



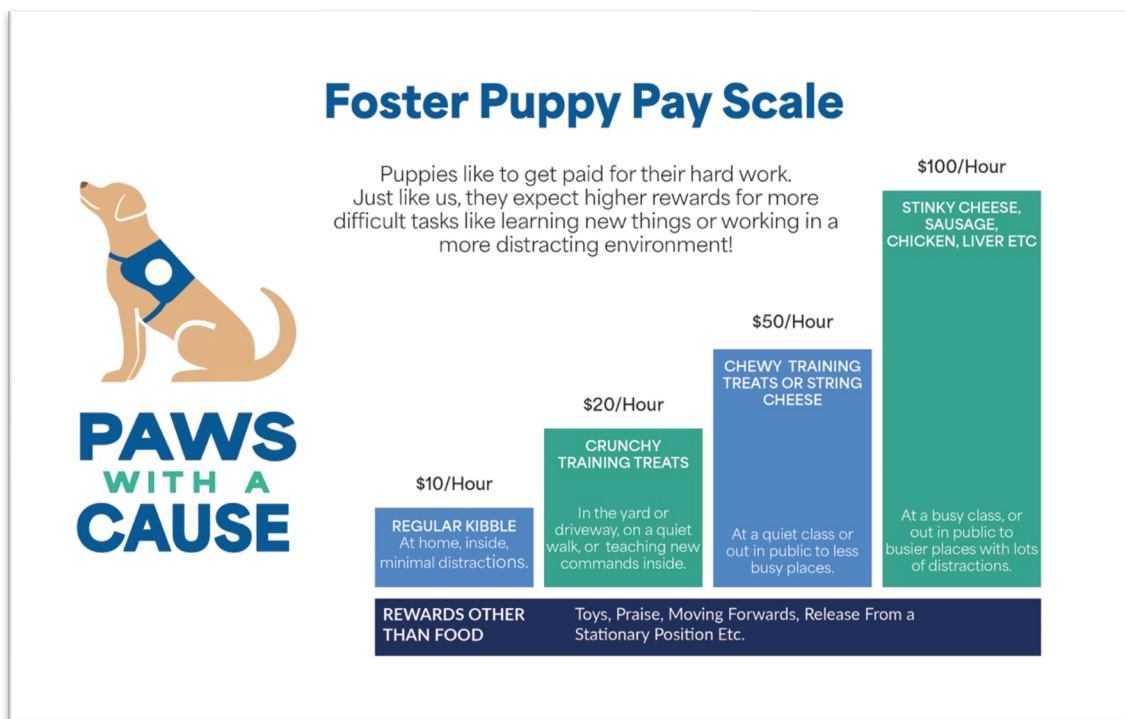
Appropriate Rewards

Introduction

A reward follows our marker word, “Yes!” when our puppies have performed a behavior that we have asked for.

Generally, the reward for PAWS puppies will be food, but we will talk below about other things that could potentially be rewarding for your puppy.

The Foster Puppy Pay Scale



- 🐾 All rewards do not have the same value for your puppy. See the puppy pay scale graphic above. You can use your puppy's regular kibble a lot of the time, but when you are in a more distracting environment, or you are teaching new cues, you might have to up your reward game!
- 🐾 Not all puppies attach the same value to rewards so a low value reward for one puppy might be a high value reward for another. One puppy may think raw carrots are the best thing ever, and another puppy might feel like carrot pieces are the consolation prize.
- 🐾 Reward values are subject to change for your puppy. What worked at 3 months might no longer be appealing at 6 months, and what worked at home might not be of as much interest at class.
- 🐾 A "trail mix" of different value treats in your treat bag can keep things interesting and introduce the element of surprise for your puppy!
- 🐾 Also, mixing in some higher value rewards with regular kibble in your treat bag will make the regular kibble smell more delicious than normal. A good way of keeping the calories under control!

Luring, Rewarding, & Bribing

- 🐾 Luring is when we use food to show our puppy what we want them to do when training a new behavior. For example, when we train our puppies to sit, we have a piece of kibble in our hand and bring it up and over our puppy's head to lower their rear end into a sitting position.
- 🐾 Rewarding is when we give our puppy something reinforcing (usually food) after they have responded to a cue and we have marked the behavior with "Yes!"
- 🐾 Bribing is when your puppy knows a behavior and you are still using food to achieve the behavior. For example, having food in your hand when you ask for "Sit," or walking with your hand in your treat pouch when heeling.

Rewards Other Than Food

Labradors and Golden Retrievers are generally very food motivated. Poodles and Papillons sometimes not so much, so it is good to bear in mind that often things other than food can be rewarding for our puppies. For example, toys, praise, petting, or even getting to move in a forward direction.

You can also use items in your environment that interest your puppy as a reward. For example, if they are able to approach something that they really want to investigate without pulling you to get there, you can tell them “Yes” and “Free” so that they may sniff the item. This is very good learning for them, especially if treats aren’t overly appealing to them.

Get to know what is rewarding for your puppy and use that to your advantage.

Human Food & High Value Rewards

Human Food & PAWS Puppies

Approved!

High Level Training Treats

- Hard Cheese ■ Hot Dog Pieces (Cooked or Uncooked)
- Lunch Meat (Unseasoned)
- Boiled Meat (No Seasoning)

Occasional Snack Or Frozen Treat

- Carrots ■ Green Beans ■ Broccoli ■ Celery
- Apples (No Seeds) ■ Bananas (No Peel)
- Sweet Potato ■ Watermelon (No Rind)

Filler For Kongs & Licki-Mats

- Pumpkin Puree ■ Peanut Butter (Natural PB Preferred and NO XYLITOL)
- Greek Yogurt (Unflavored & Unsweetened) ■ Squeeze Cheese

REMEMBER:

- Never feed from the table!
- Small quantities and only when needed and warranted!
- If your puppy has GI upsets after human food treats, try a different treat/snack!

Nope!

Let the PAWS vet department know if your foster puppy consumes any of these food items, even if it's just a small amount!

- Onions ■ Garlic ■ Cooked or Raw Bones ■ Grapes & Raisins
- Sugar-free Candy or Gum ■ Anything Containing Xylitol ■ Chocolate
- Fat Trimmings ■ Tree Nuts ■ Avocado ■ Anything Containing Alcohol

Other Resources

- 🐾 Article - What is Marker Training
- 🐾 Video - Leash Handling & Treat Delivery - Hints & Tips
- 🐾 Article - PAWS Approved Human Food Training Treats
- 🐾 Video - High Value Treats
- 🐾 Video - Using Toy Rewards