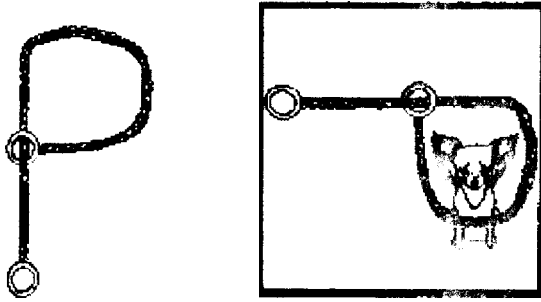


BEGINNERS

CORRECT WAY TO PUT THE(COLLAR ON)

Make a "P" with the collar, face dog and put it on him. OR start with your dog sitting on your left in heel position. Think of it this way - the leash should be attached to the ring that comes STRAIGHT across the top of the dog's neck and over to you.



Always remove collar after training.

Commands Don't yell, nag, or ask. Tell your dog in a no nonsense **tone**. Tell him once and then follow through by making him obey. Repeating commands over and over before making him respond teaches him to ignore you.

Tone Of Voice / Voice Control Your voice is an important training **tool**. It can change your dog's response and attitude. Learn to read your dog and adapt your tone to produce the desired results.

OK, Go Free, Free Dog, Off Duty, At Easr, or Break One of these words, *not* "good dog" should be used to release your dog from command after the instructor tells you the exercise is finished.

Praise During or after all exercises. Praise should never be used to release your dog from a command. (Sec OK... above). Praise lets your dog know that what he is doing at that instant is correct. It's his main reward for his efforts. His paycheck.

Read Your Dog Develop the ability to know what your dog is going **to do** before the action occurs. If you anticipate the mistake you can make a properly timed correction. Dogs learn best by getting instant feedback on their actions.

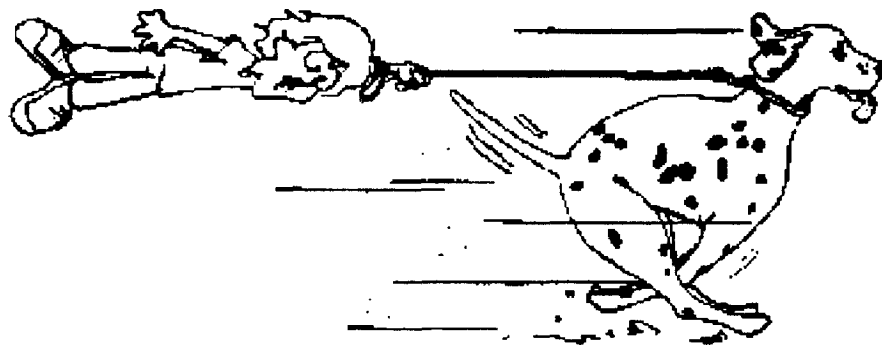
Leash Corrections learn to correctly pop or jerk the leash. Your leash correction should involve a quick 2 to 6 inch jerk followed by an *immediate* release of tension. Corrections should always be geared to the temperament, age, size and level of training of the dog.

Sit Down No such command in dog language. "Sit" is for sitting. "Down" is for laying down. "Off" is for getting off of you or the furniture.

Long Line Usually 30 to 50 feet long. Used to teach a dog to come.

Flexi Lead A long line kind of contraption that rewinds itself. It gives a dog more room to stretch his legs than a leash but doesn't tangle the two of you up. Gives the dog the feeling of freedom and is much safer than turning him loose in a populated area.

CONTROLLED WALKING or LEASH MANNERS



This is *not* heeling. Your dog should not have to heel 100% of the time he has a leash attached. Your dog doesn't want to be on duty (heeling) all the time. Sometimes you'll just want to walk for the fun of it. Letting him drag you around in public is no fun. What should you do? Teach him some leash manners.

To teach this, simply start walking. Tell your dog "come on" or "let's go". (Do *not* say "come". That's an entirely different command.) It doesn't matter where the dog is as long as he isn't pulling you. The *instant* you feel the dog pull, stop walking and pop the lead. If the dog is calm, you can start walking again.

It is very important to give a correction every time you feel the slightest bit of pulling on the lead.

