

## Shed Dog Training Commands

Remember to be a calm, confident pack leader in your dog's life. Be fair, consistent and someone that your dog can look to for guidance.

Find The Bone or Find It = search command. Every time we hunted the dog on sheds in training we use find the bone and find it mixed together to encourage the dog to find the antler.

Keep dog hydrated when hunting the dog.

Never shock dog and give the search command thinking this will make the dog want to hunt. It will think it is in trouble and will make it not want to hunt. Just encourage the dog "find the bone" commands and take it hunting as much as possible.

Take an antler when hunting. Every once in awhile hide the antler have the dog hunt down wind of antler and encourage with find the bone until the dog finds and picks up the antler. This just helps to keep the dog focused on the task at hand.

If you see an antler or your friend finds one ask them to not pick it up and assist the dog into the area and have the dog pick it up first. The more assisted finds with no human touch the dog can find the more unassisted finds the dog will usually have.

If the dog acts like it does not smell the antler, toss a small pebble by the antler and give the find the bone command and once the dog smells it you can also say "fetch" for the pick it up command.

Force fetch commands = fetch, hold and drop. Fetch means to pick it up, hold means to hold it and not drop it and drop means to let go once you grab it from the dog's mouth. To reinforce the force fetch apply electricity and command "Fetch" and once the dog grabs the object let go of electricity. The dog has to know what you are commanding it to pick up. This command is for objects that are right around the animal or that it may have dropped or knows that you want it to pick up. Refer to videos on website for additional training and examples.

Elk antlers can sometimes be too hard for dogs to pick up, so have retrieving with your dog at home and work on building up the size of antler the dog can drag or retrieve. Some antlers are just too big. Keep an eye on your dog when hunting, if he is messing around with something in the bushes you might want to go double check it was not an antler that it could not pull out or lift.

E collar ON or OFF be consistent and reinforce the command given.

Kennel = go into something. Examples are kennel, crate, inside a car or into a room.

Place = go on top of something that is raised off the ground like a dog bed or platform.

Sit = means sit! (Stay is just part of it) Sit means sit and don't move until allowed.

“OK”, Here or Heel will release the dog from sit, down, kennel or place.

Here = Come to you.

Heel = Come and sit at left side if right handed and right side if left handed, opposite of whatever your strong arm is. Dog should be shoulder to shoulder facing the same direction.

Walking heel same thing. Tap side of leg or float hand at side to get dog going. Just say here to get dog to you and then “heel” and start walking. If dog is turned out at heel and you tap your leg or float your hand at your side and give the here command he will turn in towards your leg. Snapping fingers or slapping side of leg to get dogs attention can also help to draw the dog to your side. When doing front to side heel float hand to your side and as far back as you can and then move your hand forward when the dog’s head reaches your hand area. The dog should follow your hand and turn its body to follow it to the heel position and then give the dog the sit command once it is at your side and lined up looking forward with you. If the dog heels in front, take a step straight backwards and make the dog re-heel and do it again until it does it right. Repeat until dog does it correctly. You can also step forward if dog over heels and draw dog up towards your hand at your side with the “here” command, saying, essentially with the here command to “come to your hand” and then sitting the dog once it gets to the correct location at your side. Watch videos for direction on this.

When dog comes to heel, keep space between you and the animal. Don’t let dog lean on you, if dog leans on create a little space between you and the dog when it is at your side. Too much space will draw the dog towards you. We just don’t want it touch or leaning on you. If the dog puts its foot on top of your foot, pull it away. That is a dominance thing and dog is trying to say it owns you. If the dog tries to heel in front of you this is the same type thing. It wants affection and is wanting to be in front of you and taking up your space. Make sure it heels to your side and physically guide it there with it’s collar if needed.

Leave it= don’t touch something.

Down= lay down

OFF! = means don’t jump up on someone. Correct in moment of jumping with a high nick with electric collar and command “OFF”!

Tone on e collar = we use mainly for the “here” command, if dog does not respond mix in the verbal “here” command and reinforce the here command with the e collar.

Vibrate on e collar = use for same timing as electricity. Hold vibration down until dog does command then release.

When dog is doing what you want say, “good girl” or “good boy” mixed in with the command to let them know they are doing a good job. Make sure to give positive reinforcement as soon as dog does what you want. When dog does NOT what you want, say NO and then desired command.

Physical touch- don't pet the dog if it is NOT doing what you want. Immediately stop and only give physical touch when the dog is doing what you want it to be doing. Example, don't pet the dog if it jumps up on you. Once it stops jumping, then pet the dog to encourage that good behavior. This applies to all training and commands.

Hand Signals= Hold hand out palm facing dog for sit. Tap leg front of leg for here and float hand to left side and back for heel and then move forward to get dog to rotate. Dogs head is drawn towards hand when you put it at the dog's head level.

Remember pressure on, pressure off with the e collar. If dog does not obey command, hold continuous e collar pressure down until dog does command, then "pressure off. Pressure means electricity.

Pressure release when dog does the command.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO USE E COLLAR. IT IS A GREAT TOOL NOW THAT THE DOG UNDERSTANDS WHAT THE E COLLAR IS. Make sure it is tight enough on neck to get connection.

Use stimulation level with e collar between around level 3 for most dogs low to 4 for continuous stimulation using e collar. Adjust as needed. Dog should be responsive, but not freaking out.

His e Collar is like his uniform for work, put it on when you are going to work him/her.

The dog is e collar conditioned so you can give dog stimulation until the dogs obeys the command. Once dog does command immediately release stimulation.

E collar on or off make sure commands are always reinforced.

Be consistent and firm with your commands. Follow up with positive verbal praise when dog is doing a good job. Dog are pack animals and must perceive you as Alpha and a calm leader in the pack and not Beta. They must be part of your pack and be Beta. Positive reinforcement will keep the dogs attitude happy and healthy. Remember to be fair to the animal and never loose your temper. Be consistent for consistent results.

When working multiple dogs together, use dogs name first and then give command.

Watch the videos on the website for added direction and training. If you have any questions after reviewing any of the written commands or videos please don't hesitate to reach out for help. We are here for you and want to be successful handling your dog. The whole life of your dog if you have run into any training questions please reach out for help. Thank you for letting us work with you and your dog and good hunting!