



## LESSON: PLACE

**GOAL:** Place is an excellent tool to use when you want your dog to lie down and settle until released: Ex. while making dinner, mealtimes, welcoming guests into your home, etc.

- 1) **TEACHING PLACE** Point to the bed/mat. When the dog gets all 4 paws on the bed/mat, mark “yes” and treat the bed/mat. “Release”. Repeat X 3.
- 2) Next time you point to the bed/mat and your dog gets all 4 paws on, ask for a “sit”. Mark “yes”, reward, and “release”. Repeat X 3.
- 3) Now, when your dog goes to the bed/mat and automatically offers a “sit” ask for a “down.” Mark “yes”, reward, and release. Repeat X 3. (The “bed/mat” cue should now be an automatic “down”.)
- 4) Lastly add the verbal cue. Say, “bed/mat” and point. When the dog lies down, mark “yes” and treat. Repeat X 3.
- 5) **ADD DURATION:** practice having your dog staying in “place” for longer durations of time- one second at a time. Reward your dog on the mat between their paws.
- 6) **ADD DISTANCE** Lastly, practice sending your pup to their “place” from further distances, one step at a time. Eventually, the goal is to be able to send your dog to their “place” from another room.
- 7) **ADD DISTRACTIONS** Can your dog remain on the mat in a down position while you raise your hands up, do a jumping jack, walk to the front door, clap your hands, run in place, drop a treat, toss a toy?