

# TAKE IT AND GIVE | SWAP BEHAVIOUR TRAINING INFOSHEET

1 April 2020

These are great exercises to build impulse control and appropriate behaviour during interactive games. Teaching your dog to release an item on cue will enable you to control the game and reduce arousal levels.

### Take it and Give

## Swap

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Step one: Present a rope toy to your dog and

encourage himor her to take hold of the toy. Do not verbalise anything at this point.

**Step two:** Present a treat in a closed fist close near

your dog's nose, this should prompt him or her to release the toy and accept the treat.

Step three: When you are sure your dog will take the

toy in his or her mouth and release it when presented with a treat, you can add the

verbal cue "take it" and "give".

#### **INSTRUCTIONS - TOYS ONLY**

Step one: Use two rope toys. Present your dog with

one and encourage him or her to take hold of the toy. Now you can play a game of tug!

Step two: You then drop the toy they are holding and

pick up the other toy, encourage them to

take a hold of that one and play.

Step three: When your dog is reliably dropping the

first toy when you pick up the second toy, you can add the verbal cue "swap".

### **TIPS**



If your dog is showing signs of resource guarding, please seek the advice of a qualified behavioural trainer. For example, if your dog displays aggression around toys and treats.

If your dog is more interested in toys/play than they are in food then try using another

toy to swap.



THE LOST DOGS HOME.
2 Gracie Street
North Melbourne VIC 3051
Phone 03 9329-2755

920 Thompsons Rd Cranbourne VIC 3977 Phone 03 9702-8055

Web www.dogshome.com Email info@dogshome.com Facebook lostdogshome Twitter lostdogshome Insta @lostdogshome More questions? Need help? Email our professional behaviour trainers on petsquad@dogshome.com

Since our official opening in 1913, we have been a voice for animals without owners caring for thousands of cats and dogs each year. Pioneers for fair animal laws, we continue to work on the front line to reduce the number of lost, abandoned and stray cats and dogs.

We rely on public support to run services and programs, including: proactive adoption, foster care, behaviour rehabilitation, low cost desexing and microchipping, and the promotion of better pet ownership through education.