

# STAY



This week you will practice all the parts of **stay** that will help your puppy wait while you answer the door to a stranger.

**Stay** is a terrific **incompatible behavior** to jumping, mobbing, and door-dashing. Teaching puppy to **stay** while you answer the door is easy to do if you break it down into steps.

- **Can puppy stay while you walk 10 steps away and return? Try these challenges: Have puppy stay while you walk to the door**

1. and return
2. count to 10, and return
3. open and close it, and return
4. open it, fake converse with no-one, and return
5. open it, real converse with someone, and return

- **Let's teach puppy that knocks don't mean barge the door. Try these challenges:**

**Have puppy stay while you**

1. knock on a table or book near puppy
2. knock on a table or book 3 feet away from puppy, and return
3. knock on the nearest wall, and return
4. knock on another wall, and return
5. knock on the inside of the door, and return
6. open the door, knock on the outside, and return
7. step outside, close the door, and return
8. step outside, close the door and knock on it, and return
9. have someone else knock on the door while you are near puppy
10. have someone else knock on the door while you stand 10 feet from puppy

- **Now you can put the pieces together and puppy can practice staying while you answer the door to a familiar person. (If puppy races to greet the person, quickly and gently close the door.) Have puppy stay while you have someone knock at the door and you walk to the door and**

1. return
2. open and close the door, and return
3. open the door, say hello/other pleasantries, close the door, and return
4. open the door, shake hands, close the door, and return
5. open the door, helper step inside for just a moment, close and return
6. open the door, helper hands you a box, then close the door and return
7. open the door, invite helper inside for a moment of brief pleasantries, close the door/return

**I'll bet you can work out some new challenges on your own. Here are some ideas**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Person knocks **first**, as a surprise, while you and puppy are playing. **Then** ask puppy to **stay** and "answer" the door
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ask person to come further in to your house, or speak with you with an excited voice or more engagingly
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have puppy practice his **stay** in different parts of the room or house while you answer the door
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have puppy practice his **stay** on at least three different doors you can "answer" this week
- \_\_\_\_\_ Practice with a helper or helpers your puppy does not know so well, or even at all

**TRAINER TIP:** Trainers often introduce new distractions as a stay exercise. For example, if I need my dog to be able to loose leash walk and recall around playing children, I might first introduce those distractions in a stay. You can more easily avoid puppy getting too excited to ignore the distraction and teach him that he can be calm and quiet even while children run and play. A staying dog is practicing being in the presence of enticing things **without chasing**.

**When and where do you need puppy to stay? Make a plan!**

**I want puppy to stay** \_\_\_\_\_

**The skills needed are** \_\_\_\_\_

**and** \_\_\_\_\_

**and** \_\_\_\_\_

Puppy can already stay when \_\_\_\_\_  
(start here!)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 1st skill needed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ this is your first goal/skill needed. Add more steps as needed.