

How to Release Cue Handout



Steps:

1. Stock your pocket/pouch with the dog's favorite treats or toy. Put a harness, and a 6-foot standard leash on the dog. Go to a quiet area where the dog is comfortable.
2. Ask the dog to sit.
3. With a treat in hand put it on your dog's nose and have the dog walk forward towards your hand and say the release word (If you have multiple dogs use the dog's name as the release cue word)
4. Practice until the dog walks forward at least 90 percent of the time when given the release cue. then proceed to the fluency stage.



Fluency Steps:

1. Go to a quiet area the dog is comfortable in. Make sure there are no distractions and have a pouch full of treats.
2. Approach the dog and stand no more than 3 to 4 feet away from them. They can be standing, sitting, or lying down.
3. Get their attention and give the Release cue. Reward them for the proper response (they approach you).
4. Repeat Steps 2 to 4 but now only reward for a faster response to the cue.
5. When you see steady improvement in her responses 90 percent of the time, you are ready to move on to generalizing the Release Cue.



Hand signal: Open hand moving away from the dog.

Verbal Cue: "Okay"/ "Release" / "Free"/ Dogs name