

LEAD MANNERS TRAINING

Everyone likes a well behaved and socialised greyhound, and lead manners is a great place to start. Providing some basic training will help your greyhound to adjust to their life after racing and know what is expected of them in their new home.

Why training your greyhound is so important

- We are asking them to live in our world, so this means we need to teach them what to expect
- Training develops conditioned responses to certain cues
- Builds confidence of the dog
- Builds confidence in the handler
- Builds social skills of the dog
- Builds communication between the dog and the handler
- Increases leadership of the handler
- Improves manners
- Teaches new skills
- Reward effort and improvement

Always start your session with a goal in mind. However big or small. Be fun and engaging and most of all, enjoy your time together!



Commands

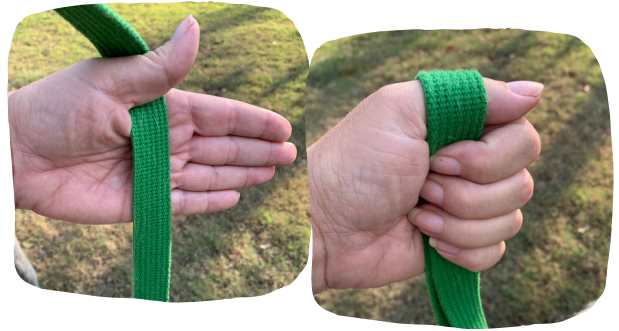
These are some of the basic commands that we use here at the GAP.

As with the learning of any new skill, it takes time, and your greyhound will be at different stages with the different commands. No two dogs are the same.

Command	Explanation
Name Recognition	Teaching the dog their name
Walking on the Lead	Achieving a nice social walk without being dragged along
Let's Go	Indicates to the dog that we are now walking
Wait	Short term stationary position. Used for doorways/dinner etc
OK	To move from this wait
Stay	Long term stationary position
Come	Recall word used to bring the dog back to us
Stand	Used instead of the sit in a lot of cases
Sit	Not all greyhounds sit. They may get this over time
Drop	A laying down position
On your Mat	To get them to go to a place to settle/lay down
Free	To release the dog from a command into something they want to do
Get it	The fetch command
Give	Releasing the object to us
Finish	Used to signal the end of the game

Holding the lead

- Take the leash up in the palm of your hand
- Loop it over your thumb, letting the rest of the leash hang down
- Put the remainder in your other palm
- Make a fist
- Lock down your thumb



Holding a treat

- Hold the treat between your thumb and forefinger
- Make sure your hand is flat
- Move the thumb off the treat when it is time to reward the greyhound

Heel/stand

The positioning for the Heel and the Stand is the same, except with the heel we are in motion. Walking your dog in the Heel position is great for tight spaces or the need for additional control of your dog.

- Dog's shoulder at your hip (or thereabouts)
- Nice short lead
- Relaxed arm



The sit

Only a small percentage of greyhounds actually sit. So, if you have one of those that do, here are some tips.

- Start in a stand
- Place the treat in front of the greyhound's nose
- Move your hand up and over the dog's head (don't go too fast)
- Reward with the treat

When your dog is doing this consistently, you can then start to associate a word to the skill.

The drop (drop/down/lay down)

Drop from a sit:

- Start in a sit
- Place the treat in front of the greyhound's nose
- Move your hand down towards the dog's feet
- Move the treat out and away from the greyhound (don't go too fast)
- Reward with the treat

When your dog is doing this consistently, you can then start to associate a word to the skill.



Drop from a stand:

- Start in a stand
- Place the treat in front of the greyhound's nose
- Move your hand down towards the dog's feet (don't go too fast)
- Your dog should 'fold' by bending the front legs first
- Reward with the treat

When your dog is doing this consistently, you can then start to associate a word to the skill.

