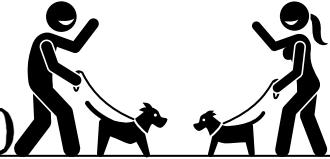




INTERMEDIATE TWO

LEASH WALKING WITH A FRIEND



By now, you should be comfortable going on a casual stroll on the leash with your dog. Now, we will be practicing walking with a friend who is also walking their dog, in other words, we will be leash walking two by two. This is something you will have to practice with a friend, but it's an excellent excuse to take your dog out to the park and catch up!

-  Start with each team at least 10 feet apart, with the dogs walking on the left or right side
-  Tell your dog "Lets Go" and see how the two dogs walk with a large gap between you
-  If the dogs are doing well, slowly try getting closer to the other person
-  If the dogs pull and try to get at each other, spread apart again until they are able to walk without pulling

This behavior will help make your walks more enjoyable because you'll be able to have company to speak with!



Remember: "Lets go" is a casual stroll, your dog should not be forced to walk right beside you. Think of yourself as the cherry in the center of a pie. Your dog should be able to walk on either the right or left half. Let your dog sniff if they want to, as this will help tire your dog out and let them explore the world.

DOOR MANNERS

The point of this is to have a dog that waits politely at the door before going through it. Just like everything else, this is something we can accomplish with patience.

-  Put your dog into the sit position in front of the door
-  Hold your finger up firmly, in a "wait" gesture before reaching for the knob
-  If your dog gets up, put your hand back down and begin again
-  Once you are able to reach the knob without your dog getting up, begin opening the door
-  If your dog gets up, close the door and start again from the beginning

The goal is to be able to open the door all the way without your dog getting up and going through it. **Make sure that you use your clicker and reward your dog** for sitting still. It may take many repetitions before you are able to even turn the knob without starting again, just make sure you keep your dog's interest and reward their efforts!

Some dogs absolutely will not let you open the door before they jump through it. If that is the case for you, use this alternate technique.

BACK UP

Back up can be a fun trick to show off, or a very practical one to get your dog out of your way at home. Think about how helpful it would be for your dog to know how to back up when you are carrying food, a laundry basket or even bags of groceries. You can tell your dog to back up when they are about to dash out the door too! This behavior can be used to position your dog for tricks too, and is often seen in doggy dancing videos.

This behavior is best practiced in a quiet part of your home, somewhere with little to no distractions.

-  First, get your dog to stand
-  Face towards your dog and make a gesture with your hand as if you are shooing your dog away from you
-  If your dog doesn't back up from the gesture alone, you can step forward towards your dog, which will cause them to back up
-  After your dog takes one step back, click and mark the behavior

Once your dog understands the behavior with only one step back, you can begin urging your dog to take more than one step.

After a week of practicing this with just the hand signal, you can begin using the verbal cue. Some people say "Back up", "Rewind" or "Get back".

