

DOG TRICKS THAT ANY DOG CAN DO!

Introduction

These tricks are best taught on an empty stomach because treats are used as a reward for correct behaviour. This will build your dog's motivation and willingness to learn. Watch you don't end up with a treat junkie, though. For more information on how to use treats with your training go to: <http://www.messypawz.com/Treats---Rewards.html>

Once your dog knows the trick and understands what you want him or her to do, start giving pats instead of treats. Mix it up a bit and keep your dog guessing – am I getting a treat this time or a pat? This will also build your dog's motivation.

The sorts of treats you use will depend upon your dog and what it likes. If you really want your dog to learn quickly and thoroughly, use a very special treat like kabana or cheese and only use it for this type of training.

Repeat each trick about 5 times per day only. Do this several times a day if you can. Don't over do it because your dog will become restless and will stop learning. Practise every day and you will build a great relationship with your dog.



Free Dog Training Info www.messypawz.com
Please share this book with your friends and family!

1. Shake Hands

With both Method 1 and 2 begin by getting your dog to sit and make sure he or she is focusing on you.

Method 1: Say, "Shake hands," and take your dog's paw in your hand.

Hold his paw and say, "Good Dog!" Let go of his paw. Do this a about five times every day.

After a while, say, "Shake hands," but don't take his paw. See if he raises his paw by himself. If not, keep showing him what to do by saying, "Shake hands," and taking his paw with your hand.

Method 2: Hold a treat in your fist and wave it from side to side under your dog's nose. Repeat the "Shake" command. When your dog lifts up his paw, give him the treat and say, "Good Dog!" in a high, loud voice that rewards your dog.

You can also do the same trick and call it 'High 5'. Follow the commands above and say 'High 5' and hold your hand out flat for your dog to put his or her paw on.

You can also teach your dog to shake using one paw and high 5 using the other!

Now that's clever!!



2. Spin or Turn Left

Stand in front of your dog

Let your dog see a treat in your hand. Stand in front of you dog and make sure he is standing in front of you. Say, "Turn around". Lead the dog's nose around to the left (clockwise) with the treat so he walks in a circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again, say, "Good dog!" and give him the treat.

After some practice, hold the treat in front of you so your dog can see it and say, "Turn around," but don't lead his nose. See if he is ready to turn around by himself and get the treat.

If you choose to use the words, "Turn Left", use them all the time. Don't use "Turn around" sometimes, and "Turn Left" other times. Be consistent.



3. Twirl or Turn Right

"Twirl" is the same trick as "Turn Around" (see above), but this time your dog turns to the right (counterclockwise), instead of to the left.

Start by having your dog standing facing you. Stand still and say, "Twirl". Lead the dog's nose around to the right with the treat so he walks in a circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again, say, "Good dog!" and give him the treat.

If you choose to use the words, "Turn Right", use them all the time. Don't use "Twirl" sometimes and "Turn Right" other times. Be consistent: your dog will learn much quicker.

After your dog has learned "Turn Around" (or Turn Left) and "Twirl" (or Turn Right), you can put them together and have your dog look really smart. First have your dog "Turn Around" (turn to the left), and then say "Twirl" (turn to the right). Be careful and don't get your dog dizzy!

Be sure to teach Turn Around and Twirl separately. Wait until your dog has learned the first one very well before you begin the second.

4. Crawl

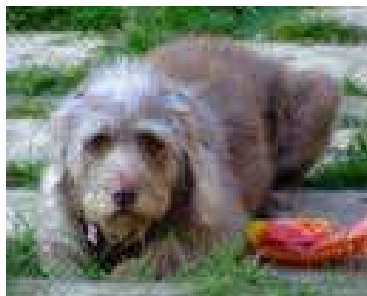
Put your dog into a drop or down position. If your dog can't drop unassisted then you'll have to practise this until he or she can.

Hold a treat just in front of his nose and say, "Crawl." If he starts to stand up, say, "No, down / drop...crawl."

Move your hand along the ground slowly and say, "Craaawl." When your dog moves even an inch or two without standing up, praise him and say, "Good dog! Craaawl!"

