



Solid Commands

Sit (with a built-in Stay)

Your dog should go into a Sit/Stay position whenever you give the command 1 time and whenever you are walking with your dog and come to a stop. Your dog should stay in the Sit/Stay position despite any distractions and until you give your release command. After your dog goes into a Sit position on command, don't let it lie down after a few minutes without any correction. "Sit" means sit/stay and not down. Would you allow your dog to break a sit command and jump up on someone or run into the street? Then why allow your dog to break the sit command by lying down?

Down (with a built-in Stay)

Your dog should go into the Down position whenever you give the command 1 time wherever your dog is. The down command means down/stay. I will train your dog to down/stay until you give the release command or tell the dog to do something else. Your dog will do a SOLID down/stay despite lots of noise, vibration, or visual distractions all around you and your dog. A dog that can do a proper down/stay with numerous distractions will be able to go many more places in public.

Heel

The biggest complaint that I get from dog owners is that their dogs do not heel properly and instead pull them down the street. Sometimes people hire me just to teach heel, and I teach a very strong heel.

When a dog feels something pulling on it, the dog instinctively pulls back. So if you pull on the leash to prevent your dog from pulling you down the street, you actually encourage it to pull even harder. I do not believe in using head halters, chest harnesses, or any similar products on the market.

With my Solid K9 Training techniques I can train your dog to heel properly in less than a day. I am amazed that other trainers do not teach this from day 1. Taking a structured walk with your dog should begin on the first day that you bring your dog home. Your dog should heel even in a large backyard, off-leash in the woods, or on the beach. You must go on structured walks with your dog to establish proper pack rank.

I will train your dog to do a proper heel with its head in line with your left knee at all times – when you go straight, turn, or walk backwards. I can also train your dog to come to a heel from anywhere the dog happens to be. On command, your dog will come to your left side and sit



down, ready to do what you tell it to do next. Your dog will do a SOLID heel both on-leash and off-leash

Place

The place command is a great command to use when you need your dog to go to a specific spot, such as a dog blanket, in or out of the house. When someone comes to the door, you give the command and your dog goes and stays on the blanket until you release the dog. No longer does your dog jump up or get in the way of you or your guests. When you are out on a picnic and your dog is off-leash, you give dog the place command and your dog will go and stay on the “place” until you release it.

Wait

You give the Wait command when you don’t want your dog to move, for example, before going into or out of a car or house. You can use the command when the dog is sitting or lying down, but usually you give the command when the dog is standing. I train a dog to wait at any door. I can then release the dog to go through the door either before or after me. I also consider this an unspoken default or implied command. Eventually your dog will learn to wait without your saying anything.

Recall (the Come or Here command)

This is the one command that can save your dog’s life. You need to have your dog come to you whenever and wherever you give this command no matter what distraction there is. Use this command when your dog is running toward the street chasing a ball and a car is coming or when your dog is chasing another animal or a child. Your dog should stop what it is doing and run towards you as soon as it hears the command.

This is also the easiest command to ruin for you and your dog, as I explain in detail with all of my clients. Having a dog come to you on command in a classroom with 4 walls is one thing, but having your dog come to you on the beach or in the woods is another. If you truly want 100% off-leash recall, I am the one to teach it to you and your dog.