



BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DOG TRAINING

Positive reinforcement

When training our dogs, it is important we are always using positive reinforcement methods! This means, rewarding our dog for performing a wanted behavior. This will increase the likelihood of repeating this good behavior and support long-term learning!

How do we shape a behavior?

We can “shape” a behavior by breaking it into smaller, more achievable steps! Every time our dog takes a step in the right direction of our desired behavior, we reward them! In time, we can build up these smaller steps into a longer behavior pattern without confusing our dog.

What is luring?

Luring is simply directing our dogs into a desired position or behavior using something they find rewarding! Our goal is to move away from needing a treat lure into our hand directing, to no direction needed at all! However, luring is helpful in the early stages to help positively guide our dogs!

Let's mark that!

You will want to choose a short, brief word or sound that can be used to tell our dog- that was right! Some people choose to use a clicker, but using words like “yes” can be just as helpful. Once our dog performs the final part of the desired behavior, for example, their bum touches the ground fully, we “mark” the correct behavior with a click or a “yes” followed by a rewarding item!

Check out these helpful articles!



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