

# Claiborne Canine, LLC

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# Training Overview

At Claiborne Canine, we want to ensure that we provide multiple types of education and training to you. This education and training will help optimize the training experience for everyone, especially your pup. If you have any questions about the training we go over in your sessions, please let us know. Our goal is to be of service to you, your family, and your pup.

### The Importance of Exercise

Before we begin the training process, I want to first address something extremely important. Exercise is one of the best things you can give to you pup. Some breeds require a substantial amount of daily exercise while other breeds are not as active. It is critical to know your breed's exercise requirements. If your pup does not get the appropriate exercise they will act out, they just can't help it. As I heard a long time ago "A GOOD dog is a TIRED dog." We will talk more about your pup's specific exercise needs in your training sessions.

## The 10 Commands

In the training world, the following are what I refer to as the 10 commands:

- 1. Watch
- 2. Sit
- 3. Down
- 4. Stay
- 5. Wait
- 6. Come
- 7. One your bed / In your crate
- 8. Leave It, Take It, Drop It
- 9. Loose Leash Walking
- 10. No Jumping

These commands/behaviors will be the most useful when living with your pup. There are many more commands, behaviors and tricks that your pup can learn, but these 10 are the most essential and cover almost everything. Over my 15 years of training, I have seen different variations of these commands. For example, some people say "LAY" to their pup while others say "DOWN". The most important thing is to be

consistent with your word. Using hand signals is also very effective when training your pup. People often will use similar but different hand signals. Again, the most important thing is to be consistent.

The following is a brief description of each of the 10 Commands, which will be covered in more detail during your training sessions.

## The 10 Commands (Description)

#### 1. Watch

This command simply gets your pup to give you eye contact. We should not expect a young pup to give us eye contact for a long duration of time. With time and practice you will be able to increase how long your pup can focus and watch.

#### 2. Sit

This is typically one of the first commands we teach out pup. Teaching your pup to sit will be important for many reasons. Your pup should learn to sit for the life rewards and resources you provide them. For example, a pup should learn to sit for their food. "Sit" is kind of like the foundation of a house. Likewise, building upon "sit", more commands can be learned. The ultimate goal is to have your pup sit as soon as they are told. Another goal in training is to only have to say "Sit" one time before your pup responds to the command.

#### 3. Down

This can be very fun and practical to teach a puppy. Having your pup learn down will come in very handy. Remember and try to use a different word such as "Off" if you want your pup off the couch. Using the word down for multiple commands will confuse the pup. It is really fun to have a pup learn "Down" from a distance using only a hand signal.

# 4. Stay and 5. Wait

"Stay" and "Wait" are 2 different commands. Stay means "Freeze, do not move until I come all the way back to release you". If I cue the pup to stay, I don't want to walk away from them and then call the pup to me. That would be rewarding the pup for coming and NOT for staying. I always come all the way back to my pup whether they are in a sit/stay, down/stay, on your bed/stay or any other stay position.

"Wait" is a little different from "Stay". With "Wait" I walk away from the pup and then call them to me. For example, I could cue the pup to sit/wait at a door and then walk out the door and call the pup to me. We will go over these 2 commands in your sessions.

## 6. Come when called

This command is extremely important in our training regiment. Training our pup to be 100% consistent with Come when called\_takes time and practice. Using an Electronic Collar to teach your pup to come is a very effective method, which we will also go over in your training sessions. Every pup is different and it is not appropriate to

implement an electronic collar with every dog. I consider Come when called to be <u>one</u> of the most important commands, if not the most important.

## 7. On Your Bed / In Your Crate

Most everyone I have trained over the last 15 years either have a dog bed and/or crate for their pup. Having a safe space for your pup to go is very important. If we have company at our house, having our pup stay on its bed has much value. Utilizing a crate has many benefits, such as helping with potty training and keeping our pup safe. During your training sessions we will go over all the details for on your bed and in your crate.

## 8. Leave It, Take It, and Drop It

These 3 commands should be taught to every pup. Teaching your pup discipline can save their life and prevent expensive vet costs. Our pups should not go after objects on the ground. Whether we are teaching a hunting dog to leave certain things alone in the field or simply teaching a pup to not chew on the couch, these 3 commands are essential to your pup's health and your wallet.

#### 9. Loose Leash Walking

This is probably one of the most noteworthy commands/behaviors in the dog world. Dogs are very strong. Even small breed dogs can pull us down and potentially cause injuries. There are many different collars, harnesses and other training equipment on the market designed to help your pup not pull when they are leashed. Some of these training tools are effective and some are not.

Every breed is different and should be taken into account when choosing the right training equipment. For example, a French bulldog should never wear a choke collar. French bulldogs and other "brachy" breeds have a short upper pallet. Using a choke collar on them will cause breathing issues. Training our pup to walk to our side and to not pull and lunge on the leash is critical for several reasons. We will go over Loose Leash Walking in the very beginning of your training sessions.

#### 10. Jumping

Jumping is the primary unwanted behavior. Again, whether you have a little dog or a giant dog, training our pup to not jump on us or other people should be taught at the very beginning. It can be fun for our puppy to jump on us at first but sooner than later it becomes a problem.

A good rule to teach your pup is <u>4 on the floor.</u> Our pup should understand that jumping is not rewarded. Allowing our pup to jump on other people is also not okay. I know it can be difficult—especially when we have a cute little puppy—to not allow jumping. However, as the owner of the dog, it is our responsibility to demonstrate good etiquette when our pup is around other people. Even if the other person says "It's okay, I don't mind if your pup jumps on me" it is not okay.

Thank you for reading through the Training Overview. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at (423)637-5787 or claibornecanine@gmail.com