

Name Response

Purpose:

The **Name Response** exercise teaches your dog to look at you and give you attention when you say her name. **Name** is one of the most important exercises you will teach your dog. Once your dog is giving you attention she will learn that one of two things will happen. Either she will be rewarded for looking at you or she will be given a signal to do a behavior.

Verbal Signal: Yes

Non-Verbal Signal: No

Steps for Teaching Name Response:

Step 1 – Say your dog's name one time. When your dog looks at you, **Click/Treat** her.

Training Tip

Always say your dog's name with a pleasant, happy tone of voice. You want her to associate her name with something positive. If your tone of voice is angry or harsh when you say her name, she may not look at you or give you attention.

Step 2 – If your dog does not look at you when you say her name, do not say her name again. Instead, do something to get her attention. Pat your leg, make a noise, squeak a toy, touch your dog, etc. **Click/Treat** when your dog does look at you.

Savvy Helpful Hint

Make sure that your dog looks at your face when you say her name. Move your hand toward your face and **Click/Treat** her when she is giving you eye contact.

Step 3 – Say your dog's name throughout the week. Each time she gives you attention, **Click/Treat** her.

Step 4 – Once your dog is looking at you each time you say her name, practice in different rooms in your home and practice outside your home.

Training Tip

Always give her a reward for looking at you when you say her name. Give her a food reward, praise her, toss her a ball, or give her a tummy rub, etc. This way your dog learns the something good happens when you say her name and she looks at you.