

WHAT TRAINERS DO DIFFERENTLY



pranaDOGS Behavior & Rehabilitation Center, is a not-for-profit canine training facility located just outside of Durango, CO.

We work with Shelters and Rescues to help dogs who need a bit more time and attention than a typical organization can provide.

Mark the Behavior don't Demand it

Instead of asking your dog to sit over and over, give them a hand signal to follow and then tell them "Good, Sit."

Be Generous!

Use high-value treats to teach the meaning of words then switch over to environmental rewards then go back to delicious treats anytime your dog struggles or you're in a new challenge.

Proof all Behaviors

Be sure your dog knows what's expected with each Cue then practice in different areas, in different weather conditions and at different times of the day.

Give Reminders

Don't wait for your dog to make the wrong choice – give them reminders along the way. If they pause to make a decision, encourage them over and over.

Dogs Rock!



pranaDOGS

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TOP 10 BEHAVIORS YOUR DOG NEEDS TO KNOW

AND HOW TO TRAIN THEM



ALLOW YOUR PUP TO EXCEL IN ANY SITUATION!

THE TOP 10 BEHAVIORS ALL DOGS NEED TO KNOW

Sit – Lure a dog into a sit by taking a small treat from the dogs nose and raising it upward. As the dog watches the treat their head will go up and most will naturally sit down. As soon as their butt hits the ground, Mark your dog (“Yes!” or “Good!”) and Treat.

Down – While dog is seated, lure him/her down by taking a treat from their nose and slowly moving it to the ground, wait for your dog to respond. Repeat moving the treat from nose to ground until your dog gets it. As soon as their belly hits the ground, Mark & Treat.

Touch – put your hand near your pup’s nose, as soon as they investigate it with their nose, Mark & Treat, repeat (without moving your hand too far from your pups nose). Touch is a great way to get your dog into a position without pulling on a leash and we use it for our long-distance Come’s.

Look – take a treat from your pups nose to your face, as your pup looks at you Mark & Treat, repeat over and over until you can get a consistent 10 second look. Shy, nervous or anxious dogs love to look at us!

Stay – While seated or lying down, tell your dog to stay with the palm of your hand flat towards them, take a step back and pause then re-approach your pup Mark & Treat. Slowly increase your distance and the length of time you ask them to hold position.

Drop it – Using 2 bully sticks (or similar) let your dog engage with one while still holding it in your hand. Tell them to “Drop it” and wait until they let go on their own, even for a second. Mark & Treat them with the 2nd stick, repeat.

Come – Ask your pup for a Sit-Stay. Take 2 steps back and ask your dog to come to you with a big smile and outstretched arms, Mark & Treat. Repeat, slowly increasing your distance. See our Recall handout for more information.

NOTE: you will be asking your dog to come often throughout regular life – be sure to give a treat for any decent come to offset those ones you don’t acknowledge enough.

Heel – train your dog to heel after they’ve had a chance to exercise and get their dog out. Walk them on a short leash and employ either crazy dog walker, stand like a treat or penalty yards to get your dog to walk with you and not against you. See our Leash Manners handout for more information.

Go – Have your pup do a sit-stay a foot or two away from their bed. Lure your pup to their bed by taking a treat from your pups nose and moving it in an arc to the bed and saying Go to your place. As your pup follows, Mark & Treat. Repeat over and over then increase the distance they are from their beds.

Leave it – with a treat in both hands, put one hand in front of your dog with the treat closed inside. Tell the dog to Leave it and wait until they investigate the hand, as soon as they come off it, even a second, Mark & Treat, repeat. Once they start to understand move the treat to the floor and cup your hand over it, tell them to Leave it and Mark & Treat. Increase your distance from the item and the amount of time you ask your dog to leave the object. Never let pup get the treat from floor.