Hero Dog Trick Training Guide:

Unlocking Super Skills!

Courteous Canine, Inc.

Results the FUN way!

Ready to turn your pup into a household hero? 🦸 This guide will show you how to teach your dog amazing tricks like opening and closing drawers or cabinets, picking up items and handing them to you, and—turning lights on and off. Let's have some fun while unleashing your dog's inner superhero! 🌟🐕

1. Training Setup: What You'll Need 🛠️

- Clicker (if using clicker training)
- Tasty treats 🍖
- A tug toy or rope (for pulling drawers or cabinets)
- Sticky note or tape
- Items your dog can pick up (like a sock or lightweight toy)
- Light switch extender for short dogs (for turning lights on/off)
- Lots of patience and fun energy! 😄🎉

2. Teaching Your Dog to Open and Close Drawers/Cabinets 🚪🐕

Step 1: Introduce the Tug 🎾

- Attach a rope or tug toy to the drawer or cabinet handle.
- Encourage your dog to grab the rope by holding it close to their mouth. Use a cue like "Tug" and reward with a game of tug when they grab it.If your dog is not motivated to tug teach them to pull for a food reward instead.
- Once they have the idea, gently pull the drawer open yourself while they hold the rope.

Step 2: Add the Pull 🐾

- Now, ask your dog to tug harder so they begin to open the drawer on their own.
- Use the game of tug to reward each successful pull.
- Tip: Keep the session short and fun. Over time, your dog will open the drawer by themselves! 🎉

Step 3: Teach to Close 🚪

- Start by using your hand to close the drawer, but cue your dog to “Nose.”
- Teach your dog to push on a sticky note with their nose name this "Push".
- Place the sticky note on the drawer, and encourage them to use their nose to push the drawer closed.
- Mark and reward every time they get it right. Your dog will soon be opening and closing drawers like a pro! 💪

⏩ Pro Tip: Keep each session short, and break it into steps. Patience and consistency are key! 🎉

3. Pick Up and Hand Over Items 🧦🦸

Step 1: Teach “Take” 🐾

- Start with a lightweight item, like a sock or toy.
- Hold it in front of your dog and encourage them to “Take” it. When they grab it, click and treat! 🎁
- Repeat until they reliably take the item when cued.

Step 2: Introduce "Hold" 🦸

- After your dog takes the item, use a cue like "Hold" to encourage them to keep it in their mouth.
- If they drop it right away, don't worry! Keep practicing by rewarding them for holding the item a little longer each time. ⏳

Step 3: Add "Give" 🦴

- Once they're holding the item, put your hand in front of them and say "Give."
- Reward as soon as they drop the item into your hand.
- Practice with different objects to help your dog generalize the behavior. Before you know it, they'll be fetching and handing you items all around the house! 🏆🐕

⏩ Pro Tip: Make this a fun game! Use different items your dog enjoys handling, and make sure to give them lots of praise for every small success.

4. Turn Lights On and Off (Use an Extender for Short Dogs) 💡🐾

Step 1: Target the Switch 🎯

- Start by teaching your dog to "Touch" a target with their nose or paw. You can use a sticky note on the wall near the light switch as a target.
- Hold a treat near the target and encourage your dog to touch it. When they do, mark and reward! 🎉
- Practice until your dog is reliably targeting the sticky note.

Step 2: Move to the Light Switch 💡

- Once your dog is comfortable with targeting, move the sticky note to the light switch.
- Encourage them to “Touch” the sticky note on the switch, and reward when they make contact.

Step 3: Reinforce “On” and “Off” 🚦

- For “On,” help your dog push the switch up with their nose or paw. For “Off,” encourage them to push it down.
- Celebrate every successful attempt, and keep it positive. With practice, your dog will be flipping the lights on and off in no time! ⚡🐾

⏩ Pro Tip: Make sure your dog is tall enough or has a safe way to reach the switch, like using a light switch extender.

Are you ready to enjoy watching your dog become a hero in your home? 🐾🎉



Contact us at LoveDogs@CourteousCanine.com to help you reach your hero goals!

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