



LESSON: Touch

Goal: To use your hand as a target to move your dog from one place to another.
Ex. Step on the scale at the vet's, walk with a loose leash, jump through a hoop.

- 1) **TEACH TOUCH** Rub a smelly treat on the inside of your palm. Present your open hand (fingertips facing down) about 1in from the dog's nose. When your dog's nose bumps your hand, mark "yes" and treat.
- 2) Repeat 8 times.
- 3) **VERBAL CUE** Say "touch" then present your hand.
- 4) When your dog's nose bops your hand, mark "yes" and treat.
- 5) **DISTANCE** gradually present your hand further away from the dog by taking one step away, then 2, then 3. Change target sides (left to right, high to low) etc to mix it up.
- 6) **PING PONG** A family affair. Each person has a handful of high value treats. One by one take turns calling the dog using the dog's name then, "touch". When the dog targets the person's hand who cued "touch", that person marks "yes" and rewards.
- 7) **DISTRACTION** Practice your "touch" outside.

SINGLE CUE: Do not be a broken record. Cue "touch" once and be patient.