

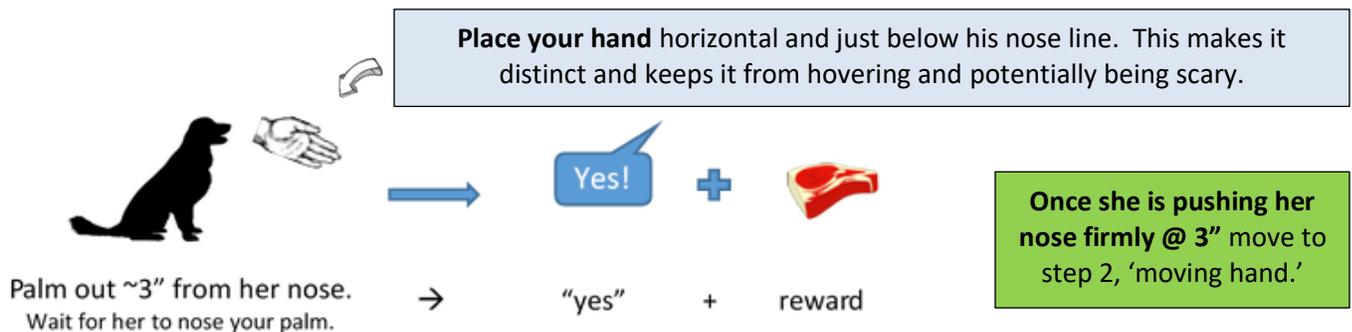
HOW TO TEACH TOUCH

Hand targets also known as touch and it benefits.

Training your dog to target a hand with her nose can has so many versatile uses! From moving them about, to giving them an easy behavior you do instead amongst distractions, to teaching her that hands reaching toward her predicts good things, like treats!

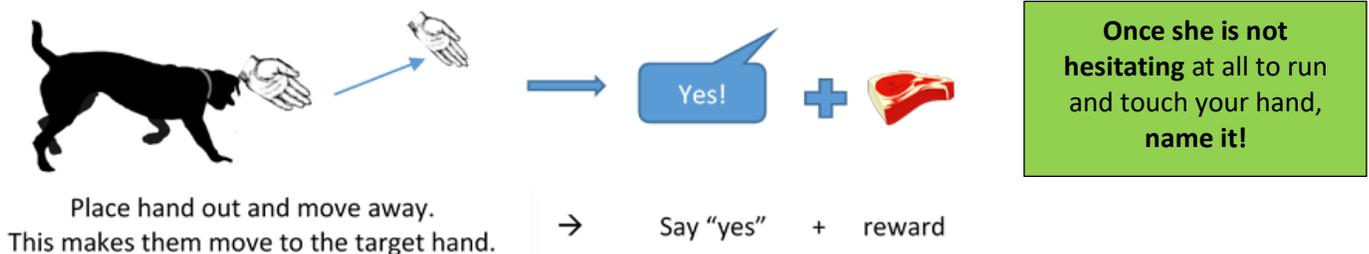
This is especially helpful for dogs that can be reactive or stressed in situations such as greeting an unfamiliar person, walking past another dog or going to the vet. If you have a fearful dog, initially, only practice hand targeting with familiar people whom your dog already likes and trusts. After she masters the skill, she can start to practice with other people as well.

Step 1: (Hand 3 inches away) **Video:** Steps 1 & 2 [LINK](#)



Step .5: Treat pinched between fingers of presented 'touch' hand. Just as dog touches your palm to sniff, "Yes" then feed from other hand. **When she is not hesitating**, move back to Step 1, no treat in hand.

Step 2: (Moving your hand)



Step 3: (Adding the cue word) Video: Steps 3 [LINK](#)



Step 4: (Putting it to work to move her around!)

Start at distances of about 4 feet then move from there. Get into it and make a game of it! Run away to a distance, say touch then put out your hand. Also, remember to do this as a fun game when you don't need to put it to work to call her to you or have her to 'go anywhere' in particular. Keep it fun!!

Ready to take it on the road?

Start practicing in locations that are more distracting. The kitchen during meal time, the living room when everyone arrives home, the all exciting backyard or during walks!

Just remember, don't push too hard too fast or your dog will get confused and stop wanting to play this new fun game.



Have a shy dog?



First get this cool game solid out of the scary people situations before we start putting them to work.

Then, demo for the unfamiliar person exactly how to play the game.

When your dog runs over to touch their hand, you say "yes" and encourage them back to YOU for the food reward. This keeps the hellos nice and easy for your dog so that they want more!