



LESSON: Treat Trail People Greeting

Goal: This strategy can be used for people-social dogs to prevent jumping as well as timid dogs when you have a planned visitor at the house or are out on a walk.

- 1) Leash up your pup. Shorten the leash and anchor it at your core. Fill your hand with treats.
- 2) Once your pup notices the guest, place a treat on the ground.
- 3) With each step you take approaching the guest, feed your dog a treat on the floor creating a “treat trail” toward your guest.
- 4) Only continue your approach if the leash is loose (dog is not pulling ahead or jumping).
- 5) Once the treat trail has reached your guest’s feet, you can give your dog the cue, “say hi” or “greet”.
- 6) The dog is allowed to sniff the guest for 1-3 seconds. Mark, “yes” and continue to treat your pup on the floor or nose for all calm behaviors during this time.
- 7) Then invite your pup away with a, “let’s go” and mark and reward your dog for following you.
- 8) Round 2. Repeat steps 1-5 but allow guests to pet pup on the shoulder.
- 9) If your dog jumps on the guest during the greeting, you will quickly exit the greeting with an “uh oh” and try again with higher value treats.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS: Exercise your pup prior to having guests come over to visit. People greetings are best done outside when your guests arrive. Have guests text when parking so you can be prepared with leash and treats and meet them out front.