



## BRAVO!PUP HOMEWORK. PUP1: Class #1

Try to come to one of our puppy socials if you can - times and locations are listed at bottom. Only \$15 for Bravo!Pup students.

Your homework for this week is listed in order of priority so that you can maximize this critical time in your puppy's development:

### 1. Bite Inhibition Training

This week, no hard mouthing or hard pressure bites:

- Put your finger in your pup's mouth and when you feel hard pressure from his teeth, yelp or yell "Ouch!" loudly and WITHOUT pulling your hand away. If you pull your hand away, your pup will learn to "chase" your hand, which is not what we want to teach them. So be brave and Hold Your Hand In One Place.
- Wait for puppy to lessen his pressure or even spit your finger out.
- Praise lavishly!
- All Adult family members should repeat this dozens of times Every Single Day with the pup.

### 2. Handling Practice (a.k.a. "Practice Vet Exam")

- Examine your pup's ear... give treat
- Handle paw ... give treat
- Touch eyes, mouth, tail etc and keep giving treats.
- It's best if ALL members of family do this exercise daily, then expand your group to include friends, neighbors, etc. Your veterinarian and future groomer will LOVE you for doing this work with your dog!

### 3. Puppy Socialization

Socialize with other puppies of same or similar age. Exposure to lots of people, new sights, different surfaces, sounds and things they will encounter as adults are very important this age. Pair all these things with treats and fun!

### 4. Practice Collar Grabs

- Say your pup's name
- Grab his collar firmly but gently. . . .give treat
- Then say "Go Play" and throw a toy or treat if your pup is alone, or let your dog resume playing with another pup if dogs are together.
- Do this as often as you can---we want your pups to LOVE having their collars grabbed!

### 5. Come

- Say the pup's name and COME!

- Waggle your hand and move backwards
- Grab pup's collar and feed a special treat (something novel that you ONLY use for this exercise).
- Do several sets of 10 each day!

## 6. Sit and Down

Lure puppy into position with a treat:

- For Sit, get the head to tilt up so the butt goes down
- For Down, be very patient and go slowly so your pup can learn to bend his elbows---it's okay to reward even a partial effort when teaching these initially.
- Say "YES!" the moment the pup is in a Sit or Down, and deliver the treat!
- Do sets of 5 repetitions, then take a play break.
- Work towards getting the food lure out of your hand so that you are signaling with an empty signal hand (Palm Turned Up for SIT; Palm Turned Over for DOWN)
- IF you can do 5 reps with no treat in your hand as you signal, then you are ready to say "Sit" or "Down" before you give the hand signal.

## BRAVO!PUP PUPPY SOCIALS:

Bravo's Puppy Socials are the BEST way for your dog to learn how to play around other dogs during the first months of their lives. We will keep them safe with dogs of similar size and play style. They will have a good time and get really TIRED OUT!

[Please register before your first social!](#) \$ 15 for Bravo!Pup students.

1.) Oakland: Oakland Zoo. Mondays from 5:15PM -6:00PM

Held in the Zimmer Auditorium\*: 9777 Golflinks Rd (@ Oakland Zoo)

\* Drive through the zoo gates. Just past the booth, turn left into the lower parking lot. Drive around to the auditorium, park and walk to the auditorium! (you DO NOT have to pay for parking).

2.) El Cerrito: Pet Food Express. Wednesdays from 6PM -6:45PM

**11430 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito.** The store is in the Safeway Shopping Center (at Hill Street). Our social will be held at the back end of the store, by the pet wash area. *Please carry your puppy into the store and then to the training space.*

3).Oakland: Lake Merritt. Thursdays from 6pm -6:45pm

First Congregational Church\*, 2501 Harrison Street (@27th) Oakland

\*Across from the Whole Foods Market. Park behind the church and enter through the BLUE door. *Carry the puppy in please* (you can park in reserved spots after 6PM)

About Kennel Cough:

Kennel cough is highly contagious and comes around a couple times a year; it is very similar to colds in humans but left untreated can lead to serious respiratory infection. The best way to keep the incidence of KC to a minimum is to KEEP PUP AT HOME, and seek advice from your vet on how to treat. If you notice your pup coughing, sneezing or having a runny nose, please do not come to class or puppy socials.