



Verbal Markers

Introductory

Release Marker

Every time you release your dog

1. Choose a verbal release marker (e.g., "Break," "Okay," or "Free") to signal the end of the behavior and allow your dog to leave the position.
2. Cue your dog with "Sit," "Down," "Stay," or "Place," and assist them into position.
3. Once dog is in position, say your release marker, tap their shoulder or hip, and encourage them to leave the position to get their reward or go sniff.

No Reward Marker

Every time your dog fails

1. Choose a verbal release marker (e.g., "Break," "Okay," or "Free") to signal the end of the behavior and allow your dog to leave the position.
2. Cue your dog with "Sit," "Down," "Stay," or "Place," and assist them into position.
3. Once dog is in position, say your release marker, tap their shoulder or hip, and encourage them to leave the position to get their reward or go sniff.

Duration

Every time your dog succeeds

1. Choose a verbal duration marker (e.g., "Yes," "Good," or "Nice") to signal that the current behavior should continue until given another cue or released, and the reward will be brought to them.
2. Ask your dog to perform a behavior with duration (e.g., sit, down, stay), mark with your duration marker, then bring the reward. Repeat for as long as they stay in position.
3. Continue using your duration marker until you release the dog or give them another cue.

The Key to Success

A lot of owners will forget to release their dog or don't follow up with food after their duration marker. If you want to be successful with working around distractions it will be key that you consistently follow through with the expectations behind each marker.