You will find that if you move your hand too quickly your dog will lean up to try to get it. If you move your hand too slowly, he or she will not move at all. It's about finding a happy medium.

Once your dog can crawl on command, you can stand up and give him or her a 'stop' and then 'go' command.



5. Speak

Choose a game that your dog loves to play, like catch with a ball, or hide and seek with a toy. Then get him excited by saying, "Let's play! Want to play?" and show him the ball or toy. Jump and act silly so he barks and then say, "Speak". You can also incorporate a hand signal which you can use, as well as, or alternatively to the verbal command.

You can't make a dog bark, but you can get him happy and excited so he wants to bark. After a while, your dog will bark when you say, "Speak."

Caution! If you have a dog that already causes trouble because of his barking you might not want to encourage this behavior. However, you should always teach your dog to follow a 'quiet' command when teaching him or her to speak. This way you will be able to turn off your dog's barking or 'speaking' when you want to. By teaching your dog to bark on command and then teaching it to be quiet, you can control unwanted barking. See Trick 16 later on in this publication.

Be able to get your dog to bark on command is a good trick but it can also help you keep away intruders.



6. Play Dead

Have your dog lie down on his tummy. As you gently roll him over on his side say, "Play Dead!" While he is lying on his side, keeping his head on the floor, say, "Play Dead!"

Don't give him a treat. Encourage him to stay there for a couple of seconds. Then say, "Ok" or "Wake up!" or a similar release command.

Let him stand up, and give him his reward.

You can use the treat to lure your dog into a lying down position. Don't give your a dog a reward while he is lying down.

By using a release command like "OK" or "Free" you will be able to hold your dog into this position for longer but you must build this up over time.



7. Beg

Put your dog into a sit facing you.

Hold his favorite treat just above his head and tell him, "Say please" or "Beg". Slowly lift the treat up away from your dog's nose. Your dog will eventually lift his front feet off the ground to reach the treat. Keep reminding him to sit until he does. As soon as the feet are lifted, even just a little bit, give him the treat.

This is a hard trick for medium to large dogs because of their size and may take longer to learn. Wait a little longer each time before giving the treat, but be careful not to let your dog fall over on his back. You are helping your dog develop his balance. Be kind and only do this a couple of times.



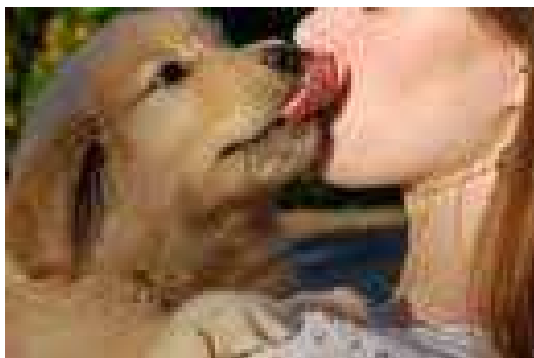
8. Kiss

Here's an easy one: Every time your dog licks your face, say, "Give me a kiss. Good boy! Give me a kiss." If he isn't a licker, put a little peanut butter on your cheek and say, "Give me a kiss."

When he licks it off say, "Give me a kiss," again

Tricks like this work because you put words with something your dog does. Pretty soon your dog hears "Give me a kiss," and thinks about licking your face.

Be careful when allowing children less than 8 years of age to do this trick. Some dogs are naturally dominant and may not understand this is a game. You don't want your dog to bite a child so if it is not used to children, then best to keep this trick for adults.



9. Roll Over

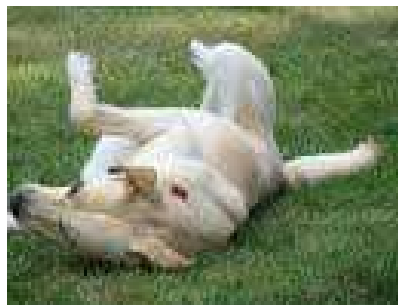
Put your dog into a drop. Look at the way your dog's body is leaning and move him or her in that direction.

