



Task List # 5

Here's a list of task goals for the week. We encourage you to use a clicker or a "marker word" like "Yes" when teaching tasks.

1. My Lap: Pup lays across your lap on elbows. For mobility, this is used for putting pup in a position of ease to put his vest on. For PTSD, this is used to introduce DPT (Deep Pressure Therapy) during anxiety/panic attacks or as a calming tactic for pup to use when alerting to stress.

Start by sitting on the floor. With a treat, lure pup over your upper thighs (above the knee). Keep the treat low so his first instinct is to crawl over and say "My Lap". The first time he touches your legs <click> or "Yes!" and treat. Repeat a few times and wait a little longer each time for pup to put his elbow down. Do this from both directions. As pup grows, do this in a chair or on a stool. Pup's elbows (not paws) must be on legs.

2. Front: Pup stands in front of handler. For mobility, this introduces step one to "brace" for mobility assistance. For PTSD, pup can stand slightly further than feet so he can look around handler front and back and serve as a block for strangers and/or alert.

Have a treat in a closed fist- same as when we taught "target". Lead pup closely across your front (perpendicular to your feet) and say "Front". As soon as pup stops <click> or "yes" and reward. Do this from both directions and practice while you are out when standing still or seated.

3. Back: Back. Pup "backs up" or walks in reverse

To start, make a narrow "aisle" setup about 2 feet wide. This can be chairs, boxes, foam core "walls", anything to make a narrow path. Lead pup into aisle walking forward. Pup will sit the first few times and there is a couple different ways to make the motion happen; 1) hold treats at pup's nose level, scoot towards him to make him stand, take one step towards him pushing treat hand into his face/body and say "back". As soon as pup scoots back <click> or "Yes!" and reward. 2) Hold treat against stomach and scoot towards pup until they stand and take a step back while saying "back". As soon as pup moves back <click> or "Yes!" and reward.

4. Side: This is opposite Heel position on the left. Pup falls to right side of handler.

Taught the same as "heel", take your treat and lure pup to "Side" (right side of handler).

5. Ready: This tells pup it is time to wake or work. If pup is in a down position, sleeping, waiting, sitting- basically a command that rest time is over and to "get ready" to work. Pup stands and waits for next command.

Have pup in a heel and down position. With treats at pup's standing nose level in front of him, say "Ready?". When pup stands <click> or "Yes!" and reward. The little bit of difference is, pup stands and waits for next command, so no auto movement forward, sitting, laying back down, sniffing etc. It is standing at attention.

