

What to Bring to Class





Welcome to training

Before you begin...

Getting to Understanding Your Puppy Dogs do not know the English language!

A young puppy is just like a baby. Babies must learn the English language. They have to listen for a long time before they can talk and do things.

An untrained dog must learn the English language just like babies do. They have to listen for a long time before they understand.

If you were learning a new language, you would not understand what the words meant until you were told or shown what they meant.

A dog does not understand the word 'sit' until someone shows them.

You may have to show them (or help them) several times, but eventually they will understand. And after they understand how to sit in your house, they need to learn how to sit outside, and at the park, and at your friend's house. They need lots of repetition and practice in many places.

Dogs need to be shown how to do things many times before they understand. Just like you with maths. Sometimes your teacher must show you five or six times before you get it. But you DO get it! And so, will your dog. Just be patient.

It is very confusing to dogs to get different commands for the same action. Be sure to say the same command every time so that your dog will have the best chance to understand what you are saying.

Remember... When you teach your dog, please be kind and consistent!

Consistent means using the same words and actions repeatedly to avoid confusion.



What to bring to training

Please bring the following to all classes attended with your dog:

- Enclosed Shoes (as per our Ground Rules)
- High Value Food Treats (1 - 2 Sandwich bags)
- Lead & Collar
- Pooh Bags
- Vaccination Certificate
- A Mat

FOOD TREATS

While most dogs will work for lower value treats like kibble or schmackos at home, in the distracting class environment it is likely that you will need to bring **high value treats** to keep their attention for the full hour.

Some examples of treats suitable for classes include:

Chicken, Sausage, Steak, Cheese, Ham, Raw meat and/or Fish.

If your dog has a sensitive stomach or is on a restricted diet, we recommend poached chicken.

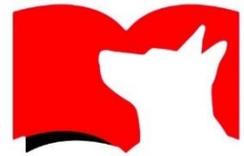
It is best to bring a variety of treats for class – a “doggie trail mix”. This will give you the highest chance of keeping their attention for the full hour.

Your treats should be diced up to exceedingly small portions – about the size of a rice bubble for small breeds, or a pea for large breeds. If your dog has to chew the treat, then it is too large. Small treats mean that your dog won't fill up as quickly and will also mean that we use less food.

Do not forget to reduce your dog's meals on the days where they're having a lot of treats, so that they don't put on excess weight. Treats with a lot of fat or salt content like hot dogs should be used sparingly, as they can be unhealthy for your dog in large quantities.

Bring at least a full sandwich bag full of treats to each class – it is always better to go home with extra than to run out halfway through the lesson.

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LEAD & COLLAR

As per our safety rules, your dog can wear either a standard flat collar, well-fitting harness, or well-fitting head-collar to class. If you would like to bring your dog in a harness or head-collar, please ensure they are also wearing a collar as a backup option.

Your dog must be on a lead at all times when on our grounds; please ensure your lead is attached before letting your dog out of the car.

Leads must be standard flat leads; not retractable, rope or chain, and be 1.5 to 2.2m in length.

Do not bring your dog to class wearing a check/choke chain, prong collar or citronella/shock collar.

POOH BAGS

Please ensure you bring pooh bags along to take care of your puppy's waste if necessary. We will provide disinfectant and paper towels to clean any toileting accidents; it is each owner's responsibility to clean up after their puppy.

Please use only the bins marked Norfolk K9 Training for any dog waste.

MAT

Something for your puppy/dog to lay upon in between performing exercise during the lesson and whilst your trainer is briefing the class.

WATER VESSEL

Something to give your puppy/dog a drink should they become thirsty during training sessions; we tend to use the small non-spill bowls which are also handy to have in your vehicle as they prevent water splashing around everywhere.

HANDLERS CLOTHING

You will need to ensure that you are comfortable, and that clothing does not restrict the movement of your body especially arms and legs. With regards to footwear please see our "Ground Rules and Safety Procedures".

In wet weather you may need waterproof clothing.



Office: 32 Marriots Gate, Lutton, Spalding Lincolnshire PE12 9HN

Tel: 01406 363806 www.norfolk9.co.uk **Email:** training@norfolk9.co.uk

Proprietors & Instructors: Martin & Kevin Wardle-Rogers

