



Doorway Manners

In this exercise we teach doors to train your dog. Since every dog must pass through doorways many times throughout the day, this exercise will give even the busiest of people many opportunities to train their dog.

Sequence #1

- Approach closed door.
- Place your hand on doorknob and get ready to turn it.
- Ask your dog to sit, repeat calmly and dead pan until your dog sits.
- Immediately open the door and walk through.

Your goal is to walk up to a door and place your hand on the doorknob and your dog sits before you verbally request it. Your goal is for the closed door to be the command for your dog to sit. Your dog will eventually believe that the only way to make a door open is to sit in front of it. When your dog consistently sits at doorways without a verbal command, you and your dog are ready for sequence #2.

Sequence #2

- Approach closed door, wait for dog to sit.
- Dog sits, open door part way.
- Dog gets up, and you close door gently.
- Repeat until (usually after 3-4 repetitions) you open the door, and your dog remains sitting and looks up at you.
- Release dog with “okay” and allow dog to exit.

You may find your otherwise perfectly normal dog walking up to closed doors anywhere and sitting patiently in front of the door, waiting for them to open.