HEELING

Instructor's commands: forward, fast, normal, slow, about turn, halt

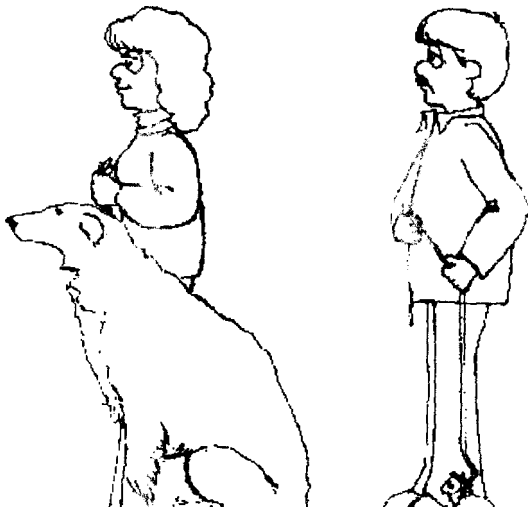
Trainer's commands: heel, sit, okay

Heel position: Dog on handler's left side.

Dog's shoulder should be lined up with the handler's left knee or ankle. Dog should be looking at handler or straight ahead.

Say dog's name, followed immediately by command to heel. You may give a pop on the leash, but don't do it until just after you start moving.

While heeling, it is very important to keep some slack in the leash. The instant you feel your dog pulling against you, give a pop in the direction you want him to go along with another heel command. Always follow corrections with praise!



To halt, switch all of the leash to your right hand. Be sure you are holding the leash right next to the snap. Start to bend over and twist your body to the left as shown in class. When you are in position, then halt and quickly help your dog to sit straight by pulling up on the leash with your right hand; while guiding the dog's rear down with the left.

SIT STAY

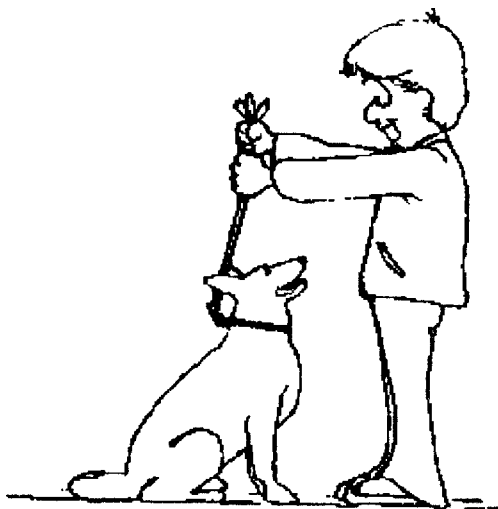
Instructor's commands: leave your dog, return, reinforce, exercise finished

Trainer's commands: sit, stay, good sit-good stay (praise to reinforce the stay), okay

Start with dog sitting in heel position. Give a simultaneous command and hand signal to stay, *then* step out in front of dog. Stay directly in front of the dog, as close as you can but without touching. Hold leash directly above dog's neck. You should have very little slack in the leash but no tension either. Keep your eyes on your own dog. If he starts to get up, say "no, stay" as you tighten up on the leash. As soon as the dog steadies himself, gently release the tension in the lead again. With some dogs you may need to use one hand on the leash and the other to push the rear end back down.

Sit stays should be fairly short the first week. Gradually work up to about 1 -3 minutes. Do not increase the distance you go from your dog until he has mastered a fairly lengthy stay with you directly in front of him.

When you return to your dog, praise him, but don't let him break position, and reinforce the stay by telling him, "good sit. good stay, g-o-o-d s-i-t..." Don't let him get up or wiggle around. Make sure he stays. Stand up straight and wait a second. Then say the dog's name, followed by the release word. You may praise again now if you like.



DOWN STAY

Instructor's commands: down your dog. leave, return, reinforce, exercise finished

Trainer's commands: down, stay, good down-good stay (reinforcement), okay

Start with dog sitting in heel position. Put right hand on leash next to snap. Put left hand on dog's shoulders. Tell dog "down" then give a *steady downward pull* on the leash while pushing (not shoving) down on the shoulders. Do not reduce the pressure until the dog is all the way down. Remember to push slightly off to one side as shown in class.

Once you get your dog down this is simply another stay exercise. Keep a close eye on him, you need to correct him before he gets all the way up. Shoulders and front feet are key areas (explained in class). Be quick! It's easier to correct your dog *before* he gets all the way up (and more educational too).

