Dog obedience training lessons for beginners, graduate beginners, brace and team
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Dog Obedience Training Lessons
for Beginners, Graduate Beginners, Brace and Team

For the Leader
This bulletin shows the steps to follow in obedience training. You may wish to teach these exercises in a different order and may have equal success; however the order as listed is suggested. You may also know of different training methods that are equally as successful.

At the start of the first class of instruction, demonstrate the Heel and Sit as discussed in Lesson one by using a dog belonging to one of the members. The class should form a circle around the instructor. Continue the training exercises for a half hour, take a five-minute break, and continue practice of the exercises for the remaining half hour.

For one half hour at the beginning of the second class, practice the exercises as taught at the first class. After a five-minute break demonstrate the next exercise (Lesson 2) using one of the member’s dogs. The class should then practice the new exercises for the remainder of the class period.

At each subsequent meeting follow the format of practicing the exercise learned in the previous lesson during the first half of the class period, take a five-minute break, and then learn the new exercises in the next lesson.

Basic Commands
The following list of commands may be helpful to a 4-H leader in conducting the Beginner course. The leader will use similar commands when conducting training classes in Graduate Beginner, Brace and Team classes.

Lesson 1. The Heel and Sit (Class forms a circle around instructor)
Have your dog sitting squarely at your heel. Forward.
Exercise finished.

Lesson 2. The Long Sit (Class forms a circle around instructor)
Prepare your dog for the long sit.
Leave your dog.
Back to your dog.
Exercise finished. (The dog is praised in the sitting position.)

Lesson 3. The Long Down (Class forms a straight line in front of instructor)
Prepare your dog for the long down.
Down your dog.

Lesson 4. The Stand for Examination (Part I)
Prepare your dog for the stand for examination.
Stand your dog. (Handler leaves the dog when satisfied he is standing firmly.)
Back to your dog.
Exercise finished. (The handler then moves the dog two steps forward as described in Lesson 3, before praising him.)

Lesson 5. The Stand for Examination (Part II)
Use the commands given in Lesson 4. The instructor should examine each dog after the handler has left him in a standing position.

Lesson 6. The Recall (Part I)
Have your dog sitting squarely at your heel.
Leave your dog.
Call your dog. (The handler runs backwards several steps gathering in the dog and has him sit directly to his front.)
Back to your dog.
Exercise finished. (Dog is in sitting position for praise.)

Lesson 7. The Recall (Part II)
Have your dog sitting squarely at your heel.
Leave your dog.
Call your dog.  (He is to sit squarely in front of you.)
Finish your dog.  (Handler moves dog from in front to the heel position.)
Exercise finished.

Lesson 8
The Figure 8
Have your dog sitting squarely at your heel.
Forward.  (Handler passes between stewards and turns either left or right.)
Halt.
Exercise finished.

Lesson 9
Review of Exercise
Review all exercises and explain graduation program.

For the Member and Leader
The companionship and affection you share with your dog and the sense of responsibility for his welfare that ownership develops are deeply satisfying experiences for any boy or girl. By training your dog in obedience, you can develop even further what you now enjoy, and you can add a new feeling of accomplishment and reward from what you and your trained dog can do together.

What does it take to train a dog? What must you be prepared to do?
A primary consideration is the age and health of your dog. He should be at least nine months old to begin training. Younger dogs usually behave as puppies and are, therefore, too difficult for the inexperienced to train. Advanced age is itself no limitation, as many dogs over ten years old have been trained very well. The major concern with older dogs is their general health. Those afflicted with arthritis or poor sight and hearing should not be forced to undergo training.

Vaccination for rabies is required by law in most states. Your dog should be vaccinated at five months of age and receive a booster shot every four years. He should also be vaccinated for distemper, hepatitis and leptospirosis at eight or nine weeks of age and receive an annual booster shot.

Basics of Training
By studying this guide carefully, you can learn to train your dog alone. It is better, however, to train your dog in a class in the presence of other dogs and strange surroundings so that he will learn to obey in almost any situation. There should be no more than 10 or 12 students in a class so that each student and his dog can get adequate attention.

Dog training is not a person working and a dog working—it is a person and a dog working as a team. To become and remain a team, you must concentrate completely on your work and you must get and keep the undivided attention of your dog. Do not talk to someone else while training. Do not be grim, but be businesslike.

There are several ways to keep your dog's attention. The first is to put his collar on properly, close behind his ears. Talk to him or make a quick turn and jerk his leash when you suspect his attention has wandered.

