

# TRICKS



*Fun Dawgs*

*Human & Dog  
Friendly Training &  
Behavior Modification*

**WANT YOUR DOG TO KNOW HOW?  
CALL TONI BOW WOW!**

## GIVE ME SUGAR

Most dogs naturally lick (kiss) our face or lips when we move our face close enough. Of course there is the odd dog, like my Kovacs, who simply bump their noses off your face. And with my exuberant Kovacs that can be a pretty hard bump!



If your dog naturally kisses you then you can simply teach the cue, "Give me some sugar" by saying it as you move your face close enough.

If your dog is like my Kovacs and doesn't lick naturally or you want your dog to kiss you in a specific place on your face (say on the cheek), here's a simple trick, Rub some honey or peanut butter on the spot you want them to kiss, and then move your face close saying your cue, "Give me some sugar" or "Kisses!"

## JUMPING THROUGH A HOOP



Be patient with your dog. Some dogs can be frightened at first with a new object and if you try to go too fast you may make your dog scared of the Hula Hoop.

Be sure to reward your dog with treats, toys or praise at each step.

1. Start with the Hula Hoop on the ground so your dog can investigate it calmly.
2. Pick it up so it is perpendicular (vertical) to the ground, but still touching the ground.
3. Entice your dog to walk through the hoop with a treat or toy. (You may have to put your hand completely through the hoop and lead your dog through the hoop by putting the treat or toy right on their nose.)
4. Slowly raise the hoop a few inches at a time until your dog is actually jumping through the hoop.



## CATCH

People just seem to enjoy tossing food to dogs. This trick also helps the dog's impulse control, just like the impulse control exercise many of you know called Airplane. As in Airplane the dog must not jump at the treat. If the dog jumps for the treat move the treat to the side and around behind your back. Do not pull the treat away by moving it upward. This will just encourage the dog to jump higher on the next try.



1. Place dog in a Sit.
2. Hold treat 18 inches to 2 feet above dog's nose.
3. Drop it straight down. If the dog doesn't catch it cover the treat with your foot or hand.
4. Repeat above steps at least 10 times or until the dog is catching it regularly.



Next we will move on to tossing the treat underhanded.

5. With the dog sitting in front of you, Move your hand in an underhand tossing motion once or twice to get the dog to track the movement of the treat with their eyes.
6. Toss the treat in an arc above the dog's nose so that it comes down about where it was when you were dropping it from above. (This may take some practice on your part to get the feel of it and toss the treat where the dog can easily catch it.) If the dog doesn't catch it cover the treat with your foot or hand.



## TAKE A BOW

Repeat each step until you feel the dog is comfortable doing that step easily and fluently. Only then can you move onto the next step.

If the dog is consistently going into a down or not performing the current step, try breaking that step into smaller steps. For example if the dog starts going into a down as soon as it's nose moves toward floor (step 2), try a smaller movement of the head, say just a look down, and then proceed with more and more head movement.



**Notice the beginning dip of the left front leg.**

1. Start with the dog standing.
2. Place treat in front of dog's nose, lure down until the dog's head is lowered towards the floor – click & treat.
3. Bring treat closer to the dog's chest and further down. As soon as you see the dog's front elbows bend – click & treat.



## SIT PRETTY

**NOTE:** This trick is not recommended for dogs with long spines such as Dachshunds or Basset Hounds.

1. Start with your dog in the Sit position.
2. Place a treat directly in front of the dog's nose and start luring upwards; keeping the treat fairly close to the dog's nose.
3. Slowly, keep luring the dog's nose up so the weight shifts to the back legs, and the front paws come off the ground.
4. As soon as the dog's back straightens and the front legs are in front of the chest, click and treat.
5. Slowly, increase the time the dog remains in this position until the dog can Sit Pretty for 2-3 seconds.
6. Add the verbal cue, **Sit Pretty**, before luring the dog into position. Repeat this step at least 10 times before moving on to the next step.
7. Pause for a second after giving the verbal cue to allow the dog to respond. If the dog doesn't respond lure the Sit Pretty. If the dog is not responding to the verbal cue, go back to the previous step, and then try this step again.



Notice left front paw rising off ground.

Soon to be followed by right front paw.



