Getting Started with **Clicker Training**

**Clicker training** is a fun and simple way to teach your dog to perform any and all behaviors that they are physically and mentally capable of performing. The sound of the CLICK tells your dog that they have done something that has earned them a treat. To use clicker training to its full potential, you'll need to learn and practice the mechanical skills of timing, clicking, and delivering treats.

Here are the mechanical basics to clicker training that will set you up for success.

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- YOUR DOG
- A CLICKER
- LOTS of TINY TREATS
- TREAT POUCH

**SETTING UP**

- A quiet place with no distractions
- Your clicker in one hand, other hand is still
- Treats in your pouch you can easily reach

**Using the CLICKER**

1. Keep your hands out of your treat pouch in HOME BASE.  
   HOME BASE = your hand is still, by your side

2. As soon as your dog looks at you/offers a sit

3. Click Once. Your other hand stays in HOME BASE.

4. Deliver the treat to your dog

5. Return your hands to HOME BASE position.

and **REPEAT**

Improve your skills by practicing them **without your dog.**

**Here is a fun exercise you can do while watching TV.**

Grab a **retractable pen** to use the button as a clicker,* a **small empty container**, and fill your treat pouch with some **dried beans or beads**. Make yourself comfortable and watch your favorite show.

* Use this instead of the clicker when practicing while your dog is around so the clicker's sound can remain special for them.

**PRO Tip: Practice Makes Perfect!**