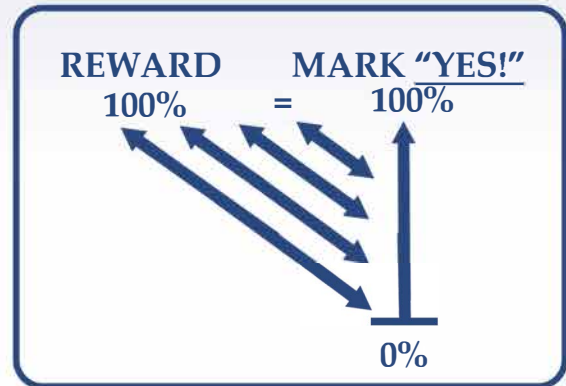


## Client Information

### MARKER TRAINING

- The Unit of Training
  - 1. The Behavior
  - 2. The Mark "Yes!"
  - 3. The Reward
- Praise - Very, very, important!  
- Must fall "outside" the Unit of Training



Charging the Mark

Marker Training involves the use of a "Mark" to mark your dog's desired behavior as it happens. In our program we utilize the Unit of Training as the building block of your dogs desired obedience behaviors. When the desired behavior is given by your dog, we then mark that behavior with a sound, in this case the uttered word "Yes!", then we follow immediately with the reward, which in most cases is some type of food treat.

The first key in the Unit of Training is to use a simple behavior such as 'Focus' to link the mark with the reward. By linking these components at the beginning of Marker Training we actually charge the mark, 'Yes!' by repetitively linking it to the reward enough times to ideally increase the value of the mark to equal that of the reward itself. By achieving this goal we create a tool in the mark that we can utilize to shape myriad desired behaviors in your dog.

The second key is to repeat the Unit of Training over and over again to build higher and higher levels of skill in obedience exercises in your dog. Repetition is the mother of skill. As your dog's skill in obedience increases, it's confidence progressively grows. As confidence grows, your dog progresses into competence, the ultimate goal. When your dog has reached the level of competence, the training is now sustainable for the duration of your dog's life. Praise is very important in this process but must fall outside the Unit of Training.

In other words, praise 'before or after' the Unit of Training, not in between, to keep communication between you and your dog crystal clear. Also when praising your dog be sure to keep an even, calm, assertive energy. "Bubbly" praise can be distracting to training in some cases. Ideally praise should be analogous to pouring a warm bucket of love over your dog's head. Calm, reassuring praise is the key in most cases. At this point the goal is achieved; your ability of creating and sustaining the ultimate canine companion in your dog. Below is the list of obedience exercises in our Basic Package that we will apply Marker Training to.

## Obedience Exercises (10 Minutes/dog)

- |                          |                  |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Focus                 | 4. Heel figure 8 | 7. Sit from down |
| 2. Heel 180° right turns | 5. Sit           | 8. Stay- O       |
| 3. Heel 180° left turns  | 6. Down          | 9. Stay- X       |
|                          |                  | 10. Come         |