

## « JUMP! »

Another fun trick consists in making the dog jump between or over objects. There are many derivatives **of** this command.

1. First of all, you must teach the dog what « jump » means. Place a rope and a treat in the same hand. Give the command « JUMP! », and place the rope on the other side of your body at a height adequate for the dog. (For example, make sure that a very small dog jumps over your legs, and not the entire body) Upon hearing the command, the dog will jump on top of your legs to reach the rope. When he does this, congratulate him heartily, giving him the SR, saying « GOOD! », and giving him a reward. If the dog tries to go around you, give him the VC « HEY! » Now, lie down on the floor, and hold the rope 20-30 cm above you. When the dog jumps over you, delay the reward, and ask him to jump once more, and then a few times. After three or four jumps, give him his reward.
2. When the dog is used to jumping with the help of the rope, try the exercise without it. If the dog refuses to jump, give him the VC « HEY! », without exceeding five attempts. If need be, interrupt the exercise and go back to the preceding stages.

The dog can easily surpass these « basic » exercises, and entertain you by jumping over another dog in your arms, or over a stick, a hoop, or an agility course. The dog can then learn to jump while in movement. A healthy dog, that is , not too old, sick or wounded, can jump 1 1/2 times the height of his shoulders.

## Procedure

### a) *Jumping with the dog*

1. In order to execute a jump while in movement, begin the exercise by executing the jump with your dog. Using a support, place a stick at a height that the dog can climb. Keep the leash in one hand, and the rope and the treat in the other; give the command « HEEL ». Take a few steps with your dog, and head for the obstacle.
2. When you get within a meter of the obstacle, lift the arm holding the rope, and give the command « JUMP! ». Simultaneously, jump lightly to one side so that the dog attempts to reach the rope that you have strategically placed on the other side of the obstacle. Don't forget to lift the leash at the same time, to avoid the dog getting tangled up in it. (It is recommended to practice this manoeuvre without the dog, for the sake of coordination)
3. When the dog jumps at the same time as you, land at the same time as he does, congratulate him heartily, and give him a reward. If the dog doesn't jump, ignore him for a few seconds,

and start over. Maybe the dog is afraid of the height of the obstacle; then, start the exercise over with a lower obstacle.

4. When the dog is comfortable jumping over obstacles, proceed without a leash.

### **B) Making the jump *next to the dog***

1. Execute the same technique described above, but this time, pass next to the obstacle, while the dog jumps. Start with the leash and the rope. Give him the command « HEEL », while taking your swing.
2. When you arrive next to an obstacle, give the command « JUMP! » and place yourself immediately next to your dog. If the dog jumps, congratulate him; if not, give him the VC « HEY! ».
3. If the dog can jump with the leash without your having to jump yourself, proceed without a leash. Instead of holding the leash, hold a treat in your hand and trace the trajectory to guide your dog near the right spot, that is, over the obstacle. When the dog goes over the obstacle, congratulate him.

The dog can now jump over many objects, animals, or persons, as long as the dog is accustomed to taking his swing. If you wish, find out if there are any obstacle courses near you. If however, your property is fenced in, and your neighbour has a female in heat, you will find out how high your dog can jump!