FOOD FUN SCENT GAMES FOR YOUR DOG

Free Training Guide



Scent games are an exciting way to engage your dog's incredible sense of smell and give their brain a rewarding workout! This guide will walk you through some easy and enjoyable scent games, perfect for beginners. We'll start simple and gradually increase the challenge, making sure your dog builds confidence and skills along the way. 🐶❤️

Game 1: Find the Hidden Treat 🍖

How to Play:

1. Start Simple: Begin by showing your dog a treat and then place it a few feet away in plain sight. Encourage them to "find it!".
2. Increase the Challenge: Once they've mastered finding the visible treat, start hiding it just out of sight, like behind a table leg or under a chair.
3. Add More Complexity: Gradually move the treat around a corner or behind a piece of furniture, using walls or larger objects to obscure the view slightly.
4. Keep it Grounded: Ensure the treat remains on the floor and is not placed inside anything. These challenges can be introduced later.v

Tips for Success:

- Use high-value treats that your dog loves.
- Do not help your dog. If they fail, just make it easier.

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Game 2: Find Your Hidden Food Bowl 🍲

How to Play:

1. Start Simple: Place your dog's food bowl a few feet away in a visible spot and say, "Find it!".
2. Gradually Hide: Move the bowl slightly out of view, such as behind a low piece of furniture or around a corner.
3. Add Distance: Increase the distance and complexity by hiding the bowl further away or in another room, but always keeping it on the floor and accessible.
4. Stay Visible: Avoid placing the bowl inside cabinets, on shelves, or in elevated positions. These can be advanced steps for later training.

Tips for Success:

- Use part of their regular meal or a special treat they love.
- Add more food to the bowl once they have found it!
- If your dog seems confused, simplify the hiding spot and gradually build up the difficulty again.

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Game 3: Find Your Hidden Toy 🧸

Why It's Fun: This game combines the joy of playing with toys and the thrill of sniffing them out, perfect for dogs who love their squeaky or stuffed friends.

How to Play:

1. Name the Toy: Teach your dog the name of their toy by using the name while playing fetch with your dog.
2. Start Simple: Show your dog the named toy, then place it a few feet away in an obvious location. Say, "Find your "toy name"!".
3. Hide Slightly: Once they easily find the toy in the open, begin hiding it partially behind objects like a couch cushion on the floor or a under a low table.
4. Increase Challenge: Gradually move the toy to more obscure places, like just around a corner or, but always within reach and on the floor.
5. Avoid Elevation: Keep the toy's hiding spot on the same level as the floor and avoid placing it inside tight spaces or high places. You can build up to that later, first get your dog to really love the game.

Tips for Success:

- Use a toy your dog is enthusiastic about.
- Engage your dog with play with the toy, prior to hiding the toy.
- Reward them with a game of fetch or tug when they find the toy.

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Food scent games are a fantastic way to keep your dog's mind sharp and their nose busy! Starting with simple hiding spots and gradually increasing the challenge helps build their confidence and sniffing skills. These games not only tire out your dog mentally but also strengthen the bond between you. Have fun exploring the world of scent games together! 🐾🧡

Join Our Fun Scent Group Class Today! 🕵️

Ready to take your dog's sniffing skills to the next level? Sign up for our Fun Scent Group Class at Courteous Canine, Inc.!

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