

30 Days to Recall Success!



For this to work best we need to find your dogs favourite reward. Even foody dogs have a preference, try a few different things and see what lights them up. Soft and smelly treats are usually popular! Give them 4-5 treats for each recall. If your dog prefers toys find thier favourite toy. For ultimate success, only bring this reward out when you're doing this training to keep it special.

Pick your recall cue. This can be a whistle, a word, or any other noise that will carry. Do not use thier name! We use thier names all the time when we don't want thier attention which will quickly undo all of your hardwork.

DAYS 1-3

- Stand in your kitchen with your dog. When they are already looking at you, use thier recall cue once and hand them thier food reward or produce thier toy and play a game.
- Repeat 5 times a day

DAYS 8-11

- When your dog is in another room but not engaged with anything, shout your recall cue, as soon as you see them coming mark 'yes' and reward them when they get to you.
- Repeat 5 times a day

DAYS 16-19

- Find a quiet outdoor space with minimal distractions. Wait for the moments where they're not sniffing or looking at anything specific. Then give your recall cue, mark, 'yes' when they look at you and reward them when they get to you.
- Aim to repeat 5 times a day but it's more important that the recall succeeds so wait for your perfect moment.

DAYS 4-7

- Stand in the kitchen with your dog and wait until they turn away from you, say thier recall cue. When they turn to you mark 'yes' and produce thier reward.
- Repeat 5 times a day

DAYS 12-15

- Head into the garden, when your dog is looking away from you but not actively engaged in something, give your recall cue. As soon as they turn thier head mark 'yes' and reward when they get to you.
- Repeat 5 times a day

DAYS 20-23

- Head to your quiet place again but start to let them get further away from you before recalling. Still wait for those moments where they're not doing anything specific. Recall, mark with a 'yes' as soon as they turn towards you, reward them and then release them back to what they were doing.
- Repeat 5 times a day (if the moment is right!)



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It's getting serious now! If your recall fails at any point do not call them a second time. Go and get them (they should be on a long line while we're training, making this easier). Assess why you think it went wrong, distraction too close, environment too distracting etc. and then go back a stage for the next three days.

DAYS 24-27

- Low level distractions. Wait until your dog is slightly distracted, looking at something or lightly sniffing something, give your recall cue, mark yes when they turn to you and reward them.
- Repeat 5 times a day

NEXT STEPS

- At this point your dog should be able to recall around low level distractions. Each dog will find different things distracting. A good recall is all about focus, proximity to the handler, and disengagement games.
- You and your trainer can now work on playing around with distraction levels and seeing if you can recall the dog when they are already moving towards something. This takes time to work on. Keep that recall special and only call them when you're ready to bet £50 they'll respond.

DAYS 28-30

- This is where we start to really test that recall. We need to wait for them to be actively looking at a distraction but we also need to be fairly confident they'll look to you when you call. You can practise this with toys or family members as the distraction first.
- This recall cue needs to stay special so don't over use it, wait for those perfect moments so they don't get a chance to blow off the recall.

RECALL RULES

Always reward a recall!

Even if they took their time, when they get to you reward them.

Be unpredictable!

Call them back, and play a game, then send them off again, sometimes clip their lead on, and immediately take it off again.

Don't repeat your recall cue!

Say it once, if they don't come back go and get them.