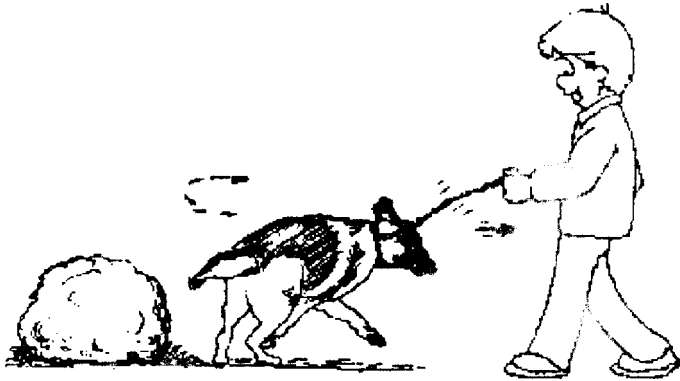
CGC; GREETING

The CGC (Canine Good Citizen) greeting is one of 10 exercises in the AKC's CGC test. It's basically just another control exercise. The CGC test was developed by the AKC to help combat the ever-increasing anti-dog legislation by promoting responsible dog ownership. The test is open to all dogs over 6 months of age, *including mixed breeds*. More information please ask.

To do the greeting, you and another person will start on opposite ends of the room. Heel your dog up to each other and make them sit and stay in heel position. Then shake hands, introduce yourselves, and exchange pleasantries. The dogs must sit and stay in heel position Without visiting the other dog or person.

INFORMAL RECALL

Start with the dog off duty and on a loose leash. Don't stare at him. Just pretend to ignore him. Let him investigate. You want to catch him off guard. Take your time if needed. Be alert, though, when opportunity knocks you should be ready.



The order of events is exactly as follows: **NAME, COME, JERK**. Do not hesitate in between any of the three. It's just a loose leash with dog looking away from you name, come, jerk. Run backwards and reel the dog in all the way down to the snap. Put one hand in the collar and praise profusely. While still holding the dog by the collar, reach into your pocket and pull out a treat. Give it to the dog while praising with "good come".

Frequently, beginners tell us they can't do this exercise because their dog won't leave them or look away. Usually, in the short time it took for them to tell us this, their dogs have looked away several times. Your dog does not have to be far from you. Just catch him off guard as much as possible.

For this exercise to do any good you must have correct timing. It takes practice and careful concentration on the trainer's part to master the timing. If you have a dog who does not come when called, the extra effort you put into this will be well worth it.

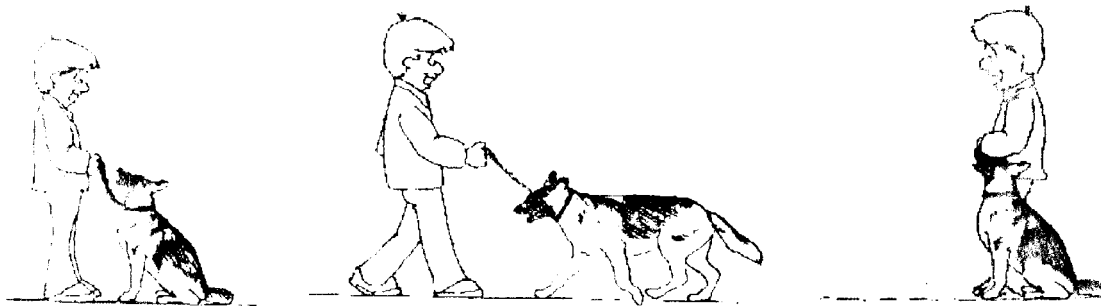
For problem dogs, the informal recall should be practiced on a leash and on a long line.

FORMAL

RECALL Instructor's commands: leave you dog, exercise finished.

Trainer's commands: stay, come, sit, okay

This just means you will leave your dog on a sit stay and then call him. When he comes to you, he has to sit in front until released. Make the dog look at you before you tell him okay. Make sure that you do not jerk your dog before you give him the command come.



If your dog is not steady on a sit stay then only go a foot away before calling him.

COME!

(A detailed program for dogs who like to head for the hills or play catch-me-if-you-can.)

Ideally you should *never let your dog know that he doesn't have to come* when you call.

