The Recall

Foundational

Definition of Recall:

When the dog comes close enough to be grabbed and doesn't leave until released.

Achieve Target Behaviour

1. Have your dog on a 15ft long leash in a non-distracting environment - Again...we're not trying to make this harder than it needs to be.
2. Toss a visible piece of food onto a clear, flat surface and tell your dog to "Get It."
3. When they are finished eating, say, "come" in a firm, consistent tone and guide the dog back to you using the leash.
   a. **If your dog comes:** Take a few steps back to help centre them towards you and praise heavily. Mark with "yes" (duration marker) when they commit to coming to you. Then pay at your feet.
   b. **If your dog doesn't come:** Say "no" (no reward marker). Pop the leash and pull them in. Jog backwards and praise to encourage them to help centre them towards you. Mark with "yes" (duration marker) when they commit to coming to you then pay when they reach your feet. Consider working around less distractions if your dog fails more than 3 times.
4. Repeat this process several times until your dog is successful 3/3 times.
5. Then practice working closer to distractions or practicing with around higher value distractions.

Adding a Controlled Distraction   3 Sets of 3 Reps or 5 min session

See "Understanding Distractions" for more information on controlled distractions and examples.

1. Add a controlled distraction such as scattering food in the grass or dogs on leash nearby.
2. Wait for your dog to focus on the distraction then sneak away from them to the end of a 15ft leash.
3. Ensure the leash is in ready position to redirect and guide your dog. Cue your dog "come".
   a. **If your dog listens:** Take a few steps back to help centre them towards you and praise heavily. Mark with "yes" (duration marker) when they commit to coming to you. Then pay at your feet.
   b. **If your dog doesn't listen:** Say "no" (no reward marker). Pop the leash and pull them in. Jog backwards and praise to encourage them to help centre them towards you. Mark with "yes" (duration marker) when they commit to coming to you then pay when they reach your feet. Consider working around less distractions if your dog fails more than 3 times.
4. Repeat this process several times until your dog is successful 3/3 times. consistently. Then gradually fade out the leash guidance and/or only rewarding with food for above average performances.

When to Advance the 3 D's

Remember The Rule of 3. If your dog easily completes three successful reps in a row, advance to standing further away from the dog (distance), working closer to distractions or higher distractions. Only focus on challenging one of the 3 D's. If your dog fails three times in a row go back a step and make it easier.