



Red Bluff Pet Resort

Training Curriculum

Pressure Release Training

We start pressure release training by teaching your fur-baby to walk towards any pressure on leash, instead of away from. We start this with our L&A slip leads, making sure owner and pets are both taught the correct positioning of the leash. This assures the dog does not choke, get pulled or yanked, or desensitize themselves to the leash pressure. Why use a slip lead? A slip lead, if in the correct location, assures the dog will not cut off airway or harm the trachea, and gives the most control on walks. We do not accept harnesses in the training program because they may cause a dog to react to your dog or vice-versa based on the body position the harness puts them in when they pull. They also build muscle as the dog pulls and give little to no correction or reason to stop pulling. The retractable leash is another tool that we do not accept in our training program. Our goal is to teach the dog to walk towards the pressure resulting in a loose leash. The retractable leash does the opposite. It desensitizes the dog to the pressure and gives a constant uncomfortable pressure to the dog's neck.

Eye contact

In our training program, we teach the dogs to "ask permission" by using eye contact. We use this as a prerequisite to being released from any behavior we have put them in. For example, when waiting at the door we ask the dog to sit. They are not released from the sit until they are giving you eye contact and "asking" permission to get up. This sets them up for a better result in any behavior you introduce.

Clicker Training

Clicker training is marking the exact time your dog performs the task you ask of him/her. For example, when you ask your dog to sit, as soon as your dog's rear hits the floor, you click or say "yes" and treat them or remove leash pressure. A prerequisite to this is loading the clicker, where we teach your dog that the click means something positive, like getting a tasty treat.

Changing Directions on Leash

Walking in a small area, such as the lobby, or your living room or driveway, you can teach your dog to change directions with you instead of pulling where they want to go. The goal is to teach them to wait and look to you to lead the walk instead of pulling towards the cat across the street or the squirrel that ran up the tree. This short walk can expend the energy of a 3-mile walk in just 15 minutes! This is achieved because you are stimulating the dogs mind and working their body the entire time.

Leash Walking with Added Structure

We add other behaviors and obstacles into leash walking to help further stimulate your dog's mind, body and manners all at once! You can use your imagination and the sky is the limit when doing structured walks. One of the things we do is weave through cones. You can set up chairs or jugs at home and have your dog weave

through them. We have several new activities to add to the walk to build on this and ensure your dog learns to walk beside you instead of leading you on leash. We like to call this “CrossFit for dogs” or “boot camp.”

Wait at Door

We teach your dog to wait at the door instead of running ahead of the owner or handler. This adds rules into your household to assure the dog does not “run the house” and you are the pack leader instead. This also teaches your dog to wait at the door when it’s open rather than chasing after the squirrel across the street.

Sit/Stay & Down/Stay

Both sit and down is typically taught by either luring with treats or pressure release once your dog is familiar with the concept. The stay is automatically implied. This is where the eye contact and release word mentioned earlier come into play. You will have your baby sit or lay down on command. They are not to jump up until they are looking at you to ask permission and you have given the okay. This is one thing that sets our training apart from other facilities. Most facilities teach the act of sitting rather than the well-mannered behavior of sitting until released.

Spatial Pressure

Spatial pressure is teaching your dog to walk with you by maneuvering with your body. This will help teach your dog to back up on walks or maybe out of the kitchen while you cook. This is also an activity you can add while working on your structured walks mentioned above.

Leave It (from hand, on floor, on leash)

Leave it simply means leave it alone. We teach this behavior with treats in order to get the most out of it. We start by teaching the dog to leave a pile of treats in your hand without jumping or biting your hand to get them. This also teaches self-control. Once your dog gets the concept, we teach it by throwing treats on the floor and then walking by them on leash. We teach that the word “leave it” means to leave the food or object alone. This can work on the neighborhood dog that always barks while on walks, the squirrels at the park, the trashcan, food or objects dropped on the floor, or the smelly bush all the other dogs like to mark.

Place

We teach place on a raised Kuranda bed but you can also use a fluffy bed with sides. This is quite different from the kennel. Teaching place, along with a few other concepts in our curriculum, will help set your dog up for success with any future behavioral issues that may arise. Place is your pets calming area. I like to use a bed to teach my own dogs to go to when I am eating dinner so they don’t beg for food. I also put my dogs on it when I have company coming over. They must sit on their “place” until they are not barking and they are calm. Doing this prevents the dog from rushing the door, constantly barking, or jumping on company. There are many other uses for place too. It is one of my highest recommendations when training an unruly puppy or new rescue!

Recall

We teach recall, or coming when called, in several different ways to perfect this behavior. We even have a game to play that your dog will love. It’s fun for the whole family to participate in! Recall is one of the most important behaviors you can teach your dog as it can be the difference between life and death.

Adding Distraction

All the behaviors in our curriculum have been handpicked to set your pup up for success with any problematic behaviors that arise. Adding distraction and working these behaviors everywhere is the best way to assure your dog will listen every single time.

Fixing Puppy Behaviors

Our curriculum offers a wide variety of advice for any problematic puppy behavior such as chewing, nipping, biting, barking, digging and potty training. We are aware that every dog is different and may react in different ways, so we have a variety of suggestions to help with these behaviors. What may work for one dog, may not work for another. We've got you covered!

Adding Rules into the Household

Dogs are pack animals and have a hierarchy within the pack. This is just basic dog behavior. If you are not the leader in your household, your dog is. We teach you what behaviors are dominant behaviors and how to teach certain rules in your household that will guarantee your position as the leader of the pack.