

## Training for Shelter Dogs

### “Go to bed”

#### Key Points:

- Can help with dogs who rush the door or front of kennel when an adopter or staff person arrives.
- Gives you an opening to enter the kennel and reinforce other desired behaviours such as asking for a sit.

This is easier to do when you have chain link kennels or a half door, but can still be done with solid kennel doors.

- Simply toss a treat to the dogs bed (either through the chain link, or a crack in the door)
- When the dog gets to the bed to retrieve the treat, use “yes” cue or click.
- You want to mark the behaviour of going to or touching the bed, so its it imperative that you get that marker in before the dog gets the treat!

As with all new things, **this will take patience, and lots of repetition**, especially for a dog that has already been conditioned to rush the kennel door. The ultimate goal here is that when you arrive at the kennel door, the dog will be looking toward or going to his bed automatically expecting a treat to appear there!

**Note:** You do not add a command to this exercise, as you don't want the dog to wait for direction, you want an automatic response of “ when person shows up at my door, I look to my bed for a treat”

\*If the dog already knows the sit command, ask the dog to sit, click or “yes” cue, and deliver treat as soon as the dog sits. Follow with praise; “good dog”.