# LURING SPIN AND TWIRL (OR TWIST AND SHOUT)

## Spin (or Twist)

1. Start by having your dog stand up facing you.
2. Stand still. Lead the dog's nose around clockwise with the treat so he walks in a circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. Repeat step 5 times.
3. Remove the lure from your hand and try to use just your hand to lure your dog in a clockwise circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. If he follows your hand repeat this step 5 times. If he doesn't follow your hand go back to Step 1.
4. Stand still, give the verbal cue, and then use your hand to lure your dog in a clockwise circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. Repeat step 5 times.
5. At this step you will lessen the hand movement into a small circular motion. Stand straight up; give the verbal cue, and then the smaller hand signal. If he responds to your hand signal repeat this step 5 times. If he doesn't you will need to break the lessening of the hand movement down into smaller increments by still moving your hand in a wide circle, but slightly higher than before. Then again moving your hand in a slightly smaller circle a little higher up, and so forth.
6. Try alternating between verbal cue and hand signal. Strengthen the one your dog doesn't respond to reliably by placing that cue first and then using the reliable cue. For example, your dog responds to the hand signal reliably, but not the verbal cue. Your sequence would be:



**Verbal Cue** ➡ **Hand Signal** ➡ **Behavior** ➡ **Reward**

## Twirl (or Shout)

1. Start by having your dog stand up facing you.
2. Stand still. Lead the dog's nose around **counter-clockwise** with the treat so he walks in a circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. Repeat step 5 times.
3. Remove the lure from your hand and try to use just your hand to lure your dog in a counter-clockwise circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. If he follows your hand repeat this step 5 times. If he doesn't follow your hand go back to Step 1.
4. Stand still, give the verbal cue, and then use your hand to lure your dog in a counter-clockwise circle. When he comes back to where he's facing you again say, **Yes** (or click) and treat. Repeat step 5 times.
5. At this step you will lessen the hand movement into a small circular motion. Stand straight up; give the verbal cue, and then the smaller hand signal. If he responds to your hand signal repeat this step 5 times. If he doesn't you will need to break the lessening of the hand movement down into smaller increments by still moving your hand in a wide circle, but slightly higher than before. Then again moving your hand in a slightly smaller circle a little higher up, and so forth.
6. Try alternating between verbal cue and hand signal. Strengthen the one your dog doesn't respond to reliably by placing that cue first and then using the reliable cue.



## SHAKE OR PAW

There are a few different ways to teach a dog to paw on cue. If your dog naturally uses his paws to solicit attention or uncover something he wants, try the targeting method. If your dog doesn't paw much, try the luring method.

If you want to teach your dog to offer either paw, or to target say a light switch with either paw you can use the cues, Right Paw and Left Paw, and teach the two by reversing which hand is presented to the dog and which hand is used to lure the behavior.

### Luring Shake or Left Paw

1. Place your dog in a sit. When you lure with a treat in your left hand be ready to place your right hand under his paw.
2. Present your right hand palm up just a few inches off the ground. Lure your dog's head to your left so he leans to the side to follow the treat. When his paw comes off the ground just a little, gently slide your hand under it, and then click and treat. Do this 5 times.
3. Present your right hand palm up. Say Shake or Left Paw and lure your dog's head to your left so he leans to the side to follow the treat. When his paw comes off the ground just a little, gently slide your hand under it, and then click and treat. Do this 5 times.
4. Present your right hand palm up. Say Shake or Left Paw and pause for a two seconds (1 good dog, 2 good dog) to allow your dog to respond. If your dog doesn't respond, lure the shake. If the dog is not responding to the verbal cue after 2 attempts, go back to the previous step, and then try this step again. When the dog is performing this step reliably (8-9 out of 10 times) go to the next step.
5. Gradually raise your hand so your dog has to reach higher to shake your hand.



Lured Paw



No Lure

Hand Raised Gradually



## Target\_Shake

1. Place your dog in a sit. Place a treat in your right hand and close it.
2. Present your closed right hand palm up down near his paw. Your dog will most likely try for the treat with her mouth and finally paw at your hand. Click and treat the paw touch. Perform this step until the dog quits mouthing your hand and instead paws your hand.
3. Present your closed right hand palm up. Say Shake or Left Paw and wait for your dog to paw your hand. Click and treat the paw touch. Do this 5 times.
4. Present your open right hand (no treat) palm up down near his paw. Say Shake or Left Paw and pause for a two seconds (1 good dog, 2 good dog) to allow your dog to respond. If your dog doesn't respond, remove your hand and try again. If your dog still doesn't respond, go back to the previous step, and then try this step again. When the dog is performing this step reliably (8-9 out of 10 times) go to the next step.
5. Gradually raise your hand so your dog has to reach higher to shake your hand.

*Questions?*

*Not sure what's right  
for you and your dog?*

*Contact me!*

*I'm always happy to talk dog!*

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