

# Clicker Training

## 101



Clicker training (also called marker training) uses a distinct sound to "mark" the moment our pet does something we want and can be used for clear, humane communication with our pets during training. You can think of it like taking a snapshot of good behavior!

Clicker training principles can be used to teach new obedience cues and tricks as well as capturing calm behaviors, reducing reactivity, teaching polite leash walking and greetings, and more!

### 4 Steps to Clicker Training

1. SEE the behavior
2. MARK the behavior
3. REACH for a treat
4. DELIVER the treat

### You'll Need:

- A clicker or marker word like "yes" or "yep"
- Small pea-sized treats or pieces of kibble in an easily accessible container or treat pouch
- Your pet!

### To begin: Charge the clicker

Charging the clicker means teaching your dog that the clicker sound (or marker word) means that a reward will follow! Stand in front of your dog and hold the clicker in one hand. Click the button on the clicker (or say your marker word), then immediately reach for a treat and deliver it to your dog. Do this 10-15 times, or until your dog is eagerly looking toward you as soon as they hear the "click"! Always reward a click with a treat.

### Next: Practice with a known cue

Ask your dog to do a behavior they already know well, like "sit". As soon as you SEE the sit, MARK the behavior by clicking. Then REACH for a treat & DELIVER the treat to your dog! Practice daily.

### Capture good behaviors!

Look for times throughout the day when your dog does something you like. When you SEE it, MARK and then reward your dog with a treat! You can use the clicker and treats to mark and reward your dog for walking next to you, laying nicely on a bed while you eat dinner, & more!