



DOWN

Begin with your dog in the sit position.

Put a treat to the dog's nose, with your palm facing down, and slowly lure him down with the treat. The treat should be in front of his nose, moving straight down towards his front paws.

Once his head is at his feet, slowly move the treat in front of him towards you. Some dogs may need to have the treat brought down in front of them and then around towards their shoulder, making a C curve. The turning of the head is sometimes the trick to getting the dog into the down position.

As soon as the dog is down, say "Yes!" and treat.



Let the dog complete the task 4 or 5 times and then introduce the verbal cue- "Fido- Down". Eventually introduce the hand signal. You can do this by starting with the food as a lure and then removing it once the dog has gone into a down at least 5 times. Each day, practice this in a new location from a different position. If you can get the dog to lay down without bending over to lure into place, you are doing great! If you can't do that yet, it's ok! It takes time!

**** NOTE**** Many people insist or think that their dogs "know" these cues and are just being stubborn. In reality, dogs do not generalize behaviors. If they are not reliably offering a sit or down regardless of location, they still have some learning to do!

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