



## PICK A CUE

### GOAL:

Pick the word you plan to use to call your dog

SCAN ME



for details of Lisa  
Waggoner's book,

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

[rocketrecall.com](http://rocketrecall.com)

Once you've realized success with the Check-In Game and the Name Game, it's time to train a Rocket Recall™. Now it's time to pick the word you plan to use to call your dog.

### Training:

What's the current word (the cue) you use to call your dog to you? Whatever it is, if he hasn't been reliably responding to your current recall cue at least 75 percent of the time, please pick a new cue. It's easier to condition a new cue than it is to change the emotional response to an old one.

Said another way, if you've used "come" to call your dog and he decides he'd rather go do something else—anything else—other than return to you, the word "come" doesn't have pleasant associations for him. Time to pick a new cue.

The most common cues are Come! and Here!, though I highly encourage you to pick a fun cue. Our clients have picked Shazam! Cookie! Batman! Lottery! or Happy Hour! If your cue is a word that's fun for you to say, it'll help you be lighthearted during training. You want the training process to be fun for you and fun for your dog.

My own recall cue for Cailie is "Ca-Ca-Come!" which came about when she was a ten-week-old puppy (that's when I began training her recall). Because dogs respond better to higher-pitched sounds, I was in the habit of saying "Puppy, puppy, puppy" (stringing those words together rapidly in a high-pitched voice) and then running away from her to encourage her to chase me. That's my version of the puppy Chase Me Game. As she got older, I switched to "Ca-Ca-Come!" and said it in the same exciting way as I said, "Puppy, puppy, puppy!"

When you've picked the cue, it's time to help your dog understand that good stuff happens when he hears the word. You're going to Turn on the Cue.