

HOW THE E-COLLAR REMOTE TRAINER CAN BE USED

The e-collar is the most comprehensive training tool available to us today.

It is

- an invisible leash.
- a means of communication.
- a changer of behavior.
- a focusing tool.
- a detractor from incorrect behavior and focus.
- an aversive.
- a motivator.
- a means of correction.

IT IS NOT A TRAINER, ALTHOUGH BY NAME WE MAY THINK THIS. IT IS A TOOL OF THE TRAINER. WE ARE THE TRAINERS AND THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR APPLYING GOOD TRAINING PRINCIPLES AND APPROACHES. THE COLLAR CAN BE USED HUMANELY AND INHUMANELY LIKE ANY TOOL. USERS OF THE TOOL AS WITH ANY TOOL CAN USE IT IN A CRUEL WAY. ANY PERSON CAN ABUSE A DOG. IT IS NOT THE TOOLS IT IS THE HUMAN BEING IN THE EQUATION.

THEREFORE ALWAYS APPLY BASIC TRAINING PRINCIPLES AND USE THE E-COLLAR HUMANELY TO ASSIST YOU ACHIEVE YOUR TRAINING GOALS.

IF AT ANY TIME YOU FEEL YOUR PATIENCE LEVEL IS LOW OR YOU ARE BECOMING FRUSTRATED – STOP AND THINK. HOW CAN I ACHIEVE WHAT I REQUIRE AND WHAT AM I DOING WRONG THAT IS CREATING THIS UNWANTED BEHAVIOR OR ACTION.

YOU ARE IN CHARGE AND YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE

The collar can be applied to assist your training and behavior modification in a number of ways, some are similar and certainly can overlap, one application of the collar merging into another.

- 1. ASSIST IN TEACHING** – Use the collar within your teaching process. The dog learns that when it is doing a command that is being taught then it can turn the stimulation off. Usually continuous is the operating mode for this. The Sit, Down, Here, Stay commands can be reinforced and the action encouraged by the use of the collar.

2. **PROMPT** - As in a 'tap on the shoulder'. Done at a level the dog will just feel it can stimulate them into action (Pun intended). Imagine a coach who has been outlining what he wants a player to do and then taps them on the shoulder and says 'Go for it'. More than that it concentrates focus onto the command you are giving making the dog respond more quickly. It is a "Let's do it" rather than a must do it.
3. **REINFORCE** – To reinforce a command when the dog has not responded in an acceptable manner following a command. For example – following a Sit command that has not been obeyed or done with little willingness. A Tap with the collar or an application of continuous while the command is given again, reinforces what is required. The level may be the same as a Prompt but can also be one level higher provided it does not create confusion.
4. **CORRECT/PUNISH** - Where a dog has willfully and knowingly disobeyed or blown you off. The most effective method of correcting is often one that catches their attention and refocuses the dog on what is required. Momentary tapping in staccato fashion or an application of continuous when a dog runs in the opposite direction or simply ignores when requested to come. A good techniques is referred to as 'indirect pressure'. In this instance the dog is told to sit with the collar and then tapped again as if to say "Listen to me, don't resist, ignore, or disobey the next command."
5. **CREATE FOCUS** – To stop focus on the wrong behavior and redirect to what is required. Similar to above but creating a look at me and concentrate where a new action is not quite taught.
6. **AVERT** – To stop a misbehavior where you do not want the dog to realize the stimulation comes from yourself. Digging, counter surfing, barking, etc.