When he is heeling say "Good!" in a pleasant, confident voice. This is especially important in the first two or three classes. You may say your dog's name once just before a verbal command or before a verbal command and signal. You may not say his name and then give only a signal. Do not say his name in stay commands. Release your dog from training only from the sitting position at your heel.

Training should be a happy time for you and your dog. If you find you are losing your temper, stop everything until you are calm. Be patient. You may have to repeat a word or command many times before your dog begins to understand. In competition the judge gives penalties for commands he thinks are too loud.

Correction and praise are important. When your dog makes a mistake, correct him immediately while he can still associate the correction with the mistake. Praise every achievement immediately because your dog values your approval, and praise is his only proof that he has that approval.

Keep a regular schedule. Work every day at the same time, but do not bore your dog with long lessons. Two 15-minute sessions a day are better than one 30-minute session. Footwork is important. Learn from your instructor to move your feet correctly before you begin to train your dog.

Figure 1—Your dog at first may pull and tug so use a 6-foot leather leash instead of a chain leash to avoid hurting your hands.
Teaching to Heel

Place your dog in the sitting position at your left, his collar on properly, close behind his ears. Fold the leash neatly into your right hand and hold it about waist high. Let your left arm hang at your side and control the leash with your left hand. Jerk the leash sharply to keep control.

Upon your instructor's command "Forward", you should do three things:
1. Say your dog's name and "Heel" in a commanding voice, neither weak and pleading nor loud and harsh.
2. Step forward with your left foot.
3. Give a jerk with the leash (first week only).

It takes practice and concentration to do all three simultaneously. Do not be discouraged if you do not do it properly the first time.

As soon as your dog starts to move, encourage him with enthusiastic praise, saying "Good boy! Good boy!" Heel at a brisk pace.

If he will not move, do not drag him, but jerk the leash repeatedly, saying his name and "Heel". As soon as he starts to move, praise him and keep him moving. If he forgets ahead, jerk him back and say, "Heel". If he lags behind, jerk him forward. The jerk on the leash must come only a split second after you say, "Heel". If you jerk forward first and say heel a few seconds later, it will be much more difficult for the dog to learn.

Most handlers make the mistake of keeping the leash tight when teaching the dog to heel. The leash should be loose so the dog can make mistakes of lagging behind, forging ahead or going wide. When he makes these mistakes, he learns through a jerk on the leash and when he is heel ing close he learns that he receives praise. When the leash is kept tight all the time, he only learns to dislike the whole idea of training.

Figure 3—The training collar should be long enough to allow 3 or 4 inches of chain to extend when it is taut. Control of the dog decreases when the chain extends farther. The thickness of the chain should be appropriate for the size of the dog.

Lesson 1
The Heel and Sit

When heeling, the dog should walk at your left side, his shoulder in line with your left hip. When you halt he is to sit squarely at your left, his shoulder still even with your knee.

Figure 4—In teaching your dog to heel, do three things at the same time: 1) say your dog's name and "Heel", 2) step forward with your left foot, 3) jerk forward with the leash.
Figure 5—Always heel with a loose leash. Hold the leash in both hands, keeping your left hand ready to correct your dog with a jerk.

Figure 6—Always stop on your right foot and bring your left foot up to it. Your dog will learn to guide on your left leg.

Teaching the Sit

Upon your instructor's command, "Halt", you do not repeat the command but merely stop on your right foot, bringing your left foot alongside your right and give the command, "Sit". Quickly reach across your body with your right hand and grasp the leash about 12 inches from the training collar. Place your left hand on the dog's rump and push down while pulling the leash taut and up with your right hand. Only pull the leash taut; otherwise, the dog will struggle against it. Be sure to pull it straight up. If you pull across your body, it will make the dog sit at an angle rather than straight.

Remember to praise him as soon as he sits.

Figure 7—Teach your dog to sit by doing three things at the same time: 1) say "Sit", 2) push his rump down with your left hand, 3) pull the leash taut with your right hand. Be sure to pull straight up so he will learn to sit straight.

Figure 8—Make sure your dog sits squarely from the start. It is easier to teach a dog correctly the first time than to retrain the dog later.
Figure 9—Don't forget the praise. Praise is just as important as correction.

Figure 10—To turn left, pivot on the ball of your left foot and bring your right foot around smoothly and close to the ground. If your dog fails to turn and your right knee bumps him, say "Sorry boy", jerk the leash back, say his name and "Heel".

Figure 11—The right turn matches the left. Jerk on the leash and encourage your dog to keep him from lagging.

Figure 12—To turn around, hesitate on your left foot...
Lesson 2
The Long Sit

The dog is to remain sitting for one minute.

Figure 13—. . . pivot on the balls of both feet . . .

