

Training for Shelter Dogs

“Calm Behaviour in the Kennel”

Key Points:

- Have lots of patience
- Keep consistency between handlers
- Always have a leash
- Use “Sit”
- Teach “Go to Bed”

This one is a little different, because you are rewarding the calm behaviour with time outside the kennel. By taking the time to patiently reward polite, calm behavior, you set the tone for future interactions with the dog.

The dog will learn faster if you consistently reinforce calm behavior **every time** you enter and exit the kennel (post a reminder on the door)

The most difficult thing about this is that most times a person comes to the kennel the dog has learned, that it means something is happening (dinner, walk etc) so its difficult for the dog to relax.

A trick is to always have a leash with you (therefore the presence of a leash doesn't automatically mean a walk), also teaching a dog to go to its bed when a person approaches the kennel.

- **Calm Behaviour is rewarded by time outside**