In other words, *before* he knows the meaning of the word come, or *before he is fully trained* you should never let him get in a situation where you can't enforce your commands. This mean a leash or long line on him. If you're having trouble with come in the house you may even need to leave a leash on him inside. (Always supervise your dog when he is dragging a line. He could get caught and strangle.)

One more thought.... don't tell your dog to come constantly. The word "come" is an emergency command. It means come directly to me NOW. It loses some of its effectiveness if you constantly 'cry wolf or nag your dog. If it's not an emergency, tell your dog to 'come on' or 'come here' in a normal tone of voice. On to the training....

Find a nice large open area such as a field or golf course. Put your dog on a 30 - 50 foot line, This is the same exercise as the informal recall we do in class only this is done on a larger scale. You will need to let your dog get used to the extra freedom of the long line before you start calling him. Once he is used to the long line he should still spend most of his time on it just exercising and investigating,

After you call your dog you probably won't be able to reel the line fast enough. Don't worry. Just make an "O" out of your left thumb and index finger. Use your right hand to throw an armful of line at a time past you. (The line is being threaded through the "O". Ask in class how to do this.) Another thing that helps is to keep walking backwards as you reel the line in.

What if your dog only comes in partway and stops or else just runs past you? Now he's in bw, trouble! This time you quickly jerk and THEN repeat the command to come. Don't be afraid to pop the line ^oood and hard to correct for not coming on the first command. Teaching your dog to come reliably may save his life someday.

When your dog does a good informal recall on the long line you are ready to go to the next level. For this you need to find a large fenced area such as an athletic field, tennis courts, or a friend's yard (Be sure to clean up after your dog.) Attach the long line but let the dog drag it on the ground. Wait until he is distracted and a distance away from you. Call out the dog's name followed by the command to come. If he looks up &/or starts in your direction you should immediately praise. Tell him "good dog, come, good dog, that's good, come on...." If the dog stops coming, looks away. or goes away from you, immediately change your tone of voice and tell him "NO. that's BAD". If he looks back at you or starts coming again switch back to a sweet tone of voice and happy talk a^gain. (I call this the 'fine art of talking your dog in').

If you have told the dog **NO** once and he keeps ignoring you or heading away from you then shut up (to continue calling now would actually teach him to ignore you). Quickly and quietly head for the loop end of the long line. Do not warn the dog. Just pick up the line and yank it hard then tell him to come afterwards. Don't forget to put your hand in his collar and praise when he comes.

You say your dog is too clever? He waits until you pick up the line and then starts coming before you can jerk? Too bad for him. It's ok for you to give

several smaller pops on the line as you tell him "come, that's right. You COME when I tell you."

The next step is to let the dog drag the line in an unfenced area if you think you can trust him and if the area is away from traffic and confusion. Thirty to fifty feet of long line is usually enough for most dogs. I have occasionally used up to 100 feet of line, though. The idea of letting your dog drag the line is that by this time he should be partially reliable but just in case he takes off you have a way to get a hold of him.

If you are determined to get to the point of being loose altogether, then do so gradually. Keep using a shorter and shorter line until you are down to using a leash. Eventually most dogs can be trusted off leash or wearing a pull tab (a 2 - 6 inch piece of leash or rope attached to the dog's collar as a reminder). If at any time your dog starts having trouble, you should increase the length of the line and probably go back to working in a fenced area again. Try to find as many different places to work as possible.

Lack of proper training, incorrect or unintentional training, lack of physical & mental exercise are all reasons dogs do not come when called. For problem dogs it is best to do this "COME", exercise along with a continuing obedience program. In addition, you may want to start an exercise program for your dog.

You can jog or run him with your bike. Teach him to play frisbee or just to chase a stick. If nothing else find a friend with a playful dog and turn the two loose in a fence area for some supervised play.

NEVER turn a dog loose in an unfenced area to run himself.

One last note. Make sure you **NEVER** commit the sin of calling your dog to you and then punishing him. **NEVER, NO MATTER WHAT THE DOG DID WRONG.** If the dog potties in your house or chews something and you discover it 2 hours or even 2 minutes later, you do **NOT** get to correct him. You are too late. If you call him to the mess and punish him you will have just started teaching him **NOT** to come when called. He will not connect your anger with his dirty deed, he will connect it with the last thing he did which was to **COME** to you. Think about it.