

DOWN

The purpose of this class is to give you the tools needed to tell your dog verbally or non-verbally to go into the down position.

Uses of and the different methods to get your dog into the down position

- **Verbal command**
 - **Combination of verbal and treat**
- **Hand signal**
 - **Combination of hand signal and treat**
- **Leading**
 - **Leading with a treat or a toy**

Methods

Before starting ensure that everyone understands that you should not train with your dog while in an agitated state. Be patient and calm.

- Verbal command
 - Always start facing your dog so that they can see your face and be able to read you. Tell them to SIT and then Say in a normal voice the DOWN command. When they have accomplished this task reward them with loves and treats as well as telling them what they did correctly. Much the same as other things the more reward they get for doing this the more that they will want to do them.
 - Now if they are hesitant to do this, break out the treats and repeat the step above. Tell them to sit and then like before Say DOWN and hold the treat towards the ground in front of them. This also seen as leading them out.
- Hand Signal
 - Much the same as the hand signal start out facing your dog and give them the signal to SIT and then signal to get into the DOWN position. The hand signal for this is simple but there are hundreds if not thousands of them. I prefer one to two fingers pointed at the ground. Just like all the rest of them it will take practice and repetition. Again, give them the signal to SIT and then the signal for DOWN. As always when they do this correctly praise them and tell them what they did correctly.
- Leading
 - Start out by telling them or giving them the signal to SIT, praise them for this. After they are in that position you tell them or signal to them into the DOWN position, using a treat or a toy start with it a few inches away from there face and slowly lead it away and down until they are in the down position. Upon doing this praise them and give them the treat or the toy. Continue this method until they are and you are comfortable with it and then start using verbal or nonverbal commands.

Closure: In closing we have covered the different methods to get your dog into the DOWN position. These are not all of them as there are hundreds if not more, but we covered the basics.

- Verbal command
- Hand signal
- Leading

As well as all the combinations that you can get out of these. Always remember that after every successful attempt that you praise your dog with ata-boys and tell them exactly what they did correctly. This type of praise is good, and your dog will associate this behavior with what they did correctly.

