LOOSE-LEASH WALKING

The Pet Rescue RESOURCE

GOAL: At the end of training, the dog will walk on a loose leash in new locations with rewards delivered every few minutes.

NOT TO FORGET:

If the dog pulls, immediately stop and move in the opposite direction for several steps; then start moving forward again when the dog catches up with you. This is not a leash correction- do not jerk on the leash!
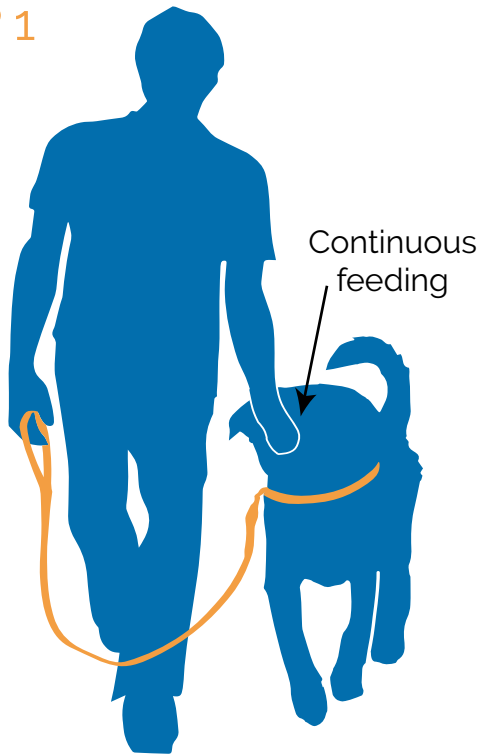
GRADING RULES:

- If the dog gets it right 4 or 5 out of 5 times, move to the next step.
- If the dog gets it right 3 out of 5 times, repeat the current step.
- If the dog gets it right 2 or fewer times of 5, drop to the previous step.

THE PLAN:

Step	What the dog needs to do to get treats	# right
1	In a quiet location, reward the dog continuously (lure) for walking on a loose leash for 5 steps	
2	In a quiet location, reward the dog every 2-3 steps for walking on a loose leash	
3	In a quiet location, reward the dog every 5 steps for walking on a loose leash	
4	In a quiet location, reward the dog every 10 steps for walking on a loose leash	
5	Repeat steps 1-4 in a new location	
6	Repeat steps 1-4 in another new location	
7	Walk toward a pile of treats or favorite toy. The reward for walking on a loose leash is forward movement toward the goal. The penalty for pulling is returning to the starting point.	
8	If the dog is a shelter dog, practice steps 1-4 when moving from the kennel to outdoors.	
9	Reward the dog occasionally (every 15-20+ steps) for walking on a loose leash in a variety of locations.	

STEP 1

Continuous feeding

LATER STEPS
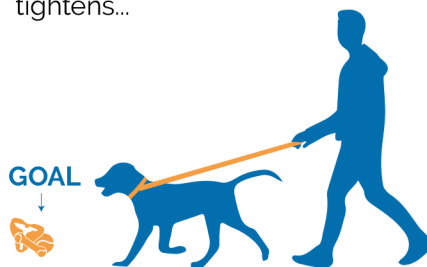
Increasing # of steps between rewards

STEP 7

A loose leash earns forward movement toward the goal.

GOAL

The instant the leash tightens...

GOAL

Turn and return to the start point.

Then try again.

GOAL