Food in hand

1. Put a treat in your fist. The dog will sniff, lick and slobber on your hand because he or she can smell the food.
2. When the dog stops sniffing, licking, and slobbering – even for a second – click and treat.
3. Do this a few more times. If the dog doesn't sniff, lick, or slobber for a bit longer, click and treat. Practice until the dog doesn't sniff, lick or slobber on your hand at all. He or she just looks at it – or even at you.

Food on the ground

1. Put a treat on the ground and cover it with your hand or your foot. The dog will sniff, lick and slobber on your hand or foot because he or she can smell the food.
2. When the dog stops sniffing, licking and slobbering – even for a second – click and treat.
3. Practice until the dog doesn't sniff, lick or slobber at all. He or she doesn't run to the treat. Practice until the dog waits patiently.

Telling the Dog to Wait for Food

1. Teach the behavior without words.
2. Say "off" when the dog backs away from the food in your hand or on the floor. Do that a few more times and the dog will remember the sound and the movement.
3. Say "off" before the dog moves toward the food. If the dog waits, the dog knows the word. Try putting away the clicker and telling the dog "off." If the dog doesn't wait when you say "off," the dog doesn't know the word "off" yet. Do numbers 1 and 2 again.

If you want to know more about clicker training, go to www.clickertraining.com!

TRAINING
DIFFERENT ANIMALS



Teaching with a Clicker:

How to Teach Your Dog Good Manners and Tricks

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Adapted for children from Karen Pryor's
"Clicker Training for Dogs"
with Ms. Pryor's permission

Teaching Good Manners and Tricks with a Clicker and Treats

Does your dog pull on the leash when he or she is not supposed to? Does your dog eat food off the floor when he or she is not supposed to? Does he or she run around the house?

Would you like your dog to learn good behaviors and even tricks?

Teaching your dog good behaviors and tricks can be really easy with the clicker. All you need is a clicker, some treats, and this brochure. You'll learn how to train your dog using the simple steps in this brochure. Once you know that teaching your dog tricks is easy, you can make up your own tricks.



If you want to find out how much fun it can be to teach your dog new tricks and good behaviors, read on!

You will need these supplies: a clicker (something that makes a short sound), treats (something the dog likes a lot), a dog.

SIT

Teaching the Dog to Sit

1. Show the dog the treat by putting it in front of his or her nose.
2. Bring the treat up and back a few inches from the dog's nose to the top of the dog's head. Keep it close to the dog's head. If you lift the treat too high, the dog will jump.
3. The dog's nose will follow the treat. The dog's nose will go up and the tail will go down. The dog might sit all the way, or just a little. If the dog sits a little bit, click and treat. If the dog sits all the way, give the dog more treats.
4. Do that a few times so the dog can remember it.
5. Then, make it a little harder. Have the dog sit longer. Then click and give him or her a treat.

Telling the Dog to Sit

1. Teach the behavior without words.
2. Say "sit" when the dog begins to sit. Do that a few more times and the dog will remember the sound and the movement.
3. Say "sit" before the dog sits. If the dog sits, the dog knows the word. Try putting away the clicker and telling the dog to sit. If the dog doesn't sit when you say "sit," the dog doesn't know the word "sit" yet. Do numbers 1 and 2 again.

DOWN

Teaching the Dog to Lie Down

1. Tell the dog to sit.
2. Get a treat and put it in front of the dog's nose. Lower the treat to the ground. The dog's nose will follow the treat down. Move the treat straight down. If you move it away from the dog's body, the dog will get up to follow it.
3. If the dog goes lower, click and treat. You may have to do this a few times for the dog's body to go all the way down.

Telling the Dog to Lie Down

1. Teach the behavior without words.
2. Say "down" while the dog begins to go down. Do that a few more times and the dog will remember the sound and the movement.
3. Say "down" when the dog is sitting. If the dog goes down, the dog knows the word. Try putting away the clicker and telling the dog "down." If the dog doesn't go down when you say "down," the dog doesn't know the word "down" yet. Do numbers 1 and 2 again.

Hand Targeting

Hand targeting is when the dog touches your hand with his or her nose when you tell the dog to. You teach hand targeting because you can help your dog to walk near you, to go where you want, and to teach tricks like spinning around, rolling over, and crawling under chairs and tables.

Teaching the Dog to Target Your Hand

1. Put your hand out near the dog's nose. The dog may sniff your hand. If the dog does touch your hand with his or her nose, click and treat exactly when the dog's nose touches your hand. The dog may only move toward your hand at first. Click and treat that.
- If the dog ignores your hand, rub a little cheese or other treat on your hand so the dog can smell it and try again. If the dog taps or licks your hand, click and treat. You may have to do this a few times for the dog to understand. Then try without rubbing the treat on your hand.
2. Put your hand farther back so the dog has to move more to touch it with his or her nose. If the dog targets your hand, click and treat. If the dog does not target your hand, try again but make it a bit easier for the dog by putting your hand closer.
3. Then, move your hand under or over something so the dog learns to follow your hand.

Repeat until the dog understands and follows your hand.

Telling the Dog to Target Your Hand

1. Teach the behavior without words.
2. Say "touch" while the dog begins to touch your hand. Do that a few more times and the dog will remember the sound and the movement.
3. Say "touch" just before the dog touches your hand. If the dog touches your hand, the dog knows the word. Try putting away the clicker and telling the dog "touch." If the dog doesn't touch your hand when you say "touch," the dog doesn't know the word "touch" yet. Do numbers 1 and 2 again.

Using hand targeting to teach coming when called

1. Make sure the dog knows the word "touch." While you are teaching that trick, say "touch" at first. Then, say "come" for the same trick. Click and treat when the dog targets your hand.
2. Try stretching your arm out so the dog has to go farther to target. As you practice, go farther and farther away for the hand target, and say "come" when you put out your hand each time.

Using hand targeting to teach walking on a leash without pulling

Use a clicker and treats to get started. Put your hand out and say "touch" while you are walking. The dog stays near you to keep touching your hand. Click and treat for a step near you a few times, then for 3 steps. If the dog does that, go longer. Make it more advanced. If the dog doesn't stay near you, go back and click every step. Try again to make it more advanced. Keep doing that and the dog will get used to it and walk close to you.

