



Avon Dog Services
Training & Behavioural Specialist
.co.uk

Life skills 1 - Dogs 6 months old upwards

Core Values

Name recognition - Teaching the dog to learn its own name is a key skill in dog training, it's the building blocks to the rest of your training. For dogs that have covered Puppy Life Skills, this exercise is practiced with greater distractions.

Finding motivators - We take a look at which rewards work best to incentivise your dog, and how to effectively administer them as praise.

Loose lead walking - This skill is designed to help the dog choose to walk calmly when walking on a lead. Teaching a dog not to pull is only the tip of the iceberg, our aim is to let the dog *want* to walk beside the handler

Reliable recall - This skill develops the attention between dog and handler, it's also a very useful command for keeping the dog safe around potential threats. For dogs that have covered Puppy Life Skills, this exercise is practiced with greater distractions.

Meeting with manners - Your dog will meet a whole range of people and dogs in their lifetime. This skill teaches calm relaxed behaviours in a variety of situations. For dogs that have covered Puppy Life Skills, this exercise is practiced with greater distractions.

Food manners - Temptation comes in all forms, and some of these temptations can be dangerous to dogs. Our real-life leave training helps the dog determine what's acceptable to pick up and what should be avoided. For dogs that have covered Puppy Life Skills, this exercise is practiced with greater distractions.

Control at gates, entrances/exits and roadsides - This skill will teach the dog manners, another great safety exercise when crossing roads, going through doors/gates and styles etc.

Relax around distractions - The skill is applied to areas where you'd like your dog to relax in any area, such as coffee shops, beer gardens, friends houses etc. Giving the dog a place of rest wherever you go can help them to settle in new environments quicker

Choice training - Helping your dog make the right choice from a series of options. Choice training is a great skill to learn to help problem solving easier in the future for both dog and handler.

S.T.A.R Technique – Our STAR programme is the newest addition to our services. This process is designed to aid the handler to problem solve when teaching new behaviours, or fine-tuning pre-existing exercises.

Distance Control – This is an important skill if your dog is not next to your side and you need to ask them to sit, lie down or hold still. For example, your dog is on the other side of the field and you need them to wait for you to catch up before going into the next field.

The Rule of 3 – The rule of 3 runs throughout all of our exercises. It gives an easy way to remember exercise schedules, rates of reinforcement and reward variety.

Added Extras

Clicker training - An introduction to the wonderful world of clicker training. Clickers are not mandatory for training with Avon Dog Services, but they're great, and can open up a whole new range of tricks, methods and techniques for dog training. You can use clickers in addition to your other positive training methods.

Scent work/toy work - All your training should be fun to the dog! But these skills are designed to be used to give you that extra edge when it comes to stimulating your dog. Up to date methods on scent work and toy play to help burn excess energy and gain focus for the dog.

Cue rather than lure - This exercise gives the dog more focus on the handler, rather than waiting to see a treat before offering behaviours. Seeing treats is essential in the early stages of training, but in later stages the reward can be presented or offered after a desired behaviour has been seen.

Separation anxiety – Tips on how to avoid anxiety in your dog when being left alone. Helping the dog to relax in areas where the owner isn't present

Breed Specifics: Dogs of the same breed or even same litter will behave different to one another. That being said, each breed has certain traits that are common throughout. Helping you to understand their breed will help you find ways in which to motivate, reward and drive your dog.

Vet handling – Experienced Veterinary Nurses from Ashman Jones guide you through up to date methods of handling, nail clipping, cleaning/check overs whilst keeping your dog calm and relaxed

Reward variation - This skill helps handlers work out which reward works best for their dog in different scenarios.

Enrichment - We take a look at what enrichment you can offer your dog to avoid boredom and frustration which lead to negative behaviours