



1,2,3...Treat

Teaching dogs to count! No we're not turning them into mathematicians, this is a pattern game that helps capture, and keep, your dogs attention!

Dogs love pattern games because they create anticipation! Because we're using anticipation, the way you count for this game is important. It's not 'one, two, three' but '**oooone, twoooo, THREE!**'

To play:

1. Have some treats to hand and your dog in front of you.
2. Say 'three' in a high pitched tone and immediately give your dog a treat. Make sure you say 'three' the same way every time.
3. Repeat, Repeat, Repeat
4. Say 'three' and pause, if your dog's body language changes in any way, you're ready for the next step, if not, keep practising 'three' and treat for a bit longer.
5. Now we add in the two, keep the two long and drawn on. Say 'twooooo... three' and then give your dog a treat.
6. Repeat, Repeat, Repeat!

7. Keep going until you're getting a change in body language or sign of recognition response to 'twoooo', then it's time to add in the 'ooooone' to the 'twoooo, three!'

8. Repeat, Repeat, Repeat!

9. You'll know your dog has learned the patten when they start to show signs of anticipation as soon as you start counting, they may start to wag their tail, shift about on their feet, prick up their ears, or tilt their head.

To get the most out of this game:

Practise loads at home, sat down, then stood up, then start walking around and counting and see if your dog follows you.

If they follow you, great! If not do some more stationary practise.