



Behavior Counseling and Training Courses

Practical, Positive Solutions for People and Their Pets!

Training Treat Ideas

A Variety of Special Treats should be used for training. A variety of your dog's favorite foods cut up into tiny pieces (about half the size of your pinky fingernail). The idea is to get a "flavor burst" not replace your dogs' meals.

Some common favorites are: chicken hotdogs, cheese, roast beef, freeze-dried liver, and chicken.

You should also have some mid-level and some boring, but liked, treats: carrots, green beans, biscuits, cheerios, and your dogs kibble.

Rewards are also things like tennis balls, stuffed toy, favorite games, etc...

Chicken Hot Dogs – Bologna – Chicken – Roast Beef

- Cut meat up into small pieces about the size of a pea.
- Place on paper towels or paper plate.
- Cook the pieces in the oven or microwave until they are very well done.
- Example: 3 hotdogs on a paper plate will microwave for approximately 3 minutes.
- This will make them dry rather than greasy when you're holding them.
- Keep cooked meat in sealed containers or baggies in the refrigerator or freezer until you are ready to use.

Cheese Sticks

String cheese is more than just a snack for your child's lunchbox. It also makes a great dog treat! It is soft and most dogs find it appetizing. The individual packaging makes it easy to carry with you to use whenever you want to work on [training a dog](#). Since it only takes a small nibble of a treat to motivate most dogs, you can break off small pieces of cheese to reward your dog. Just keep in mind that cheese and other dairy products don't always agree with a dog's stomach.

Packaged Training Treats

If you check out the dog treat aisle of your favorite pet supply store, you'll find that there are a number of companies making dog treats that are perfect for dog training, such as Zukes Training Treats.

If you are in doubt as to whether a treat will work for training, here is what to look for:

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- Treats that are no larger than a piece of kibble.
- Treats that are soft and moist.
- High quality ingredients.

Many of the pre-packaged treats come in a variety of flavors, so you are bound to find something your dog likes.

Natural Balance Treat Rolls

[Natural Balance Treats](#) come in a roll, and you can break off small pieces to use as you train. It is soft, all-natural, and most dogs love it. This type of dog treat is ideal because it provides the perfect balance between good nutrition and a taste your dog loves which will motivate him to work.

Kibble

If you are working on training a dog before his mealtime, he may be hungry enough to work for his dinner. Keep a handful of his kibble handy, and use it to reward him when you get the behavior you want.

Sometimes you can get a few sample sized bags of dog food to add to your treat container.

Being Treat Ready

Have, at least, three different types of treats mixed together in each container of treats you are storing in the refrigerator or freezer.