

BASIC: Week 2 lesson

- A: HEEL- introduce
- B: OUT- introduce
- C: SHAKE- reinforce
- D: BED- reinforce
- E: CAR- reinforce
- F: Leash work

Lesson A: Heel (next to a wall)

Reasons:

To teach the pups to sit in the correct position by the handler's left side

Graduates use this command when they need the dog on their left side (i.e., opening non-automatic doors which swing open to the right), to move the dog from any position to their left side and in crowded conditions where the dog must be directly next to the chair.

How to teach:

Begin a Let's Go exercise with the puppy on your left side between you and the wall

Stop and tell the puppy to "Heel-Sit"

The pup should sit straight at your left side with his shoulders parallel to your knees

Praise

Tell the puppy "Let's Go"

Repeat the exercise as you move along the wall.

Tell puppy "Release" at the end of the exercise.

Tips:

Keep sessions short

Ensure that your pup does not forge. If a pup forges, he will not be in the proper Heel position when he stops

If a pup is forging, correct for the forging BEFORE giving a Heel command.

If the pup sits out of position (slumps), tell him "Heel," take one step forward with the pup and repeat the command.

As the pup begins to understand the command, change the command to "Heel"

Homework:

Practice the Heel command along a wall 2 sessions (at least 8 Heel commands each) per day

Lesson B: Out

Reason:

To teach the pup to go through a doorway before its handler

How to teach:

Have the pup wait in front of a door way

Use a food lure and lure the pup through the doorway where he ends up facing the handler

The pup should remain standing until another command is given

Tips:

Don't do this command too often we still want the pups to wait at all doorways

If you have him out too often he will start to anticipate this command

On the out command the pup should move fast and turn and face you with moderate speed

Lesson C: Lesson #1

Lesson D: Lesson #2

Lesson E: Car

Reason:

So you don't have to lift an 80lb dog into a sedan

We transport these pups everywhere so they need to enter a vehicle only when given the "car" command

How to teach:

Most pups will move into a car without much coaxing

Give the "Car" command and use a food or leash lure if needed

If the pup refuses to enter the car toss his little fanny right into the vehicle

He should turn and face you after he has entered the vehicle

Tips:

Make sure your pup is waiting for the car command, practice saying nonsense words like ball. He doesn't enter the car on "ball" only on the command "car"

After you release your pup from the car command him to the sit, down or stand. This makes sure he is always under proper control

Lesson F: Leash work with left turns

Reason:

To teach the pup to maintain a loose leash

To teach the pup to pay attention to the handler

How to teach:

Begin with Let's Go

Praise your pup

As you are walking, make a left turn by lifting your right knee and pivoting your left leg

If the pup is forging, your knee will move into the puppy as you turn

If it is walking properly, your knee will not make contact

Continue walking and repeat

Tell pup release when you finish the exercise

Tips:

Keep sessions short

Smaller dog can be corrected with your foot or leg

Pivot quickly without waiting for your pup to realize what you are doing.

Make the pup pay attention to find out what you are doing

Homework:

Practice the Let's Go command with left turns at least 3 times per day with mild distractions.