

Building a Great Dog on the Lead: Quick Guide

1. Lower Expectations & Break It Down

- **Start small:** Getting out of the driveway calmly is the first goal.
- **Stand still at the door** with the lead on until she settles.
- **Take a single step forward.** If she pulls, reset.
- **If she walks nicely for a few steps, reward with praise.**
- **Only progress when she's consistent.** If she pulls, stop or turn back.

2. Pattern Interrupts & Direction Changes

- **Stop immediately when she pulls.** No movement until she eases pressure.
- **If she continues pulling, pivot and change direction.**
 - If she pulls left, turn right.
 - If she surges forward, turn backward.
 - This teaches her pulling gets her nowhere.

3. Higher Rate of Corrections Without Frustration

- **Use quick, light lead pops instead of constant tension.**
 - Think of it as a tap on the shoulder, not a yank.
- **If she ignores the pop, add a verbal cue like "uh-uh" or "easy".**
 - This reinforces the pop as a reset cue.

4. Engagement Before Movement

- **Reduce distraction before stepping outside:**
 - Eye contact = "yes" and a step forward.
 - Name recognition before movement.
 - Quick sits before going out the door.

5. Lead & Collar Choice

- **Stick with what she trained on at Mordor Gundogs** for consistency.
- **If she's lunging a lot, a figure-8 slip lead (over the muzzle) can help** naturally reduce pulling.

Final Thoughts

- **Short, structured sessions (5-10 mins) work best.**
- **Set small goals and end on success.**
- **Once she reliably walks the driveway, extend the distance gradually.**

Keep consistent and patient—she's transitioning from structured training back to home life, and it takes time!