

1.

Come



Recall is at the very base of redirecting a dog. Dogs can run much faster than you can. In heavy snow, for example, recall saves you from having to run after your dog. A puppy naturally reacts well to recall, but as he becomes self-assured with age, he wants to be independent. When he hears your recall command, give him a small treat when he promptly returns by your side.

Owners often make the mistake of showing their dog that it is acceptable not to come back to them if he is busy sniffing and exploring the environment. The message the dog receives is that the signal "COME" does not mean "come back to me", but rather, "why don't you sniff and explore the environment" instead. Therefore, begin using recall in a place where the dog will not be distracted (at home, for example).



1. Call your dog by saying: "NAME + COME".

2. Quickly back up and shake the lure; give him a signal to come towards you, with your hand closed.

3. When the dog comes to you, congratulate him by giving him the SR "SOUND +GOOD!" ; reward him by petting him and giving him a treat (food, toy...) when he reaches your side.

4. If the dog doesn't come to you promptly, walk in the opposite direction and call your dog once more. When he comes to you, congratulate him with the SR "SOUND +GOOD!" , but withhold the treat.

For more efficient recalls, use the following sequence when the dog is near you:

1. Tell your dog "NAME + COME" using the hand gesture. Congratulate him when he does by



giving him the SR "SOUND +GOOD!" as soon as he reaches your side.

2. Give the "SIT" signal with the right palm up. If he sits after the recall, give him the SR "sound +GOOD!" and reward him. It's always better for the dog to sit after a recall.

If the dog does not return by your side when you know he knows the command very well, refer to sequence chart 2.

1. If the dog is distracted, give him the VW "HEY!" with an assertive tone, and give him the "COME" command once more. If that doesn't work, give him the VW "HEY! + SHORT SPRAY".

2. Call him again; if he comes to you, congratulate him with the SR "SOUND +GOOD!" but withhold the reward. Note : You might have to use the long spray setting (3rd button) if the dog is extremely stimulated by an outside factor, such as.

Many factors can influence the recall :

- * The dog is intent on exploring his environment.
- * The extremely developed sense of smell distracts the dog when left loose.
- * The dog is easily attracted to an object that moves quickly.

Repeat the "COME" command frequently, in various places, with different distractions.

Positive Association

If the dog is preoccupied and doesn't respond to the command "COME" immediately, do not yield to anger. Avoid negative associations with the "COME" command, such as calling the dog to clip his nails, which he hates. He will then hesitate to go to you. We also suggest that you do not :

- * Call the dog if you're angry.
- * Call the dog if you want him to do something he doesn't like to do.
- * Call the dog and give him the choice to come or not.

In closing, when your dog does something wrong, you should use "COME" to redirect him, but you must then reward him for having well executed your command.

Positive association will result if the dog associates the command with something pleasant. When it's time for a walk, show him the leash as you give him the command. Don't make the mistake of calling your dog only to leave the park. Rather, we suggest that you call your dog, make him sit, tie the leash, wait a few seconds, and free him with the "O.K." release cue; do this many times. This will help in avoiding an association between "RECALL" and the act of leaving the play area.

Consolidation Exercises for Recall

1. At home

* Tell the dog to come and see three people, one after the other, in a room. Each person is placed at one end of the room. The first person calls the dog by saying "COME", and asks the dog to SIT when he arrives at his/her side. The reward is optional. The next person calls him, and so on and so forth.

* Hide in a room (the dog must be able to reach you in the selected place), ask a person to say "STAY" to the dog, while you hide without the dog seeing you. Call the dog to your side while your associate attempts to distract the dog with food. If the dog finds you, congratulate him with the SR "SOUND +GOOD!", and reward him. Practice the exercise in various rooms in your home.

2. Outside the house

* Ask a friend who has a dog or a child to wait for you in the park closest to your house. Once there with your own dog, set him free. He will naturally go towards the friend or the child; this is when you recall your dog. Once the dog reaches your side, congratulate him (SR "SOUND +GOOD!") and reward him.

* Ask two people to throw a ball in a park. Ask the people to throw it so that the dog can go and get it. As soon as the dog lunges for the ball, call him to your side. Practice this exercise many times with various objects when the dog returns to you. Then, you can play "GO GET" with your associates and your dog as a reward.

Remember :

* The more the dog practices in different situations and places, the more you will consolidate the recall.

* It's important to reward your dog when he returns by your side. Use the spray if he doesn't. Congratulate the dog (SR "SOUND +GOOD!") after using the short spray and getting the desired response.

* Surprise your dog with "special treats" when he performs the recalls particularly well.

* Proceed gradually, start the exercise from a short distance, in places where there are no distractions. Increase the distance or the distractions gradually.

* Never punish a dog that returns by your side. Make recall exercises fun for yourself and your dog.

* When the dog responds well to the recalls every time, gradually decrease the food.