



If you have questions anytime during the training period, please call us!

201.445.3962 (office)  
973.975.5207 (cell)

## TRAINING GUIDELINES

### INTRODUCTION TO FLAGS (1 to 5 days)

1. Put the ifence collar on your dog just above your dog's regular collar. Put the collar on your dog about 15-30 minutes before you are ready to begin training. Leave the collar on the dog all day and remove it at night. Do not remove the temporary buzzer on the collar until ifence removes it. (This buzzer lets the dogs hear a distracting noise, but he gets no correction at this time.)

**Never** attach a leash to the ifence collar. **Always** leash your dog when he is outside during the training weeks. **Never** call your dog to "come" through the flags.

2. Take your dog outside on a leash. Play with your dog for a few minutes, and let him do his business before you start training.
3. Start the training: Walk toward the flags with your dog walking next to you. Do not pull your dog; give the leash some slack.
4. When your dog gets close to the flags – and you hear the quacking of the buzzer, guide your dog to retreat back to the safe zone in the yard and praise your dog. If you have someone to help you, have this person stand behind the flags. When the dog is getting close to the flag, your helper should slap the flag and say "No!" in a stern command tone.
5. Skip a few flags, and repeat the lesson. Your dog should be hesitating a bit, turning his head, or stopping at the flags. Once you complete this lesson around the yard, your dog should be hesitant when he approaches the flags.
6. Train your dog twice or three times a day for only 10 to 15 minutes each. Remember to remove the collar at night.

**REMEMBER TO ALWAYS PRAISE AND PLAY WHEN YOU RETREAT TO THE SAFE ZONE!**



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## **INTRODUCTION TO CORRECTION (1 to 5 days)**

1. Follow steps 1 to 3 from page 1. The only difference is the temporary buzzer has been removed and your dog is ready to feel the correction.
2. When you walk toward the flags, your dogs will hear a beeping noise that he will soon associate with the flags, and ultimately the correction. Have your helper ready to slap the flags and give the “No!” command.
3. Your dog will most likely wander close to the flags. Be prepared to guide him back to the safe zone. When he gets too close to the flags, your helper should slap the flag and give the “No!” command.
4. Move along to a few new flags and repeat this lesson. Because your dog has yet to feel the correction, he may not seem to be concerned about the flags.
5. Move along to a few new flags again. This time, allow your dog to get closer to the flags and let him feel the correction. Slap the flag and say the “No!” command.

When your dog feels the correction, he may turn his head, back-up, or yelp. Be prepared to guide him back to the safe zone. Do not pull him! Guide your dog back to the safe zone and pat and praise him.

6. Repeat this lesson, but do not let your dog get too close to the flags to feel the correction. If he seems unconcerned and attempts to walk up to or through the flags, let him get a correction and guide him back to the safe zone.

If your dog is now hesitant to go near the flags, do not force him to do so. Walk around the yard, within the safe zone, and praise and play.

7. Repeat this lesson several hours later to continue to reinforce the flag boundary. After a few days, introduce distractions such as the dog next door, people walking down the street, or the mailman walking up the driveway.

## **TAKING YOUR DOG OFF LEASH**

1. Follow steps 1 to 3 from page 1.
2. After about a week or so, your dog is ready to go in the yard off-leash. Remember, he may try to run through so be prepared to step on the leash.
3. Keep your dog on a leash, but drop the leash while you walk your yard and go up to a flag every few feet. Slap the flag with the “No!” command. Your dog should not go near the flags and will instead, retreat to the safe zone.
4. Remember to pat and praise your dog whenever he retreats from the flags and goes to the safe zone.
5. When you take your dog outside again off-leash, try a few distractions on the other side of the flags. Be prepared to step on the leash in case he attempts to run through the flags.
6. During the first month, keep an eye on your dog when he is off-leash in the yard, especially if there are distractions outside the flag area.

## **RUNNING THROUGH THE FLAGS**

During the initial training sessions, your dog might attempt to run through the flags. If your dog is high-energy and/or has previously been running through the neighborhood, it is likely that he will run through the flags during training. He will eventually understand and respect his boundaries, but it might just take him a bit longer to think about his boundary and the consequences for going outside the safe zone.

If your dog runs through the fence because of a distraction, he may not react to the correction. Whatever he was running toward was where his focus was. The correction was incidental. He felt it, but didn't care. If he tries to run back into the yard, he will most likely yelp when he gets the correction because there is no distraction now, and he finds the correction a surprise.

If your dog runs through the fence, do not call him to come back. Go and get him, remove the collar and walk back through the fence. Attach the leash to his regular collar, and repeat the flag slapping around the yard to remind him.

If he does it again, go get him, and walk him back through the flags with the collar on. Repeat the flag slapping around the yard.