

WELCOME!

Orientation Week



About Me

- Sterling Native
- B.S. Animal Science—Kansas State University 2022
- Began professionally training in 2020
- CCPDT -KA in 2022
- Cert. Animal Shelter Behavior Management
- AKC CGC Evaluator
- Currently enrolled in the Dognostics Education Center Dog Training Certification Program



About You

Go around the room and answer these questions:

- Name
- Where you're from
- Your dog's name, age, breed
- Your favorite snack



Class Location

- The Lumberyard or Peace Park(unless specified)
 - No bathrooms (please go beforehand!)
 - Please be respectful of this space
 - Please silence cell phones

What You Will Need For Class

- Treats that your dog likes
- A clicker
- A mat/towel for your dog to sit on
- A Kong/toy for your dog to play with (optional)
- Your dog (on leash with a collar or body harness)
- Water (for the both of you)
- Poop bags
- Notebook + pencil/pen
- A good attitude!



What Not To Bring

- Your dog with a prong, e-collar or shock collar, a slip lead, or a flexi-lead
- Your children or other family members
- Outside worries and fears



Why We Don't Punish

- Can ruin the bond between owner and dog
- Incorrect association between the behavior/object and the punisher
- Increased stress, anxiety, fear, and aggressive behavior
- Not conducive to a proper learning environment
- Better ways

Do No Harm

The Three D's

- Distance
- Duration
- Distraction



How Dogs Learn

- Two ways: Association (classical) and by consequence (operant)
- Association: Cell phone rings → “Someone is calling!” → Go pick up phone → Answer call
- Pavlov’s Dogs: Bell rings → Dog salivates → Dog gets food; Bell rings without food → Dog salivates

How Dogs Learn

- What associations has your dog made about things?
- How might we teach a dog to like being near this chair? How might we teach a dog to fear it?
- Dogs are always learning! It's important to remember that what we do influences the association that our dog makes about things, including us.

How Dogs Learn 2

- Consequence (operant conditioning)
- Example: I tell my kid that for every ‘A’ he gets at the end of the semester, he’ll get \$20.
- Dogs can’t understand this over this length of time; consequences must be immediate for them to be effective.
- This is where markers (clicker, marker word, etc.) come in.

How Markers Work

- Markers allow us to ‘mark’ behavior as soon as it occurs and allows the time for the appropriate consequence to be given.
- Example: ‘Sit!’ → Dog sit → ‘Click’ or marker word (“Yes!”) → Give treat from treat pouch.
- An association must be made between the marker and an appropriate reinforcer in order to work correctly.



In Conclusion:

- Dogs think of the world in one of two ways: what's good/safe/ works for me and what is scary/unsafe/ does not work for me.
- It's NOT right/wrong.

Practical: Charging the Clicker

Time to charge!



“Say Please!”

- Make a list of things that your dog likes. This will become our “Say Please!” list.
- This includes things he likes to eat, toys he likes to play with, things he likes to do, etc.
- From now on, anything your dog wants on this list he has to say “Please” for. For now, “Please”= Behaving politely (not jumping, barking, whining) before rewarding him with anything on the list.
- A great time to practice this is before dinner, or before throwing a ball for fetch. You’ll get to practice manners without setting aside hours during the day to train.
- Which of the two ways dogs learn (consequence and association) is this an example of?

How to Enter Class

- Message/text/call me to let me know you've arrived.
- I will come meet you at your vehicle and double-check that you have everything you need for class.
- I will help guide you to your seat for the day.
- Keep your dog on a short leash; he should not be wondering around or meeting other dogs during this time.

Time for Questions!