



ONE FOR ONE

Tolerating being handled by humans is a very important skill for dogs to have. We build that tolerance by building trust.

Put 10 treats in your right hand and put it behind your back. With your left hand take hold of your dog's collar then mark "Yes", bring out your treat hand and deliver one treat. Release your dog's collar then place your treat hand back behind your back. Repeat till all the treats are gone.

It is very important that the collar grab predicts the treat, and not the presentation of the treat predicting they are about to get grabbed. So be sure to be consistent in the order - grab collar then bring out the treat hand and deliver the treat. We want your dog thinking "Yay! She grabbed my collar, I'm about to get a cookie!" NOT "HmMMM...she's holding out a cookie for me...if I go eat it she's going to grab me!".



Going forward you can use the same concept of the exercise above and apply it to all kinds of handling. Touch your dog's ears, mark and deliver a treat, pick up a foot mark and deliver a treat etc. This will go a long way to helping your dog develop trust in your touch.

If your dog shies away then remove your hands, count to 3, then proceed with the same touch you were going to do but at half the previous intensity. So if you were going to touch the foot touch then touch the shoulder instead, or simply hold your hand 3 inches from your dog's foot for one second. You want to have an approximation of success that you can mark, reward and then build on.

Section: **Tolerance**

Difficulty: paw print

Prerequisites
- **None**

Goal: To begin building tolerance for being touched.

QUICK STEPS

1.
Put 10 treats in your right hand and place it behind your back.
2.
With your left reach out and take hold of your dog's collar.
3.
Bring out your right hand and deliver a treat to your dog.
4.
Take your left hand off their collar and place your right hand behind your back.
Repeat.

REMEMBER!

We are developing trust with this game. Do not try to force your dog to tolerate what you are doing, that is not building trust.