



Recipe for Great Training

Ingredients

Observation Skills

Precise Timing

Rate of Reinforcement

Understand Criteria

Mechanical Skills

Session Goal

Progression Plans

Environmental Manipulation

Changing Trainer Behavior



Directions

1. Always split, do not lump.
2. Your observation skills and timing are crucial skills you need to develop, outside of scent/odor work.
3. All reinforcement is not created equal. What is the dog's pay scale? Use that to your advantage to provide clarity.
4. Better never than late with a conditioned reinforcer. Otherwise, Matching Law will come back to bite you.
5. Start your sessions with a specific training goal in mind.
6. Manipulate your environment to make the lesson clear to the dog.
7. The less you involve yourself in learning the better.
8. **Do not** train until it is ugly.
9. If what you are doing is not working, change your behavior or the environment,.
10. Always work towards fluency.

How to Measure Learning

Latency (How fast behavior is offered when presented with the stimuli)

Intensity (bark softly vs bark loudly or sloppy sit vs solid sit)

Speed (How fast the behavior is completed i.e. slow sit vs fast sit)

Rate/Frequency (Number of occurrences per unit of time)

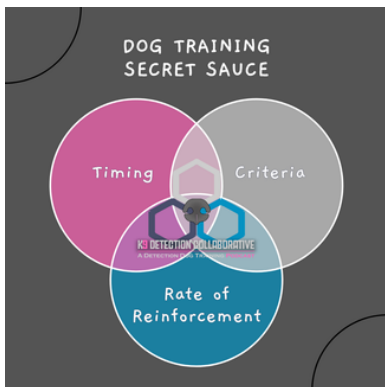
Learning and Behavior. Paul Chance. 6th Edition Active Learning Edition, 2008.

Herrnstein's Matching Law

Proportion of the behavior offered will match the proportion of reinforcement obtained from that behavior.

If you reinforce behavior 1 twice as often as behavior 2, (with the reinforcer being equal) you will perform behavior 1 twice as often as behavior 2. (AKA You get what you reinforce the most.) This also applies to people.

The Dog Trainer's Dance



www.k9detectioncollaborative.com