



Consistent Commands

These are the terms I use while training at Carolina Canine College. You certainly do not have to use my vocabulary, but whatever word(s) you choose, you **must be consistent**. In other words, please say "Down" **only** when you want the dog to lie down and "Off" or some other word for when a dog needs to get off the couch (or your leg!). The other big pair is "Wait" versus "Stay". For my dogs, "Wait" means that I want the dog to stay in the general area, but no big deal if she moves. If I say "Stay" to my dog, I expect her to stay where I left her, until I come back to release her.

You have 2.3 seconds to get a correction or praise out of your mouth from the moment a dog gives you a behavior.

Back – back up

Come – stop what you're doing, dog, & come sit front while looking at me

Come Around – turn right

Down – lie down

Drop It! – drop whatever's in your mouth, dog!

Easy – don't bite the hand that feeds you, dog!

Fetch – go pick it up, dog!

Front – dog sits facing handler

Get Back / Get In – turn left

Get Dressed! – put collar and/or leash on

Give – release what's in your mouth, dog!

Go Crate – kennel up

Go On! – forward focus

Go Potty – go potty

Heel – dog's right shoulder should be lined up with handler's left ankle

Here – come here to this general area

Hit It! – two (rear) paws on an obstacle, two (front) paws on the ground

Hup – jump up

Hurry – speed up

Jackpot! – BIG reward; go CRAZY with high pitched praise, pets, and treats!

Leave It! – do NOT touch under ANY circumstances

Let's Go! – heel

Look/Watch Me – make and maintain eye contact

Off – get off NOW!

Okay – release word

Over – jump over

Quiet – for the love of Pete, PLEASE stop barking!

Shake – paw offered to handler

Side – dog on the handler's right side

Sit – sit

Speak – bark

Stand – stand

Stay – do NOT move from the place or change your position until I get back

Target – go touch something out in the distance

Teeter – teeter totter

Touch – touch my hand, or this thing, or that thing

Tunnel – go through the tunnel

Walk It! – any agility contact obstacle

Wait – hang out here, but it's okay if you move a bit

Weave! – weave poles

Yes! – dog is in the right place or doing the right thing