



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week One

Practice in little 5-15 minute sessions throughout the day - a minimum of 15 minutes each and every day.

New skills to practice:

Touch - Practice having dog target your fingertips with their nose

Look - Lure dog's attention to your face.

Sit - Lure up and back at angle

Down - Lure straight down between dog's legs and then either towards dog or away from dog (each dog is different). Lure from both a sit and a stand (don't ask for the sit, wait for the dog to offer a sit).

Name game - Say dog's name excitedly and back up. Get excited as soon as they turn towards you and click as they begin to head towards you. Keep up the motivation as they follow through and reward when they get to you. The backing up action is important. Don't say come yet - just dog's name.

Challenge: Say okay before your dog crosses through a doorway or eats their meals. It is not necessary to make them wait yet, just get them used to hearing the "okay" before they cross the threshold or start to eat.



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week Two

New skills to practice:

Look - Draw dog's gaze to your face without the use of a treat - just point.

Stand - Lure dog forward just enough that their bum comes up off the ground.

Sit from Down position - Lure up and at an angle over dog's head to help them go from laying down to sitting.

Leave it - Present your dog with treats enclosed in two hands about a foot and a half apart.

Once they have begun to sniff one of them, say "leave it" *once*. The moment they turn their head away or back away from it, say "yes" and reveal and give the treat from the opposite hand.

Remember never to reward with the treat you said "leave it" for.

Loose leash walking – Reward your dog for being in the "treat zone" next to your leg. Progress can only be made with no tension on leash. If there is tension – stop, and wait for dog to release the tension or switch direction.

Recall - Repeat name game from last week with a longer lead - begin to say come as your dog is coming towards you.. E.g "Bailey, Come!" Extra credit: Have dog sit for reward when they get to you.

Reminder: Next week, bring a blanket, mat, towel, or bed for your dog to lay on.



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week Three

Practice cues in at least 3 different low distraction environments this week to help them generalize their learning.

New skills to practice:

Puppy push ups - alternate between sit, down, and stand, mixing up the order so your dog has to listen not anticipate. Use "air cookies" whenever possible.

Touch - increase distance

Sit stay & okay - practice sit stay with duration only (not distance), release with "okay".

Go to bed - practice sending dog to mat/bed/towel/blanket from a short distance.

Side – Starting with your dog facing you, lure them in an arc to bring them to your side. Take a small step back as you lure them to help align them properly.

Doorway control - start having your dog sit at every doorway and release them through the door with "okay."

Challenge: work on adding a slight bit of distance to your sit stays. Just a step or two away and then right back to your dog to reward and release.

Reminder: Bring mat again next week



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week Four

New skills to practice:

Look: hold a treat out as distraction when you ask your dog to look at you.

Down stay - work on staying in the down position

Gotcha - practice handling your dog's ears, paws, tails, etc every day and working on "gotcha" exercise with their collar/harness.

Leave it - work on leave it with one hand in front of your dog and one hand hidden behind your back. When ready, also work on slowly opening hand after you've said leave it and dog has backed off.

Automatic sits - Practice walking your dog along a wall, stopping every few feet and asking them to sit.

Reminder: Bring toys next week for working on give/drop it - choose easy to grip toys that your dog likes but doesn't hyperfocus on.



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week Five

New skills to practice:

Puppy push ups - Work on shortening your hand gestures for sit and down into just hand signals.

Look - Add short duration to look cue. Release with okay.

Twofers - ask for two cues in a row before clicking and rewarding. I.e. touch & sit or two touches

Give/drop it - Give dog a toy or ball of low value to start with and offer a food treat to get dog to drop object into other hand or on the floor. Click as soon as the dog drops the object and reward. Repeat the process adding a cue "give" or "drop" when the dog reliably drops the object for a trade. Each new object may need to begin all over so don't add cue until each new item is being dropped readily.

Food bowl wait - Have your dog sit and wait while you lower their food bowl. Say "okay" to release them to eat. Remember this is not a leave it.

Move - Shuffle feet gently and throw a treat. As they begin to get the idea, say cue like "move" or "excuse me".

Doorway control - add "look" to their doorway waits. They must sit, wait, and look at you before being released.

Reminder: bring mats again next week



Beginner Obedience Homework - Week Six

New skills to practice:

Go to bed - increase the distance you are sending your dog to the bed from.

Leave it - work on lowering your hand towards the ground for leave it.

Spin/twirl – lure forward and then around in a circle level to the ground in one direction for spin.

Twirl is a separate cue in the other direction.

Recall - call dog away from distracting object ON LEASH.

Reminder: Next week is Graduation! Bring a mat.

Full list of behaviors:

- sit
- down
- stand
- up
- look
- touch
- go to bed
- sit stay
- down stay
- leave it
- side
- let's go/with me (loose leash walking)
- automatic sit during walking
- recall
- spin/twirl
- food bowl sit stay
- doorway control
- give/drop it

Feel free to email us with any questions at training@geminidogs.com

Please take a moment to fill out our instructor survey: www.geminidogs.com/instructor-survey