

**HOW TO PROPERLY
TRAIN YOUR DOG
USING YOUR
D.T. SYSTEMS
REMOTE TRAINING
COLLAR**



D.T. SYSTEMS, INC.

The purpose of this booklet is to teach basic training techniques for use with your D.T. Systems Electronic Dog Training Collar.

Before using any D.T. Systems product, it is important to have a complete understanding of its proper use. Prior to beginning training with your dog, please read your owner's manual and this instruction booklet entirely. It is vitally important that the trainer fully understand, not only how the electronic collar works, but also, the proper way to introduce it to the dog.

D.T. Systems remote training collars are the highest quality, state of the art, high tech dog training equipment available on the market today. They are more effective and more humane than any other type of training collar (flat, chain, pinch, halter).

When training, timing is crucial and electronic collars allow for precise timing. More importantly, they allow the trainer to be completely removed from the correction. The dog associates the correction with the behavior and learns that listening to the trainer is the solution to its problem.

Electronic collars are designed to perform two basic functions. They are used to polish and finish or "Proof" previously learned behaviors such as heel, sit, come, down, and stay. For proofing learned behaviors, you should use low-level stimulation. Electronic collars are also used to correct behavioral problems like barking, digging, chewing, or jumping up, as well as correcting wrong decisions made during training sessions. For correcting behavioral problems, it is best to use the momentary or Nick stimulation.

We would all like our dogs to listen.

We would like them to take directions and be a pleasure to have around. Your dog probably heels, sits, downs or performs other tricks you have taught it. Like most pet owners, teaching your dog to do tricks is not really the problem. The problem is that your dog only performs for you when it is convenient. This is more of a relationship problem coupled with poor communication. One simply will not stand without the other. It does not matter how many tricks your dog knows, if it will not wait for an invitation to perform them. You do not have to have an electronic collar to teach your dog. However, with the electronic collar the process can be accomplished with remarkable ease and speed. Once you have proofed the stay in your dog it is a simple process to polish the tricks you have taught. You should not attempt to teach your dog new exercises or tricks using the electronic collar. It is designed to proof or improve the reliability of the tricks your dog already knows.

INTRODUCING YOUR DOG TO THE COLLAR

You should begin with a simple task that your dog already knows and performs well. If you try to teach your dog something new with the electronic collar, the dog will become very confused and the training process could stall. It is important that your dog understands what to do when it feels the stimulation from the collar. What we want to teach your dog is that whenever it feels the stimulation, the answer to the problem is to do what the trainer is asking.

GO TO A DESIGNATED PLACE

Usually, the simplest and fastest way to begin training is with a dog crate. First, you should teach your dog to enter the crate on command.

To do this, sit your dog in front of an open crate and command him to enter the crate. The best way to teach this exercise is to use the generic voice command "PLACE". Once we

have taught your dog to go to its place reliably, we will begin to assign each individual place with its own name (i.e. crate, truck, house, bed or whatever). Once your dog has entered the crate, insist that it waits there for a moment before you invite it out. Heel your dog around in a circle. Stop in front of the crate and begin again. Repeat this process several times until it is clear that your dog understands and performs the command.

Now it is time to begin using the electronic collar in conjunction with the place command. You are not teaching your dog to go into the crate with the electronic collar. You are using this exercise to help your dog understand what to do when it feels the stimulation. As you issue the command "PLACE", activate the collar and continue to stimulate the dog until it has entered the crate. You may need to help your dog into the crate the first couple of times. Once your dog has entered the crate,

wait a moment before commanding your dog to heel. Heel around in a circle until you have returned to the crate. Your dog will begin to want to enter the crate before you give the command. This is a good sign. Quietly insist that your dog wait until you give the command. At this time, you may stop using the collar unless your dog hesitates.

Now you may begin, gradually, to move to different locations before commanding your dog to "PLACE"; chose different points on a semicircle about three feet from the crate. When your dog is reliable at any point on that semicircle it is time to increase the distance. Move the semicircle out to six feet from the crate and begin again. During this entire process, you should still have your dog on a long leash as well as the electronic collar. Distance causes problems. As you get farther from the crate your dog may become confused and try to go somewhere other than the crate.

Use the long leash to help the dog understand that there is no alternative. Your dog must complete the task or the stimulation will continue. You should always remain calm and give quiet commands. Remember to always give praise for progress.

