

KPT: Week 7 Lessons

## LECTURE

Public Etiquette

Greetings

## LESSONS

### **Leash work with mild distractions (halti)**

Review: Leash work with u-turns (halti)

Intro: Leash work with u-turns and distractions (halti)

### **SIT (2 minutes; mild distractions)**

Review: SIT (30 seconds with distractions)

Intro: SIT (2 minutes; mild distractions)

### **Drop (verbal; reward)**

Review: Drop (trade)

Intro: Drop (command reward)

### **Down (verbal) Down Stay (5 minutes; mild distractions)**

Review: Down with one verbal command

Intro: Down Stay (5 minutes; mild distractions)

Activity: Hit the Dirt

## HOMEWORK

Leash work with u-turns and mild distractions

Drop (verbal; reward)

Down (verbal)

Down Stay (5 minutes; mild distractions)

SIT (2 minutes; mild distractions)

Review all command covered in KPT

KPT Week 7 Public Etiquette and Greetings

## PUBLIC ETIQUETTE

As a puppy raiser, you are also a representative of CCI. You will find that many people are attracted to that cute little pup with the cape on. The privilege of bringing a dog into public places comes with a variety of responsibilities:

A puppy is not allowed to visit public places until it is reliably toilet trained AND walks nicely on leash. The dog should begin going to outside public places when it is between five and six months old. This can include the outside of places such as malls and

restaurants, parks, (once all immunizations are completed; neighborhood streets, business areas when they are relatively quiet and outdoor cafes.

Be sure to watch the pup for signs of stress. If the pup is overwhelmed, calmly remove him from the Situation and revisit the location at a quieter time of day.

The puppy must always be under control. This means that he walks on a loose leash, Sits while people pet or greet him refrains from excessive sniffing and scratching and does not eat food off of the ground.

The puppy raiser is responsible for cleaning up after the puppy at all times. If the pup toilets in a public place, quietly take out your plastic bag and paper towels and quickly clean and dispose of the mess. Apologize to any onlookers or store clerks without making a big deal out of the incident.

Remain with the puppy at all times. If you must briefly leave the puppy in a public Situation, ask a friend to hold the leash for you. NEVER leave the pup on a tie down in a public place.

## GREETINGS

Greeting people and other dogs is an important part of training an assistance dog. As a puppy raiser, you will find that you get plenty of practice at this. The well-behaved pup Sits on command and remains calmly sitting while a person either pets him talks to him or shakes his paw. This, of course, is the GOAL and not what is realistic for a 3 months old puppy.

In the beginning, the goal is to prevent the puppy from jumping on the person or pulling on the leash. Tell the puppy to "SIT" and then allow the person to approach him. If the puppy is too excited to SIT still, hold him in place by slipping your palm under the collar and pulling up while holding his bottom on the ground. Ask the person to pet the puppy only briefly. Praise the puppy and then Release him once the exercise is completed. Alternate this exercise with the following: tell the puppy to "SIT" and ask the person to calmly talk to him in place of petting. Praise the puppy and Release him when the exercise is completed. During these exercises, it is acceptable to explain to the public that interactions must be very brief because of the puppy's young age.

Once the puppy has a solid SIT, you may allow people to interact with him for longer periods of time. If the puppy breaks the Stay, kindly ask the person to stop petting him and give him a firm leash corrections back into a SIT. Praise the puppy and allow the person to briefly pet him again.

The final step in the greeting exercise is to incorporate the Shake command. This is beneficial as the public seems to enjoy it and the dog remains in working mode during the entire greeting. Shake will be taught in the Basic class.

Teaching the puppy proper greetings is an important part of the puppy raiser's responsibility. If you remain consistent and calm and instruct the public how to interact with the puppy, you will eventually have a puppy suitable to greet even the President!

KPT: Week 7 Lessons

Leash Work With U-Turns and Mild Distractions (halti)

Reason

- To teach the puppy to maintain a loose leash
- To teach the puppy to pay attention to the handler by using encouragement, corrections and frequent u-turns

How to teach

- Begin a Let's Go exercise; as you are walking have someone hold out a treat or bounce a ball to distract the puppy
- You will have to work hard to maintain the puppy's attention; clap your hands, whistle, shuffle your feet; use a high-pitched voice, etc
- Praise the puppy for following you
- As you are walking, make a u-turn and walk in the exact opposite direction while encouraging the puppy to follow you
- If the puppy does not follow you or pulls the leash tight, give a sharp correction and then encourage him to catch up with you
- Tell the puppy "Release" when you finish walking

Tips

- Keep sessions short
- Correct the puppy only when it pulls the leash tight or does not follow you by giving a sharp jerk as a correction. Do not pull the puppy toward you
- Before you begin the exercise, decide exactly where you will walk, where you will make the u-turn and where you will finish; do not deviate from your path or wait for the puppy
- Remember, the advantage of making frequent u-turns is that the puppy must pay attention to find out just where you are headed next!

Homework

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

B) SIT

Reason

- To teach the puppy self control
- To maintain control over the puppy in distracting Situations

### How to teach

- Place the puppy by your side and tell him “SIT”
- If the puppy Sits, praise him calmly and tell him to “Stay”
- Have a friend walk another dog by, bounce a ball or calmly hold out a treat
- Count to 2 minutes and then tell the puppy “Release”
- If the puppy breaks the SIT, tell him firmly “Don’t, SIT” and give a sharp correction upwards
- Praise him calmly when he resumes his SIT

### Tips

- Make performing the command more rewarding than the Release; praise should be given while the Stay is in progress; treats should be given just before the command ends
- Remain by the puppy’s side during the Stay

### Homework

Practice the SIT at least 5 times per day

### C) Drop (command reward)

#### Reason

- To teach the puppy to drop items that are in his mouth
- To keep the puppy from eating dangerous or inappropriate objects or substances
- To enable the puppy and handler to play games such as fetch

#### How to teach

- Put tempting treats and toys in your pocket
- Entice the puppy to play with a tennis ball or other toy
- Tell the puppy to Drop It
- Immediately praise the puppy and give him a treat
- Repeat the above sequence three more times
- If the puppy will not Drop It on command, revert to the trade method for two exercises and then try the above procedure again
- If the puppy still does not follow the command, you should correct the puppy by pushing your thumb into his mouth and simultaneously saying “Drop It”; follow immediately with praise, petting and a treat

#### Tips

- Keep the sessions short so that the puppy does not become bored with the treats and decide to keep the ball
- Give extensive praise and attention for each Drop
- Only give the Drop command when the puppy is on leash so that you can avoid such favorite games as keep away

## Homework

Practice the Drop command two sessions per day

### D) Down Stay (5 minutes; mild distractions)

#### Reason

- To teach the puppy self control
- To establish control over the puppy in distracting Situations

#### How to teach

- Give the Down command with one command only
- Calmly praise the puppy and tell him Stay
- Have a friend bounce a ball, walk a dog or calmly hold out a treat
- Count 5 minutes and then praise and pet the puppy
- Give the Release command

#### Tips

- If the puppy breaks his stay, firmly tell him “Don’t, Down” and give him a firm quick leash correction toward the floor (do not repeat the command)
- If the puppy repeatedly breaks his Stay, try a 3 minute Down Stay while by the puppy’s side

## Homework

Practice the Down Stay command 5 times per day