

Retriever Foundation Training Commands

Be the pack leader and make sure you are consistent with your commands and reinforce the commands, e collar off or on!

Kennel= command for dog to go inside something. Example... Crate, dog blind, inside a vehicle.

Sit= means sit; remember to put flat hand at dog's face to reinforce command.
(No stay is needed)

"OK," Here or dog's name will release the dog from Sit. Use "here" if dog does not release on name or "Ok" command.

Here= Come to you. If the dog ranges too far when hunting upland game, give the here command, when he/she has come in far enough then just give the "hunt em up" to keep hunting.

Off= Means don't jump up on you.

Leave it= means don't touch it, then usually say "Here" to get dog away from object

Down= lay down, means to lie down and stay there. Use flat hand again at dog and say "down" to have it stay there.

Heel= Come and sit at left side. Dog should be shoulder to shoulder facing the same direction. Walking heel same thing. Tap side of leg to get dog going. Just say "heel" and start walking. If he is turned out at heel and you tap your leg and give the here command he will turn in towards your leg.

Place= means to go on top of something. Example, dog bed, hunting stand or place board.
"Place" means to place and stay there. On top of the command you can say, "sit" or "down" if wanted to steady dog.

Use dogs name to send for retrieve. SEND DOG ON NAME FOR RETRIEVE when in sitting position.

When dog heeling you can use here command to get dog the dog to rotate with body to the right and heel to get dog to heel out to the left to line dog in direction that you want it to look or where you are sending it.

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.

Fetch= command to pick bird or bumper up off the ground.

Hold = means to hold the bumper or bird and not drop it.

Drop= command to release bird in hand when you take it from dogs mouth. Dog will not drop the object from mouth to ground, we want dog to deliver to hand.

If dog drops bumper, apply electricity and command fetch and until dog grabs object and then immediately turn off electricity and get dog to deliver to hand.

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, once dog does command immediately release pressure (electricity) so you don't confuse the dog. You can also do command-nick-command with e collar down the road as a reminder that the dog needs to listen to you as a pack leader. If that does not work, drop down to continuous pressure, as soon as dog does command give lots of positive praise to keep dog happy and confident.

Whistle Commands= Three blasts or a rolling whistle is a trill and means here. Two blasts is switch directions when hunting if dog is trained for upland game.

Hand Signals= Hold hand out palm facing dog for sit and down. Tap leg front of leg for here and float hand back and to your side for heel.

Use dogs name to retrieve the object on a marked retrieve or when running the dog from a sit position. Occasionally, put hand out above dog's head to point it in direction you want it to go. Use this when hunting waterfowl.

Mark= means look around- heads up I am throwing a bumper or look for a bird.

When throwing bumper for your dog, tell the dog to "sit" then "mark", then throw the bumper. When ready place hand above dogs head pointing him in direction of bumper and send on his name. When running a dog on a double retrieve, when it comes back from first retrieve, have your body lined up in direction of second retrieve. Then take bumper from dogs mouth and after the dog heels and sits, when ready "queue" the dog saying "where's the mark", once dog remembers where it is and is looking in that direction, say good...good... and then put hand above dogs head and send it on the retrieve using its name.

I use "leave it" if dog is trying to take bird out of your hand that you have just shot or if you put a bird on the ground by you and you don't want the dog to mess around with it.

"Hunt em up"= means to find or hunt the birds or bumper that are out in the field. Example, when you have shot down a bird or when you go upland game hunting.

Most electric collars you will be using between levels 2 low to 4 for a continuous stimulation. When you give a nick as a correction usually it will be around a 4 high or 5 high. Adjust as needed. Read the dog, as each animal is different.

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

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

Remember always keep things fun and exciting! Keep momentum always up!

Start happy- end happy with fun bumpers. Always end training or hunting session on positive note. Release dog from sit command with the “OK” command, then talk to dog and tease dog with bumper and then when you throw it you say hup! Hup! Excitedly! Make sure dog still delivers to hand, but it does not need to come in and sit or come to heel. It is just a fun retrieve in and out.

When dog is sitting we always send it on its name for the retrieve.

Don't shock dog to encourage hunting, it will cause the dog to not want to leave your side. Just encourage dog and keep dog hydrated.

The whistle I use in the a pealess whistle by Sportdog called “the answer”, you can buy them on their website at sportdog.com It is bright orange amplifier with a clear whistle.

When working two dogs, use dogs name and then command.

If you have any questions or get confused about anything please contact us. We are here to help!