

LESSON TWO

THE DOWN

The down begins with the dog in a sit position. Sit the dog; reach over the dog's back with your left arm and gently grasp the dog's left leg. You then grasp the right leg in your right hand and gently lift both legs off the ground. Hold in this manner until you feel him relax - Say "DOWN" as you calmly pull legs forward applying slight pressure to the shoulders and place him in the down position. PRAISE!! Down is a submissive position for a dog. A dominant dog may resist. This will be dealt with on an individual basis as needed.

SIT STAY

A stay begins with the dog sitting in heel position. Calmly put your left hand in front of the dog's eyes, command "STAY" firmly and pivot in front of the dog. DO NOT use dog's name on a stationary exercise. Always step away from your dog on the RIGHT foot, do not pull or snap the leash as you move away. Pivot back to the dog and release. PRAISE! Work up to 30 seconds with no movement from the dog.

Remember, if the dog moves at any time-even a foot-return to dog quietly and quickly reposition him, PRAISE softly and leave again. If a dog does not respond to an easy correction be more firm.

When releasing from a sit or a down always step backwards with your release command making the dog turn and come to you for the PRAISE.

HEEL POSITION

Your dog is in heel position when he is at your left side, facing the same direction you are facing. Whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down, or moving next to you, he is in proper heel position when the area from his head to his shoulder is in line with your left hip.

* DO NOT PRAISE YOUR DOG WHEN HE IS NOT IN PROPER HEEL POSITION

* CORRECT AND THEN PRAISE!

PRACTICE!!!! PATIENCE!!!! PRAISE!!!!