

Training Plan: Leashing

Time: Session dependent on dog's behavior; max time for session should be 10 minutes

Supplies: High Value Treats, bait bag

Goals: To help dogs become comfortable with leashing

Instructions:

Let the dog approach on their own, and always give them space, creating an option for them to move away on their own. Proceed only when the dog appears relaxed, lingers and takes food.

If the dog does not appear comfortable, then return to a previously successful level.

Level 1:

Enter the dog's area with your leash hidden behind your back. Expose your leash by holding the clip in one hand as if you are going to attach it to the dog's collar, always.

1. Present your leash, then immediately feed from your opposite hand for 5-8 seconds
2. Remove both hands at the same time and hide your leash
3. Take a break for 5-10 seconds
4. Do this until the dog appears comfortable with the leash present

Level 2:

1. Expose your leash, then immediately feed from your opposite hand for 5-8 seconds *over* the clip of the leash
 - a. Slowly work up to resting the clip against the dog's collar
2. Remove both hands at the same time
3. Take a break for 5-10 seconds
4. Do this until the dog appears comfortable with eating over the leash clip

Level 3:

1. Present your leash and rest the clip against the dog's collar then immediately feed from your opposite hand for 5-8 seconds
2. Remove both hands at the same time
3. Take a break for 5-10 seconds
4. Do this until the dog appears comfortable with you resting the leash clip on their collar



Level 4:

1. Present your leash and clip it to your dog's collar, then immediately feed from your opposite hand for 5-8 seconds
2. Unclip the leash, then stop offering treats
3. Take a 5-10 second break
4. Do this until the dog appears comfortable with a leash being clipped to their collar

Then, use the Walking On Leash Behavior Plan.

Reminders:

- If at any point the dog appears uncomfortable move back to a previous level or training plan
- Continue to follow all exposures to the leash with treats