



HUMANE SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

Basic Obedience for Dogs

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the Humane Society of Broward County's positive reinforcement training class. Please spread the word about positive training and the benefits to you and your dog!

Some last minute tips that will help you as you continue your dog's training process.

Using Cues

- Do not give a cue until you have taught your dog what the cue means.
- Use your dog's name before each cue – "Buster, Sit"
- Use the cue only once. Avoid repeating a cue over and over again. If your dog does not respond, help him complete the behavior by luring. Sometimes if you just wait for it, it will come. Decrease cue latency as your dog becomes better at responding to known cues.
- Never give a cue that you are not in a position to follow through with.
- Always praise and/or food reward good behavior.
- Dogs learn through consistency and repetition. Training is a lifelong commitment. Your dog will continue to respond to your cues as long as you continue to show him what is expected of him.

Continued Training

- Training does not end when class ends. Every moment you spend with your dog is an opportunity to reinforce training.
- To "proof" your dog, select different locations for training. This will help your dog to learn to respond to verbal cues no matter where they are given.
- Mix up your reward schedule. Once your dog knows a cue, it is not necessary to reward with food every time. Try a toy or verbal praise or just petting.
- With the training tools you have learned, you can teach your dog to do almost any trick or behavior you want. Just lure into position then treat and praise.
- Be consistent, positive and enjoy the bond that training has been established between you and your dog.

Recommended Reading

- ✓ How to Teach a New Dog Old Tricks – Dr. Ian Dunbar
- ✓ The Toolbox for Remodeling Your Problem Dog – Terry Ryan
- ✓ The Power of Positive Dog Training – Pat Miller
- ✓ Don't Shoot the Dog – Karen Pryor
- ✓ Culture Clash – Jean Donaldson
- ✓ Parenting Your Dog – Trish King
- ✓ The other End of the Leash – Patricia McConnell, Ph.D.