

BUILDING DRIVE THROUGH CORRECTIONS

Most dogs react negatively to corrections because that is how they are taught to react. I teach my dogs to react positively to corrections by using praise, play and food.

Initially, when giving a correction for misbehavior, I teach my dog that he should expect praise, play and or food immediately after a correction by making sure that is exactly what he receives. Then instead of sulking after corrections he gets excited by it. Then as the dog is learning – I delay the time that he would receive praise, play or food by waiting for him to respond correctly after the correction and then rewarding w/ praise and play or food. The delay should begin in 5-second intervals, then 10 second, till the dog is waiting and paying attention for 1 minute before praise and food/play. Then the dog learns that correct behaviors illicit a play/food response from his owner. Some dogs have a higher play drive than food and would rather play than eat. Each dog is different and it is up to you to figure out what motivates your dog. Hopefully, your dog is a well-balanced dog will work for food or play.

Also, don't use the training equipment only when the dog is behaving badly. Let him wear his training collar and leash when you have no intention of training/correcting. Don't allow your dog to get collar wise/leash wise by only putting the collar and or leash on him when he is behaving badly or when you are going to train with him.

*Consideration, Anticipation, Preparation: Consider what your dog is going to do. Anticipate his reaction, and be prepared to correct him for misbehavior." Schellenberg
A skillful trainer will, of course, discourage (option 1) by making that choice even more unpleasant, and he will encourage (option 2) by immediately rewarding the dog for desirable behavior." Schellenberg*