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How To Train Your Dog To Respond When You Call

By Michael Colucci

When you're trying to train your dog, one of the most important parts of training is getting the dog to come to you when you call them. This is a basic form of training and is one of the first things you want to teach your dog before moving on to more advanced techniques.

The first thing you need to figure out is what your dog likes. Figure out which treats they like the most. Whatever treat gets the most positive reaction is the treat you want to use. Once you've figured this out, invest in purchasing a supply of these treats so that they are handy at all times.

Start by going into the house, and calling the dog by his name. Once he or she arrives at your feet, give them the treat. Consistently repeat this process periodically. It will teach the dog that if they listen to you, and come to you when you call them, they will be rewarded for doing so.

Once you have done this pattern enough times inside the house, go to a location outside. Again begin calling their name. When they arrive, give them the treat and show them that you are proud of their behaviour.

Repeat this process as you did inside your home. Call your dog again outside and reward him when he complies. Continue to repeat this process over a period of a few days. Your dog will quickly become used to this, and will begin coming to you every time you call.

Even if your dog has completely figured out the pattern of getting treats when he responds to your voice, it is still important for you to make sure you keep him in a secure location when he is not on the leash. You don't want to have your dog unsupervised in an environment where he can get harmed by being hit by a car or getting into the neighbor's yard.

Always make sure you're in a secure environment, and be sure to start this process indoors before trying it outside. You want to get your dog used to responding to your calls while you're in your home before moving outside. You may find that it is more difficult outside to get your dog to come to you than it is inside your home.

The most important thing for you to have when training your dog is patience. Your dog may not get it

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the first time, and may ignore you. This is why giving him the treat is so important. You send a message to the dog saying that if you listen to me, and do as I say, you will be rewarded.

Getting your dog to come to you when you call him is one of the most basic training methods. However, it is the most important in getting your dog to respect you as their master and obey you. It is the gateway to teaching your dog more advanced commands.

Michael Colucci is a technical writer for

<http://www.free-dog-training.org>

– A site that offers free

articles and resources on dog training.

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The Pro's Never Yell Or Scream Commands At Their Dog

By Adam G. Katz

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I never yell at my dog. Never.

Well, okay. There's one exception. And that exception is if: I'm already working with the dog at such a far distance that he can't audibly hear me. And usually this is the case only if I'm teaching the dog to respond to hand signals.

Why don't I ever raise my voice if I'm working with my dog, otherwise?

Because the only thing that raising your voice achieves is to communicate to your dog that you really DO NOT have control.

And since I train with a modified working dog approach, I want my dog to know that I'm ALWAYS in control. Because I'm the "Alpha dog."

Now, if I issue a command, and the dog I'm training does not respond to that command... then I will stop to figure out why he didn't respond. If it's because he didn't understand the command, then I need to go back to basics and do more repetitions. If the dog is simply not responding because he's being stubborn or head-strong, then I'll make my correction more motivational.

But one thing that many observers will realize about the way I work with animals is that my commands are practically whispered. Never yelled or screamed.

In fact, your commands should only be loud enough for your dog to hear. No louder.

So... do you want to know how to spot an amateur dog trainer? He's the one yelling at his dog.

A word or two on consistency and teaching your dog to "come."

If I'm teaching a dog to come on command, it's my job to convince the dog that he MUST come EVERY time I call him. But if he thinks that I'm only going to make him come every other time... or only

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under certain conditions... then I'll never get the dog to be 100% reliable.

So, where am I going with this line of reasoning? Well, just remember that you should NEVER give a command that you cannot enforce, until your dog is 100%. And you'll know when he is 100% when his responses to commands are immediate! Even when you're asking him to respond around the most tempting of distractions!

Do you want to be able to take your dog anywhere, and KNOW that he'll listen to you... even if tempted by another dog, a cat, or even a piece of food??? Then check out: "Secrets of a Professional Dog Trainer: An Insider's Guide To The Most Jealously Guarded Dog Training Secrets In History!" By Adam G. Katz, Owner of South Bay K-9 Academy and Dog Problems.com. For more information, go to: Secrets of a Professional Dog Trainer! <http://tinyurl.com/4efaq>

Author, "Secrets of a Professional Dog Trainer!" which you can read more about at: <http://tinyurl.com/4efaq>



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