Figure 15—To teach the long sit, hold the leash in your left hand, swing your right hand, palm open, in front of his nose and say “Stay”. Be strict. Demand total obedience.

Figure 14—and step off smartly on your left foot in the exact opposite direction. Make the left and right turns squarely and the about turn completely about so that you travel in straight lines. This makes it easier for the dog to learn and is more attractive at an obedience trial.

Figure 16—Step off smartly on your right foot and turn to face your dog. If he moves, return him instantly to his original position. Repeat the command to stay and step off. Go only two or three feet the first few times. This is especially important to an insecure or shy dog.
Lesson 3
The Long Down
Slow, Normal and Fast Heeling

The dog is to remain in the down position for three minutes.

A medium to large dog may be placed in the down position as shown on page 10. With your dog sitting in the heel position at your left, kneel beside him. Reach your left arm over his shoulders and grasp his left front leg in your left hand and his right front leg with your right hand. Lift his legs while hooking your left elbow in his flank causing his body to roll toward you and his legs to go out away from you. Then place your right hand, palm open and slightly above the dog's head and eyes and say, "Down".

When he is down, stroke him over the head and neck, helping him to relax. Then give him the command, "Sit", giving several light jerks upward with the leash. Do the "Down" and "Sit" several times.

After he is down and seems relaxed, slowly get up giving the "Stay" hand signal as for the sit-stay and, stepping off with your right foot, move in front of him. If he has stayed down, step back to the end of the leash for a few moments and then return by walking around him to the right. The leash should pass to his left and not drag across his face. Do not allow him to sit when you return. The instructor will say, "Exercise finished" after you return to your dog. Although the exercise is finished you should say his name and "Heel". Take two steps forward and halt, order him to sit and then give him plenty of praise. This will make it clear to him that he should not sit when you return.

After he seems to have learned the down position, step back to the end of the leash and keep him in the down position for a minute or more. Within a week he should stay in the down position for three minutes. If he moves, scold and quickly put him back in the down position.

The dog is learning that the word "Down" means to lie down. Do not use this word for anything else. If the dog jumps on the furniture or puts his muddy paws upon you, say "No". Never use the word "Down" unless you want him to lie down.

Slow, Normal and Fast Heeling

In an obedience trial, you will be required to heel your dog at slow, normal and fast pace. Upon the order "Slow" from the judge, heeling should quickly change to a definite slow pace that may be easily distinguished from the normal pace. When the order "Fast" is given, the handler and dog must break into a run. The dog should remain in the heel position. The order for a slow, normal or fast pace may be given in any sequence.
Figure 19—Use this method of placing medium and large dogs in the down position.

Figure 20—Use this hand signal and say “Down” before and after placing your dog in the down position. He must learn to obey the hand signal and the voice command. You are not allowed to touch him or his collar in graduation or obedience trials.

Figure 21—Use this method to get a medium to large dog from the sitting position to the down position. Kneel at his right side and lift his right front leg in your right hand and then press down on his shoulders with your left hand.

Figure 22—Get a small dog into the down position either by folding his legs or pulling down on the training collar while pressing him down. Place your hand inside the training collar so that it does not choke him. Say “Down”, your voice falling at the end of the word.

Figure 23—After your dog is down, give the command and signal to stay. Step off on your right foot.
Lesson 4
The Stand for Examination (Part I)

There are several ways of teaching your dog the Stand for Examination. Select the method that you think may work best with your dog and don’t change.

Holding the Leash

At the start of the fourth week your dog should be heeling well enough for you to hold the leash in your left hand at your waist with your right hand free. This will also allow you to give the stay signals with your right hand without changing the leash to the other hand. In an obedience trial, you may hold the leash in either or both hands; however, you will appear more natural to carry the leash in your left hand and allow your right hand to be free at your side.

The habit of holding the leash in your left hand may be especially useful to you when not in an obedience trial as your right hand will be free for opening doors, carrying packages, shaking hands and many other things we normally do with our right hand.

Lesson 5
The Stand for Examination (Part II)

At an obedience trial, the judge will require your dog to stand for examination. Upon the order, “Stand your dog”, you may use any of the methods described in Lesson 4. Take the time you need to get your dog standing squarely and when you think he will remain standing and stay for the examination, say “Stay”, giving the hand signal and stepping in front of your dog. Stand facing your dog, holding his leash loose and clear of the floor. The exercise does not start until you say “Stay” and move away from your dog. If you say “Stay” a second time, you will be marked for a double command and lose points. The judge will approach your dog from the front; allow the dog to smell his hand and then touch the dog’s head, back and hind quarters. He may also move his hand slowly down the dog’s back and apply a slight pressure to make sure the dog is standing firm. Your dog should not move his feet. After the judge has finished the examination, he will step back and say, “Back to your dog”. After you have returned to your dog, he will say, “Exercise finished”. You should then say your dog’s name and “Heel”, take two steps forward and order him into the sitting position. Then give him praise.

