

KPT Class #3

Training Game

Leash Work while moving (flat collar)

Reason:

- To teach the pup to follow the handler
- To teach the pup to walk on a loose leash

How to teach:

- Get the pup's attention by calling her name, repeating a word in an interesting voice (puppy, puppy!), shuffling your feet or clapping your hands
- Tell the pup "LET'S GO" and encourage her to follow you
- The pup may walk on either the right or left side
- Correct the pup only for a tight leash
- Tell the pup "RELEASE" when exercise is complete

Tips:

- When on walks you are competing with many distractions; raise your level of attention-getting antics to out do your competition
- At first, keep your walks short and sweet in accordance with the pup's attention span
- Always make sure your leash is loose
- Do not pull the pup along with you

Homework:

- Practice the LET'S GO command at least 3 times per day in the house or in a quiet environment
- As the pup improves, extend your training time and try working in the back yard

SIT (stay) – 5 seconds

Reason:

- To teach the pup self control
- To maintain control over the pup in distracting situations

How to teach:

- Place or lure the pup into a SIT by your side
- If the pup sits, praise her calmly
- Count to 5 seconds and then tell the pup RELEASE
- If the pup breaks the SIT, give them a correction
- Praise her when she resumes her SIT
- As the pup becomes successful, increase time. Increase time SLOWLY

Tips:

- Do not move away from the pup while practicing SIT at this stage
- Make doing the command more rewarding than the RELEASE. Praise and treats should be given while the SIT is in progress
- Always make the pup work for treats. When the pup begins to understand the command, only give a food treat every 1st, 2nd, or 3rd time for a SIT

Homework:

- Practice the SIT at least 5 times per day in the house or in a quiet environment
- Build for time so the pup can do a 15 second SIT by the next class

Leash work while moving (halti or gentle leader)

Reason:

- To teach the pup to accept the halti
- To teach the pup to walk on a loose leash

How to teach:

- Get the pup's attention by calling her name or showing a favorite toy or treat (a lure)
- Dangle the lure in front of the pup and say LET'S GO
- Praise the pup for following you and allow her to get the lure every 5-10 steps
- Tell the pup RELEASE when you complete the exercise

Tips:

- Keep sessions short
- Use lure to distract the pup from rubbing her halti
- Give a sharp pop as a correction, do not pull or drag the pup

Homework:

- Practice the LET'S GO command at least 3 times per day in the house or a quiet environment
- As the pup improves, extend training time and try working in the back yard

DOWN (with placement or Lure)

Reason:

- To teach the pup self control
- To establish control over the pup in distracting environments

How to teach (placement):

- Tell the pup to SIT
- Place your arm over the pup's shoulders and slide your hand slowly under the pup's forearms
- Slowly lower the pup to the floor
- Say DOWN as the pup moves into position
- Praise the pup
- Give the release command

How to teach (lure):

- Tell the pup to SIT
- Hold a lure or treat at nose level
- Slowly move the lure to the ground in a straight line
- Give the DOWN command as the pup moves into position
- Praise the pup and give her the lure
- Give the release command

Tips:

- Put slight pressure on the pup's shoulders as you lift her forearms off the ground
- Take advantage when the pup lies down on her own by praising GOOD DOWN
- If using a lure hold it firmly in your fingers once your hand has lured the pup's nose to the ground; the pup will eventually lie down to get a better angle on the lure

Homework:

Practice the DOWN using either placement or the lure method at least 6 times per day.

DRESS- Halti, cape, collar

Why?

Graduates with limited mobility may use this command to put equipment on a Service Dog

Teaches the pup self-control

Provides a built in reward, you dress and you get to come someplace fun

How to teach (lure)

At first let your goal be to have the pup stand still while you place her equipment on her. Later we will teach the pup to initiate movement towards the object.

- Have a treat, toy or fun item in one hand and the cape or collar in the other.
- Place the hole in your cape between the treat and the pup
- Give the command DRESS and place the cape over the pup's head and immediately give the treat.
- Remove the cape and repeat
- Try the above with the pup's collar, halti or Gentle Leader

Tips

- For timid pups let the material of the cape hang down so the pup isn't frightened by the material going over his head
- Start slowly and build for time and compliance