Kneel in front of your dog. Using a treat, hold it by his nose, and then move it around and behind him; let his nose follow the treat so that he lies on his side and then rolls over. Your dog should return to the drop or down position.

Tell him what a great dog he is but don't let him jump up straight away. Use a 'wait' or 'stay' command to hold your dog into a drop.

Only roll your dog on soft surfaces like carpet or grass so he doesn't hurt your dog's back.

Once your dog has mastered rolling over one way, you can instruct him or her to roll back the other way.



10. Fetch or Retrieve

You will need two balls to teach this trick. We are going to use balls for this trick but you can use other things too.

Bounce a ball in front of your dog and get very excited. Use your voice and say 'do you want it?', 'come and get it'. Wave the ball from side to side to increase your dog's natural instinct and throw the ball. Don't throw it too far to begin with.

Once your dog has picked up the first ball; start bouncing and waving around the second. Use your voice and get excited. As soon as your dog drops the first ball, throw the second one. Again don't throw it too far to begin with. Go and pick the first ball up and start again.

Once your dog realises that you have the most interesting ball he will want to bring it back to you. As your dog gets used to what you are asking it, you can encourage him or her to drop it closer to you.

You can even encourage your dog to put the ball in your hand. Don't pull it out sharply though, the dog must willingly release the ball because it trusts that you are going to throw it again.



11. Pat Time!

Start by sitting in a chair. While holding a treat, put your hand between your knees and encourage your dog to get it. As soon as your dog's chin touches your leg, say "Pat Time!"

Then use your release command and give him the treat after he lifts his head.

Only give your dog the treat after you have released him. Increase the time his chin is touching your leg, so eventually your dog will keep it there while you pet him. Then release him and reward him.

You can then move on to other people. Ask them to hold the treat between their legs while you give the "Pat Time" command. When you give the release command, ask them to give the dog the treat.



12. Go Back

This is an easy one! Stand facing your dog and as you walk toward him, say "Go Back". He will want to get out of the way and will automatically walk backwards!

If your dog turns around, stop and re-command him or her.

If your dog doesn't walk back in a straight line, practice up against a wall or in a narrow hallway. After your dog is walking backward with you, try walking toward him only a step or two. Eventually, you will be able to stand still and say "Go Back".

Use a specific hand signal so eventually you can give it to your dog and he or she will walk backwards without you having to walk in front of it.



13. Take a Bow

Method 1: When you see your dog take a big stretch, with his head down low, say, "Take a bow." Every time he wakes up and stretches, say, "Take a bow." Someday you will say, "Take a bow." and your dog will take a big stretch, but it will look like he is bowing. As soon as he is finished, give him the treat.

Tricks like this work because you combine commands with something your dog does. It may take some dogs longer than others to figure this one out. Some dogs learn it in a week and some take a lot longer.

Method 2: With your dog in a stand position, take a treat and hold it near the floor, under his nose. As your dog reaches down to get it (he may try to lie down), slip your hand under his belly to hold his rear end up. Hold him in that position and say, "Take a bow." Keep the treat right by his nose, but don't feed him. Stay there for just a second, release him, and then feed the treat. Increase the length of time before you give the treat.

Tip for Method 2:

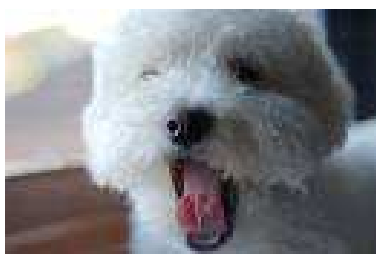
If you feed your dog the treat while he is in the bowing position, in the future he won't bow until he sees the treat in your hand. If he learns that the treat comes later, he'll be willing to perform for you without it right there all the time.



14. Yawn

Every time you see your dog yawn, say the command you want to use like "Give us a yawn.", or "Are you sleepy?" If he yawns enough and hears those words regularly, he will eventually yawn whenever he hears you give the command.

Here's one of those tricks that your dog has to perform before he actually learns it. Hopefully, you have a dog that yawns a lot. Be patient. This one can take a long time. Be sure to really praise your dog when he yawns - he'll think he's doing something totally wonderful. And eventually he will be!

