



## The 'down' position:

Teaching your dog obedience training can be simple and fun with the correct information and some patience. Teaching your dog to lie down when asked can be really useful and more comfortable for them rather than sitting for long periods. **These Tips will help you quickly teach the 'down' position.**

- 1.** Give the cue: "down" first, before you lure the dog into the position. Hold a tasty treat such as a piece of cheese, frankfurter sausage or small piece of liver above the dog's nose to lure him into the "sit" position - but don't tell him to "sit" as you'll confuse him with too many commands!
- 2.** Keeping the treat in front of the dog's nose, slowly lower it to the floor in-between his paws and just slightly away in front of them. If your dog gets up, you've moved the treat too far forward. Make this really slow.
- 3.** As soon as your dog's tummy touches the floor, praise ("good, down") and release the treat.
- 4.** Always be consistent in your cues and following them through.
- 5.** Make sure you use the "down" cue only for one thing and that the down position has a cue of its own. If the dog jumps up or gets on the sofa and you tell it to "get down", you'll need to find another cue for the down position, such as "flat" or "drop" , for example.
- 6.** If your dog doesn't respond to you, keep teaching the cue – he won't be ignoring you, he just doesn't understand what you want him to do... or there's a more exciting alternative to laying down! So ensure you teach and enforce the cue when there are few distractions.
- 7.** Remember that "down" is one position and no other position or variation of the position will do.