

Service Dog Training Guidelines

These are basic guidelines a trainer needs to keep in mind while planning approach of training a dog for service work and during the process of training.

1. "What got me the treat"
2. Precise timing of reward
3. Ability to anticipate (know when to use it to your advantage and when to try to neutralize)
4. Dogs can be one dimensional (same as anticipation)
5. Know yourself - when you are being impatient, flustered or angry. Learn how to get yourself in the right state of mind.
6. Know your dog - know when learning has started and more importantly when it stopped. How to illicit the learning process.
7. Training does not have to be in a special training area. Best to start, then as training progresses, learn to use the environment(park, store, people)
8. Make training be part of daily routine.
9. Anything can be a cue
10. Clicker? Know advantages and disadvantages, when should you use one.

