



AKC STAR Puppy Class Homework — Week 2

Remember to always release your puppy from a sit or down stay by saying "OK". If you do not release your puppy, he will learn that he can get up anytime he likes. You decide when the exercise is finished, not your puppy. Be persistent and consistent with your training goals and you will see progress.

Exercises to practice

- **Name Attention:** Say your puppy's name to get her attention. Click and treat when your puppy looks at you.
- **Sit And Stay For 5 Seconds:** Lure your puppy into the sit position. Say "sit" and pop a treat into his mouth as soon as his butt hits the floor. Say "stay" and signal with your hand in front of his face. Let him nibble on a treat for a few seconds, while he remains in the sit position, and then release him with your chosen release word, such as "ok" or "free".
- **Down:** Lure your puppy into the down position and pop a treat into her mouth as soon as she is completely down on the floor. After your puppy is lying down quickly and consistently, name the behavior (i.e., say "down").
- **Settle For Examination / Grooming:** In the evening, when your puppy is tired, take him into your arms and cuddle him, while slowly stroking his ears and belly. Lift up his lips and look at his teeth.
- Handle his paws. Look into each of his ears. Make sure you breathe slowly and speak softly and calmly.
- **Leave It:** Show your puppy that you have a treat in your hand. Hold it with your fingers closed so that your puppy can not get it. Wait until she looks away from the hand with the treat in it, then click and pop a treat into her mouth from your other hand. After she is quickly and consistently looking away from the hand with the treat in it, name the behavior (i.e., say "leave it".) Make sure to work on this exercise with both hands.
- **Get A Partner Or Family Member And Practice Puppy Ping Pong:** Call your puppy back and forth between friends or family members, rewarding the puppy with treats or play as he reaches the person who called him. Be sure to have your puppy sit as you take hold of his collar.