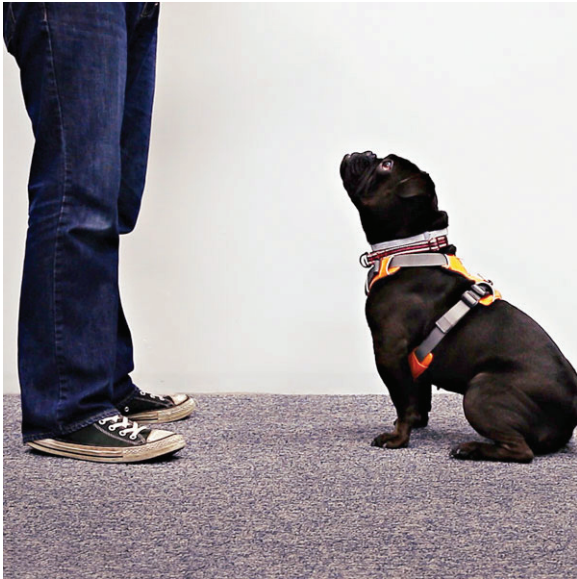


TEACHING “SHAKE”

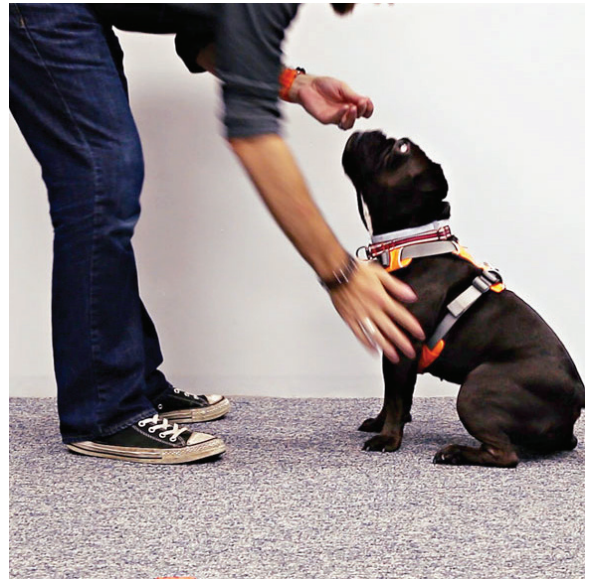
Teaching your dog how to shake hands (or give paw) is a pretty easy thing to do. Tricks are a wonderful way to mix up your training with something purely for fun. In this handout we'll show you how to get Shake, Other Paw, and even High Five.

For the purposes of this handout we'll be using the Simpawtico standard marker, “Yes!” as our end marker. You can use whatever you're accustomed to using as an end marker, just be consistent. Other than that, grab some tasty food rewards and set aside some space to work.

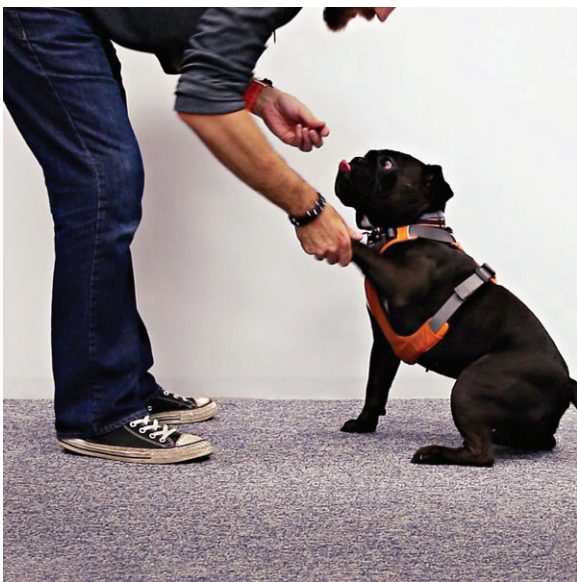
It's important that you execute steps in exactly this order.



