

RECALL REVIEW

[January 17, 2017](#)

Training Tip Tuesday: Recall Review

We've done a few posts on the recall, but having a good recall is SO important for your dog, we're doing a few more! Here are a few games to play to help you practice and make the recall fun!

Practice Recalls on a leash – I know, I know. You have your dog on a leash, why would you want to call him to come? But it's a great way to practice and reinforce the behavior. Remember keep it really fun and enthusiastic! If you've ever been on a walk with me, you know I throw one or two of these in almost every walk! It's simple – start with your dog walking on a loose leash. Suddenly take a step backwards (without tripping!). The moment your dog turns his head to see what you're doing, say "Come" and jog backwards, encouraging your dog. You only have to go a few steps. When he gets to you, Praise, praise, praise!

Practice Call & Release – as you're out an about, call your dog in to you for no reason. It could be out on a walk, in the backyard, even in the house. Call him in, praise him up and send him back to whatever he was doing. This helps your dog learn that coming in to you doesn't always end the fun, and can be worthwhile. (If you watch at the dog park, people that only call their dogs in when its time to go home quickly create a dog that plays hard to get at the end of the day!)

Play Hide & Seek! It taps into your dogs natural instinct to hunt – and makes it fun for them to find you! If you're playing by yourself, just duck behind a tree when your dog isn't looking, then call him and wait. When he gets to you, praise him up! You can also play inside and hide in different rooms. If you have a helper – you can have them hide, and send your dog to find them, praise, reward, then call them back to you. As long as its fun, you're doing it right!

<https://youtu.be/sjQL3J6ZKOo>