Handling by a stranger may be difficult for your dog and will require some practice. Put your dog in a standing position and ask a friend to examine him.

The dog’s training to stand also will be useful when you groom him or when your veterinarian examines him. The dog must show no shyness nor resentment during the exercise. In the Graduate Beginners class your dog must do the exercise off leash.
Figure 27—To block your dog's vision, begin by walking him in the heel position. Drop your right hand in front of his eyes and say "Stand". When you are sure he is standing squarely on all four legs, give the voice and hand signal to stay. Step off on your right foot and then turn to face your dog about two or three feet away. Return to the heel position by going around him. Return to him soon the first few times. It is better for him to succeed after a short time than to fail after a long time.

Figure 28—To block your dog's hind leg, step a little to your right from the heel position. Hold the leash taut with your right hand and place your left hand against his hind leg. Say "Stand". Make sure he is standing squarely on all four legs. Give the voice and hand signal to stay and then step in front of him.

Figure 29—Set your dog up by lifting him slightly off the ground, dropping him quickly into a standing position and saying "Stand". Then give the voice and hand signal to stay. This method is especially effective with short-legged dogs and dogs that tend to sit as soon as you move in front of them.

Figure 30—Give the hand signal to stay as he has been taught for the long sit and down.

Figure 31—Hold the leash off the ground while the judge examines your dog. Your dog must remain off leash for examination in the Graduate Beginners course.
Lesson 6
The Recall (Part I)

The first part of the recall is to teach your dog to come when called.

Put your dog in the sitting position at your heel. Swing your left hand in front of his nose and say "Stay". Step away from the dog on your right foot, going to the end of the leash and facing him. Say his name and "Come". Make it a happy call that will make him want to obey. As soon as he starts to move, run backward several steps gathering up the leash and guide him directly to your front within fingertip reach. He must not touch you nor sit between your feet. Give him the command to sit. If necessary, jerk up on the leash. It should not be necessary for you to reach over him and push down on his rump.

When he is sitting squarely in front of you, praise him but do not pat him on the head or praise him so much that he jumps about. After he has sat properly and you have praised him, give the command and signal (right hand fingers pointed down) to "Stay". Go to your right, walking around the dog to the heel position. Then give plenty of praise.

Never scold or do anything unkind that he might associate with coming to you. He should want to come to you.

Figure 32—Say his name and "Come". Run backward to encourage him to run. Gather in the leash as he approaches.

Lesson 7
The Recall (Part II)

The second part of the recall is to move your dog from directly in front of you back to the heel position. There are two acceptable ways of teaching him.

Do not always use the same routine, otherwise he will anticipate your command and will get into the habit of walking up to you and going directly to the heel position. Sometimes when you are heeling, halt, have him sit as usual, command him to stay, step directly in front of him and return to his side instead of having him go to heel. This will also make it less boring for him.

Figure 33—Guide him into a sitting position directly within reach in front of you. He must not touch you or sit between your feet.

Figure 34—Send a large dog to your right. It may be awkward for him to make a small circle to your left. Hold the leash about 12 inches from the neck for more control, say your dog's name and "Heel". Take a full step back on your right foot and guide your dog around your back to your right.
Figure 35—As your dog goes behind, step forward and change the leash from right to left hand behind your back.

Figure 36—Guide him to your left heel and command him to sit.

Figure 37—Don’t forget the praise.

Figure 38—Send small and medium dogs to the left.

Figure 39—Hold the leash in your left hand about 12 inches from the neck, say your dog’s name and “Heel”. Take a short step back on your left foot and guide him through a counterclockwise circle.

Figure 40—Prevent crooked sitting. Insist on straight sitting from the start.
Lesson 8
The Figure 8

The purpose of the figure 8 is to teach your dog to walk close to people, animals or objects without touching or sniffing. A dog substituting as an object receives training as valuable as that received by the dog making the figure 8. The figure 8 is a variation of heeling. Walk your dog around two objects or people about eight feet apart, making a figure 8 by crossing between them.

Start about two feet in front of the objects, one toward your left, and the other toward your right. Say your dog’s name and “Heel!” and guide him around one of the objects and then around the other, making a cross in the center as shown below. Heel close to the objects and at a faster than normal rate to prevent lagging. In an obedience trial, the handler and dog go around the figure 8 twice with at least one halt during and another halt at the end of the exercise.

