



Puppy Walks & Walks To Nowhere On Leash Outside The Home

Introduction

Once your puppy is happily walking with you for 10 steps or so without getting distracted, on the leash, in multiple rooms in your home, you can move outside for the next challenge!

Remember that each time you move to a new environment, you will probably have to start over with less steps and more changes of direction (Walks to Nowhere) to start with. Generally, any location outside is going to be a lot more distracting to your puppy than inside as there is a lot more going on! Some times of year and weather conditions can be more challenging than others too. For example, Fall can be a challenge with leaves moving around, and windy days mean lots more smells flying around!

Exercises

- ☐ Stage 1 - Work up to your puppy being able to walk 10 steps with you on the driveway without getting distracted. This is a new environment for your puppy so you will probably need to go back to taking just a couple of steps, with a food lure if necessary. Gradually build up to being able to take 10 steps before you reward your puppy.
- ☐ Stage 2 - Work up to your puppy being able to walk 10 steps with you in your yard.
- ☐ Stage 3 - Once you are doing well on the driveway and in your yard, you can work up to 10 steps on the sidewalk just outside your home.
- ☐ Stage 4 - Once your puppy is able to walk 10 steps with you, without a food lure and without getting distracted, on your driveway, in your yard, and on the sidewalk right outside your home, you can start building up to walking some greater distances in these environments. Starting with the outside place your puppy finds least distracting (probably your driveway), walk 15 steps, then 20, and so on. Once counting steps becomes impractical, you can use a time duration instead, so work up to your puppy being able to walk with you for 30 seconds, 1 minute, 2 minutes and so on without getting distracted. However, initially you may need to mark and reward more than once during a greater distance. For example, if you are doing 20 steps, mark and reward after the first 10 steps, and then again at 20.



Once you are successful in familiar environments, you are ready to work further afield:

Puppy Walks and Walks to Nowhere Away From Home