Lure Coursing Training Guide

Proofing Stay, Leave It, & Self Control



Courteous Canine, Inc.

Results the FUN way!

Ready to take your pup's skills to the next level while having a blast? 🎯 Lure coursing isn't just for high-speed chases – it's an amazing way to proof those important cues like Stay, Leave It, and enhance Self-Control.

1. What is Lure Coursing? 🏃‍♂️💨

Lure coursing is a fast-paced dog sport where your pup chases a "lure" (usually a white plastic bag) across a field. It's a fun way to let your dog burn off energy, but it also makes an ideal environment to challenge their impulse control and reinforce cues under distractions.

2. Why Use Lure Coursing to Proof Training?

Dogs naturally want to chase moving objects. By using lure coursing, we create the ultimate temptation! If your pup can stick to their cues here, you know the dog has an excellent understanding of the cue.

3. Using Lure Coursing to Proof "Stay" 🛑

1. **Start Small:** Before bringing out the lure, ask your dog to "Stay" in a low-distraction area. Reward for holding the position.
2. **Add Distance at the Lure Course:** Move a few feet away and release the lure. Gradually increase the distance but don't release your pup until they hold the stay.
3. I**ntroduce the Lure:** Bring the lure into sight but don't activate it yet. Ask your dog to "Stay." If they break, simply reset them and try again. Go for at least 90 percent success otherwise you are training failure.
4. **Build Temptation:** Now, start moving the lure slowly. Reward your dog for holding the stay despite the moving lure.

⏩ Pro Tip: Be sure to always use your release cue prior to ending the stay behavior. Avoid the failure of your dog self releasing.

4. Proofing "Leave It" Using Lure Coursing

Goal: Teach your dog to resist the chase and focus on you instead. Eye contact is critical to any leave it training.

1. **Start with the Lure Still:** With the lure visible but not moving, ask your dog to “Leave It.” When they shift their attention to you, mark with a “Yes!” and reward with a treat or toy or chasing the lure. 🎁
2. **Add Movement:** Once your dog is comfortable leaving the still lure, activate it slowly. The moment they look back to you instead of chasing, mark and reward! 🎉
3. **Increase Speed:** Make the lure go faster, and reinforce the “Leave It” cue every time your dog turns away from the lure toward you. The goal is to have them choose YOU over the chase!

⏩ Pro Tip: Be patient and go at your dog’s pace. Celebrate those moments when your dog resists the chase – it’s a big win! 🎊

5. Teaching Self-Control Through Lure Coursing 🧠

Goal: Help your pup make good choices when the excitement ramps up.

1. **Impulse Control Foundation:** Start with basic impulse control games like “wait” before meals or “sit” before being released from the door. This sets the stage for success.
2. **Lure Coursing Temptation:** Ask your dog to perform the simple cues in the presence of the lure course: sit, down, hand target or wait.

⏩ Pro Tip: Keep self-control exercises short, sweet, and exciting! It's all about balance – training AND fun.

Ready, Set, Chase! 🐕💨

With a little practice, you and your pup will be a dream team of impulse control and fun! 🎉 So, get out there, let your dog zoom, and enjoy the incredible bond you're building while proofing those important cues. Keep it playful and pawsitive! 🐾💖 Be sure to tell your instructor what you are working on so we can support your training and give you coaching.

We are here for you, please tell us how we can help you reach your goals!

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LoveDogs@CourteousCanine.com