

## Preparation: Things you will need for each session.

### If you are having an initial Behavior Evaluation:

- After your deposit is received, I will reply with an email containing specific meeting instructions for your dog depending on the specific situation.
- If you have any questions, please email me back.
- Please refer back to this sheet for work session prep.

### If you are beginning Training and Follow Up Work Sessions:

- **Lessen or skip meal if it's prior to your appointment.**
  - You can skip the meal prior to training or feed your dog half its normal portion.
  - Acquiring food is a great motivation for dogs and they will be getting a lot of treats.
  - If you feel like your dog requires additional calories, you can offer the remaining portion of the evening meal after our session is over.
  - If your dog is a grazer, he or she may not be interested in earning food rewards and we may recommend putting him on a meal schedule. You may need to pick up the food several hours before the session.
- **Treats.** Food rewards will play an important role in initially establishing the behavior we are looking for.
  - Please prepare **small, soft, tasty treats**. Some suggestions are hotdogs (no need to cook them), cheese, cooked chicken (thighs seem to be a big hit), beef liver or roast beef.
  - If you would like to choose a couple of these for your treat bag, it will provide some variety and help prevent the dog from getting bored.
  - Cut up the treats into small pieces, about the size of an eraser at the end of a pencil. **The goal is not to fill up the dog but leave him/her always wanting another reward.**
    - If you have a young puppy or small breed dog, you can make them a bit smaller.
  - Please avoid using any treats that bigger than the recommended size.
- **Exercise.** Please give your dog as much exercise as you can prior to our appointment. Taking the edge off their energy level helps with focus.
- **Tools.** You will need to have a collar with a buckle or a snap and a 6' leash.
  - Well-fitted harnesses are fine. **No choke, prong, e-Collars, or retractable leashes please.**
  - You will need a treat bag to keep the rewards conveniently accessible.
  - We may be using a clicker.
  - You can find everything you need on Amazon.com. I also have clicker and treat bag sets that you can purchase at the time of your appointment..

THANKS and let me know if you have any questions!