

Advanced Retrieving with two boxes

Step 1:



I have positioned Pete on an incline in the garden. I make him “Stay” while I carry another box down the hill.

Step 2:



I call Pete from the first to the second box.

Step 3:



I then move the first box to the center of the lawn.

Step 4:



While my back is turned Pete stands, when I turn around I catch this and tell him to sit. At this tender age it pays to be ever vigilant.

Step 5:



I position myself between the two boxes and launch balls over Pete's head. This is quite tempting because I have them land on the incline and they roll back towards and in full view of the pup.

Step 6:



You can see the ball at the middle center. It is going to roll down the hill if I'm lucky.

Step 7:



I am going to try to throw three balls. The first one lands to the left of Pete and rolls down towards the bush on the left. The 2nd one rolls within a couple of inches away from Pete on the box. He remained steady and intense. If he broke, I would have moved the box that Pete was seated on further away from the balls minimizing the temptation. The 3rd ball stayed up on the incline.

Step 8:



I say the words “leave it” and I walk to the second box.

Step 9:



I tap the box, and Pete turns away from the balls and comes running to step up on the second box.

Step 10:



I now position Pete's body 180 degrees away from the first box, and tell him to mark.

Step 11:



I send him using the word "back." Note: There are no retrieves at the end of the lawn, however when he is on a flat run I throw one over his head with the launcher so his momentum takes him into it.

Step 12:



I am tapping the box to indicate this is where Pete is to return.

Step 13:



Pete is about to jump up on the box.

Step 14:



After he completes the first retrieve I leave him hupped and walk back to the first box where I pick up the three initial balls.

Step 15:



I then proceed to throw the three balls over his head again.

Step 16:



Pete must remain on the box and not try to make the retrieves.

Step 17:



After commanding him to leave it, I tap the box closest to me and bring Pete in.

Step 18:



I give the pup a much deserved pat on the head.

Step 19:



While Pete must say on the box I walk out to pick up two of the three balls I've thrown. This will become the early basis on "honoring".

Step 20:



Step 21:



I then pick up the middle box.

Step 22:



After positioning the box in its original location, I tap it to call Pete in.

Step 23:



And to end, I send Pete for a memory blind.

Step 24:



Pete makes a good out run for the retrieve.

Step 25:



Mission accomplished! Dog training is about building relationships, the more imaginative I can be at this stage of Pete's mental development, the better his trust is in me and ultimately the better our long term relationship will be.