



USDTC STAR Puppy

Lesson 1

Introduction

BRING NEXT WEEK: Great rewards, Training collar, Favorite toy. Clean-up bags.

Attendance is a must in the STAR Puppy Program.

If you cannot attend classes please e-mail Dolores or Elizabeth for makeup class information.

If your puppy is sick, keep your puppy at home and you attend the class.

Dolores Connelly

dconnelly51@hotmail.com

727-784-6987

Elizabeth Dolezal Teller

Elizabeth.dolezal@yahoo.com

727-643-7033

Please use STAR in Subject line when e-mailing

Release Word: A release word should be a simple word that will signal the end of the command or exercise. The word "OK" is often used. This word must be used often and quickly in training.

Verbal Marker: To recognize a correct action, we MARK the action with a word like "YES". When your puppy does as you command "YES", immediately treat, then RELEASE AND PRAISE.

Always have treats with you. Treats are a "Reward" and a must for training a puppy. Soft treats are best for training in class. Cooked or uncooked hotdog slices and cheese sticks work very well. A small piece of a treat is enough. Don't over treat in amount or size. The puppy's kibble can also be used at home for some training.

Do not feed your puppy right before class. A hungry puppy will work for treats longer and more eagerly and it will help eliminate potty accidents in the training building.

Always acknowledge good behavior Find opportunities to reward your puppy. Verbally mark his action, name the action, and immediately reward. Put a name to the activities your puppy naturally does as he is doing it. If your puppy is sitting, mark his action "yes", tell him good sit, reward. If your puppy is lying on the ground, mark his action "yes", tell him good down, reward. While your puppy is eliminating, mark, name, reward. You are marking your puppy's action, teaching your puppy English and taking advantage of every opportunity to positively reward your puppy for commanded behavior.