



# Impulse Control

## Cue'd and Implied

### Definition of "Leaving It":

It means: not lunging, slack leash, looking away, turning away, walking away, looking at you, or backing up.

### Implied Impulse Control

1. With your dog on a leash/collar (not on a harness), have a controlled distraction near by such as food, toy or something your dog likes in the environment.
2. Allow your dog to look at the distraction. Wait to see if your dog independently disengages from the distraction (ie. not lunging, slacking the leash, looking away, turning away, walking away, looking at you or backing up).
  - a. **If your dog leaves it:** Mark and reward with duration marker ("yes") and lure them away from the distraction as you pay.
  - b. **If your dog doesn't leave it after 5-10 seconds:** prompt them minimally to redirect them (ie. leash pressure, stepping away, poking the dogs butt, calling their name). Then lure them away from the distraction as you pay.
3. Advance to only paying for above average responses then working closer to distractions or working around higher value distractions.

### Leave It Cue - Stationary Position

1. Have a high value toy or treat and drop it on the furthest side away from your dog.
2. Cue "leave it" and wait for your dog to disengage from the distraction, using your leash to prevent them from accessing it.
  - a. **If your dog leaves it:** Mark with "yes" and pay.
  - b. **If your dog doesn't leave it:** Do not reward them. Say "no" and tug on the leash. Repeat step 2.
3. Once your dog is fluidly responding to the leave it cue in a stationary position, practice walking them by it.

### Leave It Cue - Moving Position

1. Have a high value toy or treat and drop it on the furthest side away from your dog.
2. Cue "leave it" and walk past the distraction, using your leash to prevent them from accessing it.
  - a. **If your dog leaves it:** Mark with "yes" and pay after you have passed it.
  - b. **If your dog doesn't leave it:** Do not reward them. Say "no" and tug on the leash. Repeat step 2. If your dog is really struggling use a lure to keep their focus (after they have seen the distraction).
3. Once your dog is fluidly responding to the leave it cue in a moving position, practice walking them by the same distraction at a closer distance or practice with someone else holding the distraction as you walk by.