

# 5 Basic Dog Commands

## 5 Basic Dog Commands Every Dog Should Learn.



### Train your puppy today .

Teach the 5 basic dog commands to your dog. Basic commands are key to building a strong, positive relationship and ensuring they are well-behaved in various environments. The following five commands form the foundation of effective obedience training and can help keep your dog safe, well-mannered, and mentally stimulated. Remember to use positive reinforcement dog training methods at all times during training.

#### 1.Sit:

The first of the 5 basic dog commands is the “sit” command is one of the first and easiest commands to teach. It serves as a

foundational behaviour that helps your dog remain calm and attentive. Mastering this command can help manage behaviours like jumping or lunging and is often used to transition into more advanced training. Train your puppy to sit when asked and develop a basis to build upon.

**How to Teach It:** Use a treat to lure your dog's nose up and over their head, causing them to naturally sit. Once seated, reward them and use the verbal cue "sit."

## **2. Stay**

The second of the 5 basic dog commands is the "stay" command and is essential for controlling your dog in situations where you want them to remain in one place, whether you're answering the door or crossing the street. This command helps build impulse control and teaches your dog to stay focused even when there are distractions.

**How to Teach It:** Start by asking your dog to sit, then use a hand signal (such as an open palm) and say "stay." Gradually increase the duration before rewarding and releasing them with a word like "okay" or "free."

## **3. Come**

The third of the 5 basic dog commands is "Come" and this a life-saving command that ensures your dog returns to you in any situation, whether they're off-leash at a park or in the backyard. This command is crucial for your dog's safety, especially in high-risk environments like busy streets.

**How to Teach It:** Start in a controlled environment and call your dog's name followed by "come" while gently pulling on their leash or showing them a treat. When they arrive, reward them with praise and treats to reinforce positive behaviour.

## **4. Down**



The “down” command is similar to “sit” but requires more patience and control. It’s useful when you need your dog to remain calm, especially in environments like cafes or public spaces. It’s also a good way to reinforce your dog’s focus and discipline.

**How to Teach It:** With your dog in the “sit” position, hold a treat near their nose and slowly lower it to the floor. As their body follows the treat, reward them once they’re lying down, and introduce the verbal cue “down.”

## **5. Leave It**

“Leave it” is crucial for preventing your dog from picking up dangerous or inappropriate items from the ground. Whether it’s dropped food or something harmful, this command helps curb curiosity and protects your dog from ingesting harmful objects.

**How to Teach It:** Hold a treat in your hand, let your dog sniff, and when they reach for it, close your hand and say “leave it.” Reward them with a different treat when they stop attempting to grab it.

## **Conclusion**

These 5 basic dog commands are sit, stay, come, down, and leave it—they are foundational skills that not only improve your dog’s behaviour but also enhance communication between you and your dog. Using positive reinforcement training techniques to teach these commands makes learning fun and

stress-free for your dog, promoting long-term obedience and safety.

For more in-depth training techniques and guidance on reinforcing these commands, consult resources such as **The American Kennel Club (AKC)** and **The Association of Professional Dog Trainers (APDT)**