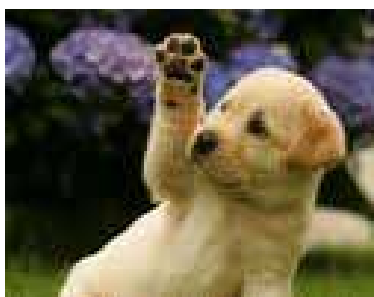


15. Wave

Your dog should know how to shake hands before learning this trick. Face your dog and hold out your hand as if you are going to shake. When your dog lifts her paw to shake, don't grab it, just pull back your hand, and say "Wave". Then give your dog a treat.

At first your dog may not lift her paw very high. But once she realizes that you're going to give her a treat if she holds it up there, she'll get it.

You may have to tease her a little with your hand so she thinks you are going to shake with her. Waving your hand a little may help to get her paw into a waving motion as well.



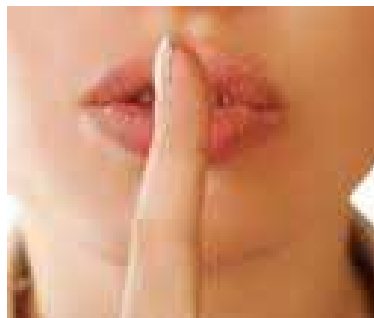
16. Quiet

This is easiest if your dog already knows how to speak. Tell your dog to 'Speak' or catch him when he is barking – see [Trick 5](#) in this publication for more details.

Get right in front of him and say "Quiet". The second he stops, even if it is to take a breath, give him a treat. Do this often and your dog will love the word "Quiet".

As you teach your dog Quiet, gradually increase the quiet time. Then, when he understands the trick, make a game of it. Tell him to "Speak", "Speak", "Speak", and then "Quiet". Then "Speak" again.

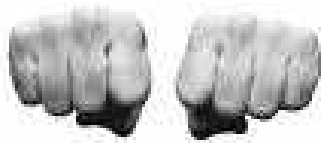
This is not just a trick, it will help you gain control over your barking dog. Use the hand signal pictured below. It is useful if you're on the phone and you want your dog to be quiet!



17. Which One?

Put a treat in one hand, show your dog, and then close both of your hands, making two fists. Hold your fists in front of you, about six inches apart and say "Which one?" Your dog will try to pry at your fists with his mouth to find the treat, but don't open your hands. Wait until he tries to use his paw (he will if you wait long enough), let him touch the correct hand and then give him the treat.

If you have tried this several times, but your dog still won't use his paws to touch your hand, let him use his mouth to point out the correct hand. It'll be just as good and your friends will love the trick just as much.



18. Circle

With your dog facing you, take a treat and lead your dog's nose to the right and around your body. Let him follow the treat all the way around behind your back and around to the front. Give your dog the treat and praise him. He will be making a complete circle around you.

In the beginning you might have to give your dog several treats while he is going around behind you and when he returns to the front.

Practice it several times a day, but only for five minutes or so, two or three times a day.

If you have a small dog or a puppy, start by kneeling on the floor to make it easier for him or her.

19. Weave

You'll need two treats, one in each hand. Stand with your legs well apart. Lure your dog in between your legs and around your right leg. Use your right hand to lure him to the front. Then use your left hand to lure him back through your legs and around your left leg until he is at the front of you again.

Your dog is essentially doing a figure 8 around your legs.

This trick must be done slowly and carefully so your dog fully understands all the movements involved.



20. Head Down

Start by sitting on the ground with your dog. While holding a treat, put your hand in front of your dog's nose and lead him toward the ground.

As soon as your dog's chin touches ground only for a second, say "Head Down". Then say "Release" or "OK" and give him the treat after he lifts his head.

Only give your dog the treat after you have released him. Increase the time his chin is touching the ground, so eventually your dog will keep it there while you pet him. Then release him and reward him. Your dog will soon charm your friends with this trick!

21. Go to Bed

"Go to bed" means go to the bed *and* lie down but you should only need to say "Go to bed".

