

TURN ON THE CUE

(in your house with your dog on leash, then outside)



GOAL:

Dog develops a happy association with the sound of your recall cue because it's paired with high-value food

WHERE:

Inside your house with your dog on leash for a week, then outside with your dog on leash

TRAINING EQUIPMENT:

A wearable treat bag filled with high-value treats

PREPARATION:

You'll practice first in a **no-distraction** environment, such as a quiet room inside your home with your dog on leash. You will **not** use a marker signal during this exercise.

SCAN ME



for details of Lisa Waggoner's book,

The Original Rocket Recall™: Teach Your Dog to Come

This exercise is designed to help your dog develop a happy feeling about the word you've chosen for your recall cue. You'll give the cue value by pairing the word with some high-value food (your dog gets to choose what's high value). In the exercises below I'm going to pretend you've chosen the word "Shazam!" as your cue.

Training:

- Count out 10 small pieces of food—sized appropriately so that it's quick and easy for the dog to consume (hold the pieces in one hand).
- Sit or stand with your dog in front of you. It doesn't matter what your dog is doing—he can be sitting, lying down, or standing.
- Say your recall cue, "Shazam!" and then immediately pop a treat into your dog's mouth (remember, no marker signal during this exercise). Yes, it's that simple. Say your cue, pop a piece of food in your dog's mouth.
- Repeat 9 more times.
- Practice this exercise in the house twice a day for a week.
- In the second week, practice this exercise out of doors (your back yard or porch). Repeat the above steps.

Problem Solving:

If your dog is distracted or seems uninterested in the food, choose a higher value food and/or move to an area that's less distracting.

When I'm training this with my own dog, her eyes are bright and her body wiggles with excitement. It's as if she's thinking, "Oh my goodness, this is the most fun thing ever!"

Your dog will likely respond in the same manner at the end of the two weeks. He'll associate your chosen recall cue with the experience of eating yummy food, and you'll have created a very happy association with the cue you use to call him to come to you. You're ready to move to the Chase Me Game.