

“LET’S GO!” FOR REACTIVE DOGS

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

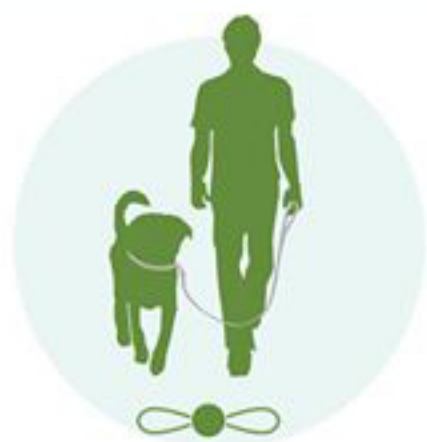


KEEP THE LEASH LOOSE

When you see a dog on the horizon, do you choke up on the leash and hold on for dear life? It feels like the safe thing to do, but a tight leash can actually make your dog's reaction worse. Keep the leash loose in training and on walks. (It's ok to pull on the leash in an emergency.)

SAY THE CUE, THEN TURN

When training, say "Let's go!" and pause a moment before starting to turn around. Then encourage your dog to follow you with your voice, or treats (but don't pull on the leash!). This will help your dog notice and learn the "Let's go!" cue.



TRAIN AT HOME FIRST

Teach "Let's go!" in the house first. Perfect your technique indoors, then move to the backyard. Then work on "Let's go!" away from food and toy distractions.

TAKE IT ON THE ROAD

When you're ready to practice "Let's go" on walks, choose a location where you're unlikely to see dogs. Then train in an area where your dog can see other dogs far away. You can even start in front of your house so you can run inside if a dog is approaching.

