

WEEK THREE Homework

SIT:

Practice 5 sits – time each one

Take a break

Practice 5 sits – reinforce only the fastest times from the trial above

Practice this in different locations – with distractions – inside/outside etc.

Next week: Fastest Sit Tournament – Inside and maybe Out

GOTCHA:

- Add Gotcha to sits (not during fastest trials though)

ATTENTION CUE/WHISTLE: Emergency Pay Attention Cue

1. **DISTRACTIONS** - Begin to gradually increase the distraction this week: when dog is sleeping, playing with a toy, looking out the window, with the TV tuned to Animal Planet, etc.
2. **SUPERSTITIOUS BEHAVIORS** – Be sure to work on superstitious behaviors as well: with your back to your dog, standing up, sitting in a chair, sitting on the floor.
3. Say your dog's ATTENTION CUE/WHISTLE once. Practice like you will be using this cue, with a tone of voice that sounds like you want his attention.
4. As he turns to look at you, MARK and **FINE DINE** for 30 seconds.
 - Remember, ATTENTION CUE isn't eye contact! It is just checking in with you.
 - **If your dog does not respond**, do something unexpected! Be careful not to repeat your ATTENTION CUE.
 - Eat the treat yourself
 - Feed the treats to another dog or cat in the house
 - Play with his toys without him
 - Pick up the leash and walk out the door without him

MAKE HIM AN OFFER HE CAN'T AFFORD TO PASS UP! – If your dog doesn't respond, instead of correcting him in any way, he simply misses out on the opportunity for reinforcement. Do something unexpected and then try again later to see if you get a better response.

- Strive for **100 error-free responses** this week, practicing with minimal or no distractions. Error-free means that your dog looks at you when you use this cue. If your dog doesn't respond to the cue, then it won't count as error-free.
- In order for this behavior to become a conditioned response, we need to practice often and reward generously!
- **REMEMBER:** ATTENTION CUE *is not a recall cue, just a cue to get your dog to check in with you. Your dog doesn't need to give you direct eye contact, just turn his attention to you.*

REMINDER: ONLY SAY YOUR CUE 1 TIME!