



# Positive Reinforcement Training



## WHAT IS POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT?

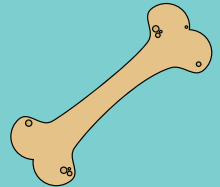


Does it make you happy when someone takes you to a special place or gives you money to buy something you want when you've finished a chore or homework? That's positive reinforcement!



## WHAT DO DOGS WANT?

Dogs don't want money though. They want praise and **FOOD!** Positive reinforcement for your dog uses praise and treats to reward them when they do what you want. Rewards make your dog happy and want to keep doing these behaviors.



## AN EXAMPLE OF POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT



If your dog grabs your favorite stuffed animal, that might make you very upset. Rather than yell "NO!" at your dog, you can give him one of his favorite toys and do a trade. When he takes it, tell him "YES!" and give him a treat.



## YUMMY TREATS ARE BEST!

Know what your dog thinks is yummy! For example, many of us love ice cream, but if you add whipped cream and hot fudge - that makes it irresistible! Try giving your dog cheese, meat or other extra yummy foods. Use small portions and use a treat pouch to keep your hands free.





# Positive Reinforcement Training Activity



CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER FOR EACH SENARIO

**YOUR DOG STEALS YOUR FAVORITE TOY.**

**YOU:**



- A) Tell him he is a very bad dog.
- B) Trade him his favorite toy for your toy.
- C) Put him in time-out for the rest of the day.

**YOU WANT TO TEACH YOUR DOG TO SIT.**

**YOU:**

- A) Hold a treat over his head until he sits, say YES! and give the treat
- B) Push on his hips really hard until he sits.
- C) Point at him and yell "SIT!!"



**YOUR DOG JUMPS UP ON YOU WHEN YOU COME IN THE DOOR**

**YOU:**



- A) Push him away really hard and tell him NO!
- B) Turn around and ignore him.
- C) Run away really fast and hide.

**YOUR DOG BARKS AT TRAFFIC AND NOISES.**

**YOU:**

- A) Lock him in the bedroom until he falls asleep
- B) Put a muzzle on him to keep him quiet
- C) Redirect his attention to something else and give him treats when he doesn't bark.

