



Games to Play with Your Dog

Why Play Games?

Games are a great way to bond with your dog and practice training techniques in a fun way! Games help build confidence, solidify training and help high work drive dogs get the physical and mental stimulation they need.

Hide and Seek

Hide and seek is a great game to play with all dogs as it is fun and helps with teaching recall. It is a very simple, yet very effective game to play on rainy days or when you are looking for something different to do. Hide in a room of your house and call your dog, if she has trouble finding you, offer 'clues' by making noises or calling her again. Once she finds you, have a PUPPY PARTY and hide again. Do this until you or your dog gets tired. If you have trouble hiding without your dog following you, ask another person to hold the dog's leash until you call them. Once your dog understands the premise of the game, you can hide in more challenging places to make it more fun!

Find It (Intro to Sniffing)

This is a great game for dogs who love food and love using their noses. Start by dropping treats at your feet and use the cue 'find it' as your dog's nose heads to the ground. Once they look down when you say, 'find it,' you can start tossing them a little farther, then leaving them in another room, then hiding them under things. The progression may take days or months. If you try to skip steps, you may cause frustration which defeats the purpose of the game. The applications of this game are almost endless! This trick is the beginning of scent training and is how most 'working' sniffing dogs begin their training. It is also a good party trick if you transfer the skill to things like phones, car keys or even money!

On and Off

This is a pretty cool game, too! If you have a dog who likes climbing and jumping, this is a great game for them! It also helps teach dogs to only jump on surfaces when they are invited. Start by excitedly tapping a surface the dog likes getting on and is allowed on and use the cue 'on.' Once the dog jumps on, mark with a YES and reward. Then ask them to get off, you can lure them off with a treat if need be and reward when all 4 feet are back on the floor. Repeat this process until they jump on and off on cue. Once they have mastered the basics, you can start training them to get on and off other surfaces like park benches and platforms. Be sure not to invite them onto surfaces they are not allowed on to not blur the lines between acceptable and unacceptable surfaces.

Georgian Triangle Humane Society

549 Tenth Line, Collingwood ON, L9Y 0W1 705-445-5204 | info@gths.ca | www.gths.ca Registration Number 86800 4185 RR0001



Agility

Some dogs absolutely love doing agility obstacles as it provides physical exercise as well as mental stimulation. It is best to seek out an agility trainer if you want to try agility.

Tug and Drop

This is a great game for dogs who love pulling! If you want to try this game, check out the 'TUG' resource on our website. It is very important you play with the outlined 'rules' as this game can get quickly out of hand.

Support:

Our Behaviour Support Team can help to provide resources and tips if you experience concerns in the home environment. With your adoption the GTHS will provide an over the phone consultation in order to provide you with tips and resources to set your new dog up for success. In all cases of dog adoptions, the GTHS recommends hiring a professional dog training or behavioural consultant to ensure your relationship with your new dog starts off on the right paw! A list of local trainers is enclosed in your adoption package.

Our Behaviour Support Team can be reached at behaviour@gths.ca

Georgian Triangle Humane Society

549 Tenth Line, Collingwood ON, L9Y 0W1 705-445-5204 | info@gths.ca | www.gths.ca Registration Number
86800 4185 RR0001