

# THE CHECK-IN GAME PHASE 3

(dog off leash)



## GOAL:

Your dog offers attention to you regularly without your asking

## WHERE:

In your yard, then safely fenced, varied locations with ***your dog off leash***

## TRAINING EQUIPMENT:

Wearable treat bag filled with treats, marker signal (verbal or clicker)

Once your dog is consistently achieving the goals for Phase One and Two of the Check-In Game, it's time to practice with your dog off leash, but always in a ***safely fenced area***.

## Training:

- Go out for a leisurely stroll around your yard. Continue to observe your dog as he sniffs around and scans the environment. As always with the Check-In Game, you are to say ***nothing at all*** while keeping your focus on your dog.
- The ***instant*** your dog orients toward you or looks at your face, mark/feed and verbally praise your dog. Then remove your attention and resume your stroll.
- Continue to watch with your peripheral vision and the moment your dog looks toward you again, mark/feed and praise.
- Repeat multiple times in the yard around your home until you're getting consistent success, then you can begin taking your dog to other safely fenced low-distraction areas in your community.
- Your goal is to help your dog always get it right. This is not about testing his limits with a newly learned skill.

## Problem Solving:

- If at any time the exercise isn't successful, move to a lower distraction area and/or raise the value of your reinforcer. If moving doesn't help, go back to the point in training where you were last successful and practice there before proceeding again.

SCAN ME



for details of Lisa Waggoner's book,

***The Original Rocket Recall™: Teach Your Dog to Come***