

Beginner One

Week Six

Polishing Behavior:

Sit for a Friendly Stranger:

OBJECTIVE: To make your sit under your control while you greet someone as he approaches.

Sequence:

- In Heel Position, command your dog to Sit (if not sitting), Stay
- A friendly stranger approaches you and admires your wonderful dog.
- Stranger shakes your hand and asks if he can pet your dog.
- You reply, "Yes, please do"
- Your dog should sit quietly to be petted (on cheek or under chin), not backing off, jumping up or licking, whining, etc.
- Give corrections for unwanted behavior
- If your dog should give a warning growl, pull him off and excuse the stranger.

Do this exercise (as others) in many different places and circumstances. Dogs are Situational.

Do this and all exercises with Distractions. Your dog should learn that You are the center of his World and Focus on You!

Walking on leash:

If your dog is dependable in walking with you, try dropping the leash in an unobtrusive fashion. Engage your dog (voice and body language), motivate your dog to keep him walking with you. Try to maintain Focus. Praise for Focus. If your dog loses focus, STOP! (Tell your dog to Sit) Regain Focus before you proceed. Focus is more important than movement.

Recall:

Your dog should be coming quickly and on first command. We will start doing recalls with your dog dragging this lead. Be Prepared to get the lead for correction. Use your voice, body language and movement to invoke prey drive and convert it into pack drive.

Sit with Focus:

Continue to practice and build time and concentration, using a pop when needed. Add distractions. We want our dogs to be trained for the Real world, not just our training world.

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Sit Stay with Distractions:

- Be ready to correct.
- Verbally correct for lack of attention, “uh oh, look at me...Good....Hand signal to stay; use verbal if Necessary. Rely on body language and hand signals much more than verbal.
- Distractions include:
 - People
 - Squeaky toys
 - Balls bouncing
 - Someone talking to him.
 - Let someone else offer him a treat, or a toy, or walk around him
- No matter what you do, your dog should not move, and he should keep his eyes on you. If he moves, respond appropriately based on whether he’s confused, afraid, distracted or thinks he has a choice.
- Try to work up to **One Minute**.

Down Stay with Distractions:

- Same as Sit Stay

Stand Stay with Distractions:

- Same as sit and down stay

Evaluation of Training Progress and Goals.

Recommendation for further training, including:

Repeat **Beginner** — Reduced Cost

Attention Class

and/or

Advanced Beginner