



## DAACK PACK DOG TRAINING

INNOVATIVE. HUMANE. EVIDENCE-BASED.



## Bringing home a new Dog?

A new dog at home can be an exciting fun adventure. But it can also come with new changes in routine and an adjustment period. Below are a few protocols to help you meet the needs of your new companion and get a jump start on building a trusting relationship with them.

### Initial First Steps:

To help start building a long lasting a trusting relationship with your new companion:

- Utilize Positive Reinforcement strategies that allow the dog to maintain choice and control.
- Listen to your dog's emotional state - if they're getting frustrated, tired, or seem uncomfortable reevaluate the situation and work towards decreasing the stress.
- Be generous with your affection while being consistent and realistic
- You get what you reinforce - Not Necessarily What You Want
- Keep training sessions short and sweet, 1-5 minutes at a time (3-6 times a day)

### Example of some Protocols to start with:

**6 types of Enrichment:** Enrichment is a great way to meet your dog's needs, which is an important first way to get to know your new dog and their preferences.

- Sensory Enrichment
  - Things like sight, smell, sound, touch, taste, etc.
  - Mood music, high value food, doggie tv, sniff walk, hiding smells, T-Touch, body handling and belly rubs
- Feeding Enrichment
  - Encouraging hunting and foraging
  - Hiding food randomly, stuffed kong, tossing their meal around a room, stuffed cardboard box, DIY feeders, slow feeders, snuffle mats
- Toy and Puzzle Enrichment
  - Encourage critical thinking through manipulation of object
  - Puzzle balls, JW ball, Kong, Fetch, assorted toys, DIY bottle game, Kong wobblers
- Environmental Enrichment
  - Adding new, interesting things to your dog's world
  - Adding a mirror, ramp, outdoor doggie course, hiking in new locations, kiddie pool, tunnel, indoor ball pit, digging pit
- Social Enrichment
  - Interaction with dogs, people or other species that builds confidence and trust
  - Puppy playtime, acquiring companion animal, trip to pet store, playdates, supervised daycare, people outings, walks through social areas
- Cognitive Enrichment
  - Encourages critical thinking and strengthens bonds through R+
  - Dog training: group training, dog behavior consulting, nosework, touch exercises, shaping sessions, push-ups. The sky's the limit!

**Name Game:** This cue is a great way to teach your new dog their name.

1. Be sure there are no distractions to compete for the dog's attention in the beginning
2. Say their name in a clear voice
3. If he turns to look at you, immediately mark and reward
4. Practice it many times over the course of a few days and randomly after that
5. Gradually introduce distractions. Practice in different areas, outside, on walks, and while the dog is engaged in various activities
6. If the dog doesn't respond, don't repeat the name. Use a high-pitch repetitive sound to draw their attention

**If you have an questions and would like to learn more about our Training services or local resources, please visit our website and reach out to us.**



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