Put a bed, blanket, or towel 6-10 feet away from you. With your dog beside you say "Go to bed!" and then together go to the bed. You might have to use a treat to lure your dog onto the bed to begin with.

Have your dog lie down on the bed; give her a treat, and praise.

Repeat many times. Later on, try sending your dog by herself. At first, make sure that someone is waiting at the bed with a treat. Later, your dog will do it herself, and you will walk over to her while she is lying down and reward her.

If your dog gets up, just re-command her back onto the bed.



22. Find the Treasure! (Dig)

'Find the Treasure' means the dog will use its paws to dig out a treat from under a towel.

Gather some treats and put them under a towel while your dog is watching closely. Don't let your dog use his nose to get under the towel and get to the treats.

Keep encouraging him verbally and showing him that there are treats under the towel, and eventually, he'll start pawing at the towel. As soon as he moves that paw just a little, say, "Find the treasure!"

Reward your dog immediately with a treat from your hand or even from under the towel.

For dogs that are not natural diggers, this may take a while. Remember that you're looking for that digging behavior. You can give him treats from under the towel or from your hand as encouragement. If he happens to uncover a treat by himself, then praise!

Once your dog has learnt to 'dig' under the towel you can teach him to stop with a command like "enough". This will also help you control your dog when it is outside and is digging or even doing something else you don't want it to.

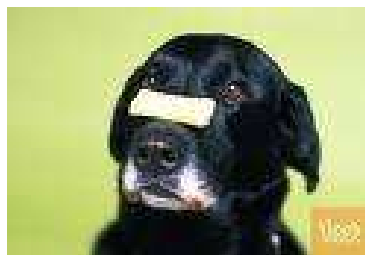
23. Hold a Treat on your Nose

Get your dog into a sitting position and say 'stay' or 'wait'. Gently place a treat or a dog biscuit on your dog's nose. Don't move your hand away until your dog is still. If your dog moves or knocks the treat off, just re-command him or her into a sit and start again.

The best part of this trick is in increasing the length of time your dog has to wait until he gets the treat. Also for some dogs, they learn to toss their head and catch the treat in their mouth.

Use a release command like "OK" or "Eat" to tell your dog that it can move and eat the treat.

Praise your dog with pats to encourage it even more.



24. Eat on Command

Hold a treat in your hand in front of your dog's nose. If he goes to take it, pull your hand away slowly and say 'Ahh!' or 'No!'

Move your hand slowly back and repeat this until your dog stops trying to take the treat from your hand.

Now give an "Eat" command and allow your dog to take the treat.

Once your dog has mastered this command, start saying other words instead of 'eat'. This will make your dog listen and pay closer attention to what you are asking him or her.

Alternatively, put the treat on the floor in front of your dog and follow the same methods.

Always praise your dog and reward effort.



25. Say your Prayers

Sit your dog in front of a chair and encourage it to put its front paws on the seat of the chair.

Give the command "Say your Prayers!" This is a long phrase and may confuse some dogs so don't change any of the words at any time.

Hold a treat in front of its paws and when your dog places its head down to get the treat say "Good Dog!" and reward it with the treat.

To start with it's important to shape your dog's behaviour slowly. Make sure the chair isn't too tall for your dog. If you have a small dog, or a puppy, use a box or something that your dog can put its paws on comfortably.

Always remember to praise your dog and have fun!



In conclusion

At no time should you use force to push your dog into a position or to hold it in one. This may be seen as an act of aggression and humiliation by your dog. It will only cause your dog to mistrust you and it will be reluctant to learn anything from you at all.

Always keep your training sessions short, about 5 to 10 minutes per day is long enough.

Have fun with these tricks and don't worry if your dog doesn't understand what you want straight away. Be patient and always finish your training on a high; that way your dog will learn that being with you is a fun and enjoyable experience.

The more you teach your dog, the quicker it will learn too.

For free information about gentle positive based dog training and up to date advice about dogs, go to www.messypawz.com



Free Dog Training Info www.messypawz.com
Please share this book with your friends and family!