

# Getting Started



## Using Clickers and Markers for Training

**M**arker training is a simple but effective way to improve how we train puppies because it enables us to communicate much more clearly, improving the timing and information we give to them about what we like and what we don't like.

A marker is a sound that pinpoints what your puppies did right to earn the reward. We use two different types of markers for training; one is a clicker and the other is a verbal marker, which is a short one syllable word: 'GOOD'.

When you use a marker, imagine that you are taking a snapshot or photograph of what you want your puppy to understand it is being rewarded for.

There are two types of clickers you can buy, a box clicker or a button clicker. The button clicker in your box is easier to use, is quieter and better for sound sensitive puppies than box clickers are.

The marker is a promise that a reward is going to happen. If you click or mark at the wrong time you should still feed your puppies as that was your error. It happens!

A marker is a training aid/teaching tool so it is faded out along with the rewards as the training progresses.

Clicker Training works on two consequences:

- **If it's right click and treat**



- **If it's wrong don't click and treat**



This means that when your dog makes mistakes when learning new things, it isn't told off or punished for simply not understanding. It will then be happy to work hard and to try and work out what you want without worrying about making the mistakes that we all make when learning new skills.

This makes your puppy a more effective learner.

Puppies who are punished for making mistakes because they don't understand will be frightened of trying to work out what you want in case it is wrong and therefore suppressing their learning ability. They may also become frightened of you.

In this box you will learn two techniques and help your puppies learn some cool and useful cognitive skills.

**1) Lure, Click and Reward**

**2) Capture, Click and Reward**