

Teaching the "Heel" Command

Before you try and teach your dog to walk to "heel", you need to teach him what the command means. Follow the steps below to teach the "heel" as a stationary exercise

1. Start with your dog in front, facing towards you.
2. Have the lead looped over your right wrist and a tit-bit between the finger and thumb of your right hand and lower it to your dog's nose.
3. Slide your left hand down the lead towards the collar.
4. Say your dog's name enthusiastically and take a big step back with your left foot only.
5. Use the tit-bit to lure your dog forward and into a half circle towards you to arrive beside your left leg, as he does, bring your left leg forward to its original position.
6. You should now be standing straight with your dog neatly beside your left leg and facing the same direction as you (in position to set off walking).
7. As the dog arrives at your side use the "heel" command and allow him to eat the tit-bit as a reward.

Repeat until both you and your dog are fluent in this exercise.



N.B. if you want to walk your dog on your right-hand side, simply follow the above in the opposite sequence.