Teaching a Dog to Lay Down

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# Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials Needed</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Quantities Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="milk-bone-treats.jpg" alt="Image of Milk-Bone treats" /></td>
<td><strong>Treats</strong></td>
<td>Multiple (for how many times you practice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="leash.jpg" alt="Image of leash" /></td>
<td><strong>Leash</strong></td>
<td>1 (Optional)</td>
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Review

Do not use the phrase “Lay Down” or “Down” until your dog has the motions mastered. Dog may get confused and act out.
1. Make sure your dog knows how to sit before you try to teach it how to lay down.
2. After dog is sitting, put a treat in your hand and make a **fist**. Face your fist upward so your dog can smell the treat.
3. After your dog notices the treat, drop your closed fist slowly straight down to the floor.
4. Drop your fist until your dog hunches over.
5. Drag your fist toward you and keep it on the ground. Your dog should **stretch** all the way out.
6. Once your dog is completely down, **praise** them by cheering, “Yes!” and give them a treat.
Conclusion
Practice makes perfect. Teaching a dog to lay down takes time and a good attitude.
Comprehension Questions:

1. What must your dog be able to do before they learn to lay down?

2. What should you do when your dog properly lays down?

3. What do you believe is the most important step?
Glossary

**Fist**- When one’s hand is closed tightly with fingers curled in.

**Hunches**- Bent or curled over.

**Stretch**- To extend or contract body parts or objects.

**Praise**- Positive feedback (can be words or physical actions).

**Attitude**- A person’s outlook on a certain matter (can be positive or negative).
Works Referenced

Common Core State Standards

RI.3.7 Use information gained from illustrations and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding in the text.

RI.3.3 Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas, or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.
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