



# With me

With me, heel, side, whatever you want to call it; this is the skill of standing by your side on cue.

Teaching your dog this skill is the foundational step to achieving incredible loose lead skills!

Pick a side you want your dog to walk on. Dog's learn pictures quicker than anything so staying consistent with this will really help.

## To teach 'With me':

1. Put your treats in a treat pouch or pocket on the same side you're going to get your dog to stand on. If you're using a lead, hold the lead in your opposite hand.
2. Use a treat lure to guide your dog round beside you so they end up stood with their shoulder in line with your leg, facing forwards.
3. Once they're in position, use your marker word and give them the treat.
4. When your dog can easily follow your treat into position every time, fake it! Move your hand just as you did when there was a treat in it. When they're in position, mark and give them a treat from your pouch or pocket.

5. Once they can follow an empty hand into position, use the words 'With me' just before showing them the hand signal

6. Practice! Practise! Practise!

Normally our dogs naturally position themselves in front of us. By practicing 'With me' regularly we'll gradually notice a shift in this position and they'll start offering this side stand more and more.

Practice this as much as possible!

**Once they've mastered the skill on one side, start to teach it on the other side. The other side will need a different verbal cue!**