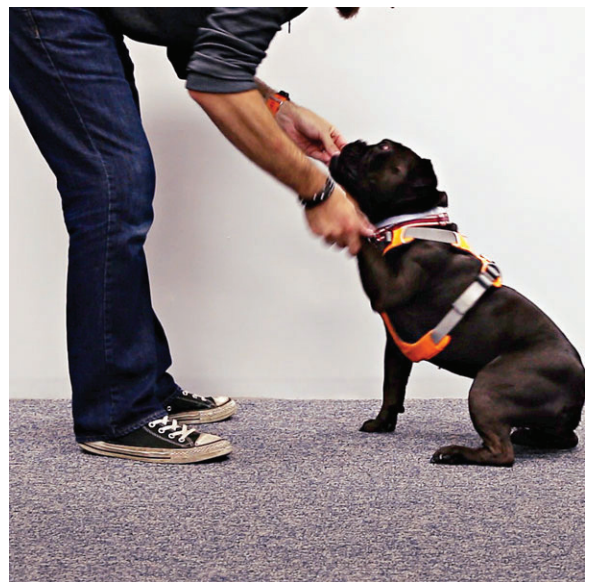
1. Say “Shake!” one time



2. Reach down and pick up their paw



3. Say “Yes!” while you're shaking their paw



4. Hand them the food reward and praise

That's all there is to it, really. Just make sure you're following the steps in that order so it's predictable.

Make sure you say "Shake" before you reach.

Make sure you reach with the same hand to the same paw every time.

Make sure you're marking "Yes" and giving the reward *while* you're shaking the paw.

With repetition, your dog will learn that "Shake" means you're going to reach for that specific paw. You will see them start to shift their weight off of it, maybe even pick it up a little.

At this point you can put a little pause after saying "Shake" before you reach for the paw and see if they offer it to you. If they do, WOW! "YES!" and huge praise!

If your dog is a little weird about having their paws touched or picked up, you'll have to work through things much more slowly. Don't force the issue; allow your dog to acclimate on their own.

Every dog learns at their own pace. I've seen dogs pick it up in 15 minutes. I've seen dogs take several days. ***Just keep doing the reps.*** That's the key!

OTHER PAW

When you've got your shake going great, it's very easy to teach the other paw:

1. Use the phrase "Other paw" (instead of "Shake")
2. Reach with your other hand for their other paw
3. Mark with "Yes!" as before and praise
4. Repeat until both sides are on voice control

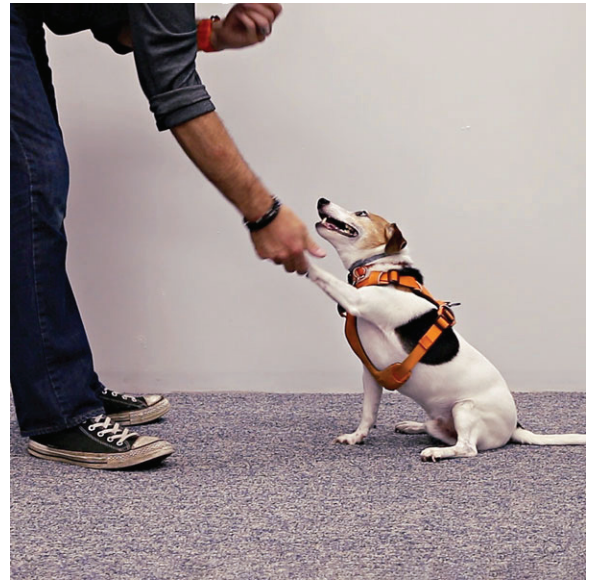
Getting both is pretty neat and fun!

HIGH FIVE!

Teaching High Five is essentially just asking for more out of the shake. Once your dog is interested in Shake, they'll likely be offering their paw willingly; you won't at all have to pick it up (or even barely reach for it in some cases!).

When this is happening, repeat your process with the new verbal prompt:

1. Say "High Five"
2. Present your hand fingers up (instead of palm up) for the slap



3. Your dog will slap
4. Mark "Yes!" and reward/praise

Pretty simple, right?



As with all of our behaviors we teach, moving away from food rewards should be done as soon as possible. That said, make sure you love the way it looks, first. We want to move away from food, but don't do it too soon. There's a balance and art to the timing of it.

As always, don't focus too much on tricks at the expense of good, functional obedience skills. Get your basics down first and add this in to liven things up a bit if necessary.

HAVE FUN!