

# Teaching Your Dog Tricks: Fun, Easy Ways to Train and Bond

Training your dog isn't just about obedience—it's about communication, confidence, and fun! Teaching your pup new tricks strengthens your bond, keeps their mind sharp, and builds trust between you. Whether you're a first-time dog parent or an experienced trainer, these tips will help make learning fun for both of you.



# Why Teach Your Dog Tricks?

Dogs love having a “job” to do. Tricks provide mental stimulation, relieve boredom, and can even prevent unwanted behaviors. Plus, they make for great party tricks and adorable social media moments!



Improved focus and  
mental enrichment



Better manners and  
impulse control



Strengthened  
communication and  
trust



A fun, rewarding way to  
spend time together

# Getting Started: The Basics

Before you jump into teaching tricks, keep these fundamentals in mind:

1. **Keep sessions short and fun** - Aim for 5-10 minutes, especially for young or easily distracted dogs.
2. **Use positive reinforcement** - Reward with small treats, praise, or play. Trick training should be fun for you and your dog.
3. **Be consistent** - Use the same cue word or hand signal each time.
4. **End on a high note** - Stop before your dog gets tired or frustrated.



# 1. Shake (or Paw)

- Ask your dog to sit.
- Gently take one paw
- Reward and release.
- Repeat until they offer the paw voluntarily.
  - *Name the behavior once they are doing it without the lure 90% of the time*



## 2. High Five

- Hold your hand up like you're about to high-five.
- Encourage your dog to touch your hand with their paw.
- Mark the behavior with "yes!", then reward.
  - *Name the behavior once they are doing it without the lure 90% of the time*



## 3. Spin

- Hold a treat near your dog's nose and move it in a circle.
- Mark the behavior with "yes!"
- Reward once they complete the turn.
  - ✓ *Tip: Teach both directions—"spin" and "twirl"!*
  - *Name the behavior once they are doing it without the lure 90% of the time*



## 4.Over

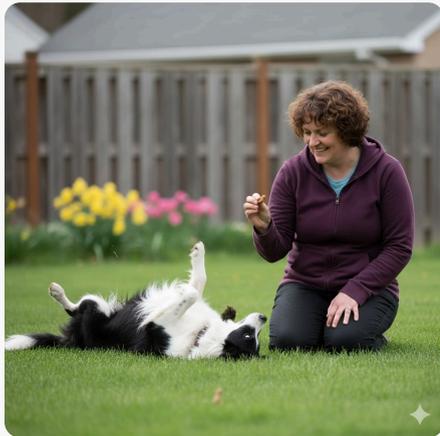
- Lure your dog over an object low to the ground
- Mark the behavior with "yes!", then reward
- Slowly move to objects that are higher off the ground
  - *Name the behavior once they are doing it without the lure 90% of the time*



## 5. Under

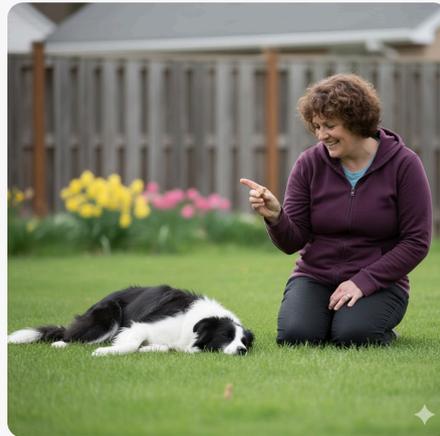
- Lure your dog under an object that is high off the ground
- Mark behavior with "yes!", then reward
- Slowly move to objects that are lower to the ground
  - *Name the behavior once they are doing it without the lure 90% of the time*

# Level Up With Advanced Tricks



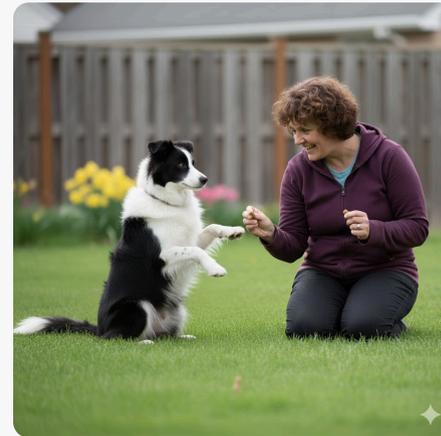
**Roll Over**

Great for agility and body awareness.



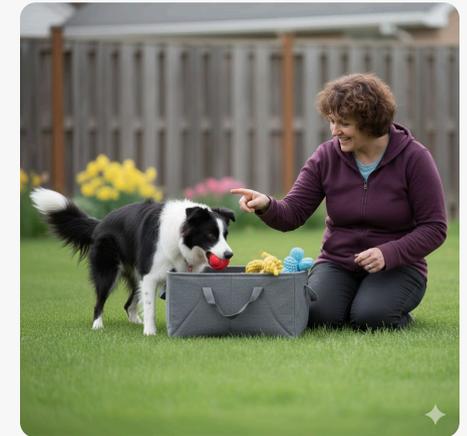
**Play Dead ("Bang!")**

A cute party trick.



**Sit Pretty**

A cute photo worthy trick.



**Tidy Up Toys**

Teach them to drop toys in a bin for a practical skill.



## Keep it Positive and Be Patient

Every dog learns at their own pace. Celebrate small wins, stay patient, and make training feel like a game. Remember: your dog doesn't care about perfection—they care about having fun with you.



Teaching your dog tricks isn't just about showing off—it's about connection, confidence, and communication. With patience, consistency, and a pocket full of treats, your dog will surprise you with how much they can learn (and how much fun you'll both have along the way). So, grab some treats, find a quiet space, and start teaching your best friend something new today!