



Welcome to the Introduction to Training Course.  
Remember to keep your training fun & for just a few minutes per day.

### Marking & Reinforcing a new behaviour.

Let's start with letting your dog know when he gets it right! This will help him build confidence, and start the building blocks of a great relationship with you.

- Marking is telling your dog with a 'Yes' or with a 'Click' if you want to use a clicker the moment they get it right.
  - Reinforcing is the treat that rewards that behaviour. The dog will associate the word or click with the action and means they will receive a lovely treat.
  - Timing is everything as you don't want to reinforce the wrong thing. It's not so important that you are fast with giving him a treat – as he will associate the marker word or the use of a clicker and will realize the treat is to follow even if you are slow at getting to him.
- 1) You ask the dog to sit (or whichever behaviour you are teaching).
  - 2) The dog sits.
  - 3) You mark the exact moment his bottom hits the floor (YES! OR CLICK).
  - 4) You reward with a tasty treat.

### **Watch video Marking & Reinforcing**

### Confidence Building Games

Building up your dog's confidence with little fun games and working together as a team, will build a special bond and trust in each other. Use games you can play inside or out, at home or on a walk.

- Get him used to lots of different objects & surfaces by encouraging his inquisitive brain to use his nose & paws to explore.
- Sniffing is really calming and relaxing.
- Help your puppy to succeed in finding the hidden treasure.
- Do not force him to search or walk on any surface that he is worried about.

### **Watch video Confidence building games**

### Collar versus harness

- Why a harness is safer for your dog
- Which sort of harness is best?

### **Watch video - Collar v harness**



### **Lets play 'The Name Game'**

Its really important to build up your dog's focus and this little game will really help. This teaches him to look at your face when you say his name. It is the foundation to a great relationship. The start of a good recall and a very important part of training loose lead walking. This fun game encourages him to give you his attention when you say his name.

- Throw a treat out away from you so he moves away from you to eat it.
- As he finished it, say his name, wait for him to look at you and then throw the treat out again.
- Keep going & see how fast you can get the game going. Your dog is learning that looking at you as you say his name means a yummy treat. A game to play anytime.

### **Watch video The Name Game**

### **Meet and Greet**

- Three second meet and greet with strange dogs on lead.
- Like humans, dogs decide very quickly if they like each other or not.
- Do not meet head on, this is very rude doggy etiquette in the canine world.
- When dogs naturally meet, they curve towards each other, side on.
- If they get on well, go back for another 3 seconds.
- Walk dogs parallel to each other after successful meetings.

### **Watch video-Meet & Greet**