STAY IN PLACE

Now that your dog is reliably going to its place on command from multiple locations, it is time to proof the stay. We do not want your dog to exit the crate until given permission. If your dog exits the crate, you should activate the continuous stimulation as you give the "PLACE" command. Praise your dog for returning and waiting. At this time, we can begin to eliminate the command "STAY". From now on a command, no matter what it is, should be adhered to without the "STAY" reminder. If your dog breaks the stay, just command "PLACE" as you activate the stimulation and point at the crate. To proof

"Stay in Place" we need to tempt the dog to break. With your dog in the crate, you should move out to the end of the long leash. Look away and lightly tug on the leash. If your dog exits the crate, you should step toward the crate applying stimulation as you command "PLACE". Continue to apply stimulation until it is clear your dog is returning. You should always eliminate stimulation if it is clear that your dog is complying. However, if your dog decides not to comply, reapply the stimulation until your dog is completely in the crate. Repeat this process until you are able to pull on the leash and your dog refuses to leave the crate. Reward by enthusiastically calling your dog out of the crate.

Your dog is now demonstrating its understanding of the stimulation. He knows that he is to do what is told and wait for further directions. It is at this juncture that a second place is introduced. You need to supply a

clearly defined spot and not just anywhere on the lawn or floor. A low table or pallet works very well. It is already clear to your dog that we want it to stay in its crate. Now we want it to be clear that the place can be any designated spot. Repeat the above procedure but this time, send your dog to the low table. Just pat the table and command "PLACE". If your dog leaves the table, just command place and point at the table. Proof staying on the table in the same way you taught staying in the crate.

COME FROM THE PLACE

Begin calling your dog from the table and then sending it to the crate. Proof the stay command at each location. You now have your dog going to, staying in, and coming from multiple places. Always reward lavishly for cooperation and progress. The best reward for waiting in either location is an enthusiastic recall. The best correction for leaving the place prematurely is continuous low-level

stimulation until the dog returns. The best correction for not returning directly to the designated place is low-level stimulation until the dog completely returns to the place.

Momentary or Nick stimulation should be used for not leaving the place when called.

PROOFING BASIC COMMANDS

Now that your dog has been properly introduced to the electronic collar it should PLACE, STAY, and COME. It is now time to continue with proofing basic commands.

PROOF THE HEEL

In proofing the heel, the heel position now becomes the place. Using a long line, you should command your dog to "HEEL". If your dog leaves the heel position by either drifting or lunging ahead, you should quietly command "HEEL", and apply continuous stimulation until your dog returns to the heel position. When your dog returns into position, you

should stop the stimulation and quietly praise your dog for cooperating. As your dog becomes reliable with heeling, you should gradually increase distractions in order to proof the heel.

PROOF THE SIT

After heeling a bit, you should stop and command your dog to "SIT". Leave your dog in the sit and move out to the end of the long line. While facing your dog, lightly tug on the long line. If your dog gets up or leaves the sit position, you should command, "SIT" and apply continuous stimulation until your dog returns to the sit position. If necessary, help your dog comply by using the leash. When your dog returns to the sit position, you should stop the stimulation and quietly praise your dog. Continue proofing the sit position until your dog refuses to leave the sit position no matter how hard you pull on the leash. Return to your dog and lavishly praise for compliance.

Command him to "HEEL" and move around a bit to give your dog a break before the next proofing session.

PROOF THE DOWN

After heeling a bit more, command your dog to "SIT" and then "DOWN". After your dog is in a comfortable down, you should leave it and move away to the end of the long line. While facing your dog, lightly tug on the line. If your dog sits up or leaves the down position, you should calmly command "DOWN" and apply low level continuous stimulation until your dog returns to the down position. If necessary, use the leash to help your dog return to the down position. Use the low-level continuous stimulation until your dog returns to the down. Praise your dog and again move out to the end of the long line. Continue proofing the down until your dog refuses to budge. Return to your dog and praise lavishly then release your dog for a short and enthusiastic play session.

Proof the stand

After heeling some more, command your dog to "SIT" and "DOWN" and then "STAND". With your dog in a comfortable stand leave it and go to the end of the long line. Look away and lightly tug on the line. If your dog moves out of the stand, apply low-level continuous stimulation and command "STAND". You may need to help your dog back into the stand. Just as soon as your dog stands still, you must end the stimulation and quietly praise. Return to your dog and lightly praise him while gently stroking his head and back. Command "STAND" again and leave your dog. Proof again with the long line until your dog refuses to leave the stand. Enthusiastically call your dog to you and lavishly praise with a fun game of retrieving.

Once these or other tricks you are working on become reliable, you may then begin to use the momentary or Nick stimulation to fix slight

imperfections in the performance. Remember, when using continuous stimulation it is important to use a setting that does not upset your dog. The correct stimulation is usually so low you the human cannot feel it. When you switch to momentary stimulation, it will be necessary to increase the level of stimulation. Because of the speed of the momentary stimulation, your dog probably will not feel it as well as he did during the continuous mode.

If you have any questions about the proper operation of any D.T. Systems product please feel free to call our Customer Service Department.



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