



Vocabulary List

NO - Stop what you are doing.

STOP - What you were doing was totally fine, but now stop doing for it for a little while. This can be used to end a play time or a good praise/snuggle session.

LET'S GO/COME ON - Free walk with polite manners. No pulling on the leash, herding, jumping, pawing, nudging, or barking.

SIT - In the sitting position until released from command.

OKAY - The release word to get out of commands. Basic manners must always be maintained even after released.

PLACE - Get to your spot (rug, mat, bed, some sort of visual target) and automatically lay down. Can have toys or treats. Must keep more than half of their body on the spot and remain laying down until released.

HEEL - Formal walk at your left side - nose should be approximately at the seam of your pants and an automatic sit when the handler stops walking.

DOWN - Lay down where you are and remain in that position until released.

KENNEL/GO TO BED - Go into the crate.

WAIT - No forward progress allowed. May stand, sit or lie down. May not progress until released.

OFF - No jumping, get off furniture, and/or take your paw off of me or others.

LEAVE IT - Do not put that in your mouth. If already in their mouth, drop it.

THANK YOU - Release the object into your hand.

SAY HI - Permission to greet a person, dog, or item with manners. No jumping, pawing, nudging/pushing, excessive licking, barking, or whining allowed.

COME HERE - This is your recall command. Come to where you are.

GOOD GIRL/BOY - Praise can be verbal, physical (petting), or both. It is important to give praise after a command is respectfully completed. This lets the dog know that they correctly did what you have told them to do and shows them they will be rewarded when doing so.



PRAISE - Be sure to adjust how much, or how good of praise you give based on how well the dog did for you. A good attitude and effort are what we are looking for. Not necessarily how pretty the command looks. If your dog complies with a command upon its first request, praise amply. If your dog required a correction to perform a command then a simple praise of, “Good” or “There ya go.”, is all that should be given, no physical praise included. Think of praise like a payment for doing a job. The better the job, the bigger the paycheck.

CORRECTIONS - Always use a calm tone. A verbal correction is a calm “NO” which can then be followed by any of the above commands (“NO, DOWN.” For example). Leash and collar pops or e-collar nicks are used as a physical correction. The physical correction occurs simultaneously with the verbal “NO”. Continue with, and increase the level of physical corrections until you get compliance with that command. Do not switch commands during a correction.

TRAINING PLAN

YOU ARE NOW THE LEADER(S) AND RULE MAKER(S).

EVERYTHING HAPPENS OF YOUR TERMS CALMLY AND METHODICALLY.

Make sure to use the WAIT command before taking out of crate, and before going exiting and entering doorways that lead to the outside. Issue the WAIT command before touching the crate or door handle. Unlock the door, and open. If there is any forward movement, close the door quickly with a verbal “No, Wait.” while simultaneously giving a nick correction. Repeat this (and increase nick correction levels) until your dog is waiting for the release. Open door, then say “OKAY” to allow your dog to go through the threshold. There should be no barking or whining allowed in the crate.

Privileges - Affection, play, couch time : All of these things are privileges and can be lost due to unwanted behavior. You should initiate physical contact, do not allow your dog to initiate, nudge, or paw for affection. Instead, say “No.” with a nick, and then invite him/her to you after he/she has stopped demanding of your attention. Let some time pass in-between.

Couch Time - (If you choose to allow) Allow on furniture **only after being invited**. Invite with an “Okay” or “Up” and pat on the surface you’d like them on. Also, when you are done, give the “Off” command.

In/Out of Doors - Give the “WAIT” command before entering or exiting doors. Give the release command “OKAY” to allow him/her to enter/exit.



Distractions - Your dog has worked around high distractions during training. Once home, initiate mild distractions during training. Then slowly advance toward higher distractions. Once he/she has become reliable with moderate distractions inside, start training outside. When beginning outside training, start with mild distractions then advance to higher distractions as you did for the indoor training.

Examples of Increasing Distractions

(Master each distraction before graduating to a higher level)

- Place a ball/toy on the floor, do commands.
- Roll a ball/toy on the floor, do commands.
- Bounce a ball/toy, do commands.
- Have another person stand in the same room, do commands.
- Have another person walk around in the same room, do commands.
- Have another person bounce a ball/toy, do commands.
- Greet another person, do commands.
- Begin working outside with mild distractions.
- Have another person stand with another dog in the room, do commands.
- Have another person walk with another dog in the same room, do commands.
- Greet another person with a dog, do commands.
- Begin working outside with moderate distractions.

General Training Tips

- **Training sessions should last between 10-15 minutes long.** (For 2 weeks)
- **After training, place you dog in its crate for 45 minutes.** This is important processing/retention time for your dog to remember what he/she has learned from that training session.
- **Ration out praise.** Make the praise proportional to how well they did for you. If your dog complies with a command upon its first request, praise your dog amply. If your dog requires a correctio to preform a command, then a simple praise is all that should be given, no physical praise included. Think of the praise as a payment for a job. The better the job, the better the praise.
- **End your training sessions on a positive note.** Finish training sessions with a series of commands your dog knows well and can get rewarded for. If you end training on a bad note your dog is more likely to remember that for the nest training session.
- **Timing of praise and correction is important.** Marking a behavior with a correction or praise within 5 seconds of its occurrence.



- **Always use physical correction for an infraction of any rule.** A correction is a tug and release on the leash and collar simultaneously with the word “No.” If using an E-Collar the physical correction is a nick on the remote simultaneously with the word “No.”
- **To give a command value, say the command only once.** If your dog does not comply, follow up with a correction. Your commands should look like this if he/she complies: “(Command), Good!”. If he/she does not comply with the command: “(Command). No, (Command)”. Repeat “No, (Command)” until he/she complies.
- **Match intensity of a correction with the intensity of your dog’s behavior.** If your dog is highly focused on the squirrel across the street a moderate to firm correction may be needed to regain your dog’s focus. If your dog is on the couch, uninvited, a low intensity correction of “No, Off ” may be all that is required.