



Task List # 9

Use marker word “yes!” when pup has successfully performed task or attempted/came close to completing when teaching. **Remember, when you give a command, wait 8-10 seconds before repeating it.*

1. Light/Dark: This is pup turning on and off light switches. You will need a portable light switch mounted to a piece of wood for wait and ease of movement.

Have your treats and clicker ready prior to introducing the light switch. When pup is ready to focus, set the mounted switch on the floor and as pup starts to inspect- as soon as his nose reaches the switch- click and reward. You may point to switch and say “light” and when pup re-inspects switch click and reward. This is the basic introduction. After about 5-10 rounds of pup touching switch with his nose, ask for “more” by waiting for him to interact with more ‘umf’ to the switch whether that is with his mouth or giving more effort in touching it. If its is sitting so that pup’s nose would easily flip the switch this will make him more successful faster. Start moving it around as he starts getting the hang of it. You can mount the switch down low until pup becomes more consistent and builds strength and dexterity with his paws up maneuver.

2. Orbit: Pup makes a full circle around you.

This is easily done with Lure-and-Reward. Luring pup in a full circle around your body and click or ‘yes!’ and reward. Adding distance of pup from your lure hand and moving your body position will level up the response to the command. End result should be a small hand gesture for pup to completely circle you body.

3. Settle: Pup settles with head on floor

This can be taught in two different positions. One is laying on their side, the other is putting head down on the floor. With a treat hand while pup is in a down position, put your hand in front of his nose, lure him to turn his head and gently “push” him back rolling out his body on its side on the floor. Add both directions. The second position is bringing the treat hand down and once pup puts his head on the floor to sniff- click and reward. Adding duration to each position with the cue “settle”.

4. Pull: Pup pulls on a tug.

Using a tug toy, introduce as play/training time for pup. Start with encouraging to play/pull by making pup chase toy, let him get it, and play a little tug with him. Right before you click use cue “pull” click and reward. Keep it fun and once pup starts to understand and control his need to grab toy, add duration to how long he pulls before releasing for treat.

5. Brace: Pup stands firm in across your front side (perpendicular). Pup should know “Front” prior to teaching this command.

Lure and reward is used for walking pup across your front. Using a physical barrier on his opposite side will help keep him tight to your front. Using a physical barrier to show him where to stop is helpful too. For "brace" pup should stand firm while you touch his shoulders and hips to a standing position. No pressure needed while teaching until pup is comfortable. Then over time and as pup builds strength, adding minimal pressure over his feet to brace to a standing position. Never put your full weight onto dog unless dog weighs at least half of your weight. Do this with pup facing both directions.

6. Tuck: Pup tucks under a chair in reversed

This is useful for tucking out of the way in small offices, dining areas, or places where pup will otherwise be in a walkway. Start in a seated position on the edge of a chair that pup can easily lay under. Lure pup to make a turn in front of your body and face forward, treat hand over their head to have them sit and then down their front and through their legs to encourage them to scoot their bum in reverse under the chair. Click or "yes" and reward once in a down position with bum and body under chair between your legs.

**Remember, when you give a command, wait 3-5 seconds before repeating it.*