



Magnet Hand

This is a management strategy is useful for getting your dog in an out of tricky situations. This skill keeps them connected to you, happy, and prevents big reactions in less than ideal places.

The aim is that your dog maintains contact with your hand, and can then follow your hand as you move. Like all skills we need to teach this somewhere easy first, and gradually add distractions for it to work in challenging situations.

To play:

1. Grab a handful of treats and make a fist over them. Hold one treat between your thumb and the flat part of your first two fingers.
2. Present your hand to your dog with your palm facing his nose.
3. When the dog makes contact with your hand, move your thumb to uncover the treat and let the dog take it.
4. Keeping your hand in contact with your dogs nose, use your thumb to roll another treat from your palm so that it's between your thumb and the flat part of your first two fingers again.
5. When your dogs nose makes contact with your hand, release the treat so that they can eat it and repeat.

6. Keep practising in a stationary position until you can easily feed multiple treats to your dog from your hand without them losing contact with your hand.
7. Gradually start to move your hand a few inches at a time, releasing a treat to your dog when they maintain contact with your hand.
8. Start to add in backwards steps, then try it with your dog in 'heel' position.
9. Gradually increase how long your dog keeps their nose on your hand before you release a treat. We still want to reward frequently to build value in the game.
10. Increase the number of steps you take together
11. Practice in different environments and around distractions.

Top Tip: When using it in real life sticky situations, reward as frequently as you can to keep your dog moving with you.