Figure 41—The Figure 8.

Lesson 9
Review of Exercises

After completing the first eight lessons, your dog should have a basic knowledge of the commands and signals used in obedience training. Do not be discouraged if your dog makes mistakes. Dogs that perform to near perfection have usually been trained for several years. Have patience and vary the exercises so neither you nor your dog will tire of them.

Review by doing the exercises exactly as you will at graduation.

The heel on leash and figure 8, the stand for examination and the recall are performed and judged individually. The dogs appear in the ring together while doing the long sit and long down.

Graduation

Following the completion of the lessons, a graduation should be conducted. Certificates of graduation may be awarded to all 4-H members who have completed the lessons.

You may find the score card and certificate in the back of the 4-H Leader’s Guide useful to you at time of graduation. This score card has been modified somewhat from the AKC Novice score card. Most counties require a score of 100 in order to receive a certificate of graduation and qualify for advancement to the Graduate Beginner or Novice course. Those who do not qualify may repeat the course or practice on their own and take the qualifying test at the next graduation.

At the Beginner’s Graduation you may do the recall exercise (Part I) as in practice by calling your dog and taking several steps backward to allow your dog to break into a run when coming to you. If you do not run backward several steps, a large dog will not be able to run within the distance of the six-foot length.

The second part of the recall, the finish, may also be done as in practice by taking a step backward with your right or left foot and guiding your dog into the sitting position. If your dog will “finish” upon your command only, you should not give the extra aid by stepping backward.

Figure 42—Dog obedience trials are fun. Ask your 4-H leader if a county, district or state trial is scheduled during the summer. Mr. Jerry Manley has just won first prize of 61 entries with his French Poodle, under Mr. Fred Henry at the New York State Fair.

Graduate Beginner’s Course

The exercises for the Graduate Beginners are basically the same as for the Beginner’s class except that the recall, long sit, long down and stand for examination are done off leash. The total score, like the Beginner’s class, is 160 points.

After nine weeks in the Beginner’s course, most dogs need more training in order to do the exercises correctly. It may be accomplished by several methods because a strict schedule of exercises is no longer required. The Graduate Beginner’s course should also last nine weeks.
Figure 43—For the long sit off leash, place your dog in the sitting position and unsnap the leash. Step off on your right foot while giving the hand signal and voice command to stay. Stand only 10 or 15 feet away. If he starts to move, say “No”. If he continues to move, rush back, return him to his original position and walk back to your standing place. Extend the distance to 40 feet as his confidence and your control increase. But if your dog persists in moving, put him back on the leash for a week.

Figure 44—The long down off leash is similar. Start by moving 20 feet away and gradually extend the distance to 40 feet.

Figure 45—To teach your dog the recall off leash, stand quietly about 15 feet in front of him for a few moments. Then call his name and “Come!” in a cheerful tone that makes your dog happy. Gradually extend the distance to 40 feet.

Figure 46—Your dog should sit directly in front of you within fingertip reach. He must not touch you nor sit between your feet.

Figure 47—Finish by saying your dog’s name and “Heel” in a firm but pleasant tone. If he does not finish smartly, replace the leash for a few times.
Training Schedule for Graduate Beginner's Course

First, second and third week: Review the exercises of
the Beginner's Course. The remaining part of each hourly
lesson may be used to improve the exercises with which
they are having the most difficulty.

Fourth week: The Long Sit (off leash).
Fifth Week: The Long Down (off leash).
Sixth week: The Recall (off leash).
Seventh week: The Stand for Examination (off leash).
Eighth and
Ninth week: Practice all the exercises but spend
more time on the exercises causing
most difficulty.

Tenth week: Graduation.

The Brace

The brace is for boys and girls who have two dogs of
their own or for those who want to team up in training a
pair of dogs. Dogs of the same breed, size and color are
preferred, but not necessary. The class is judged according
to the Graduate Beginner’s score card and includes the heel
on lead and figure 8, stand for examination, recall, long sit
and down off lead.

In the off lead exercises, the dogs are attached together
but off lead. Dogs should have completed the Graduate
Beginner’s course and more training is helpful.

When training the dogs to heel on lead and do the figure
8, place the quickest and most responsive dog on the
outside because he will have to hurry on the turns.
Stewards stand farther apart for the figure 8 to allow more
space for the dogs to turn. Heeling is done at slow, fast and
normal speeds.

The stand for examination is made by the judge
touching each dog on the head, back and rump. Remove
the leash, hold the dogs by the tandem lead and take several
steps forward, walking them into the stand or standing
them separately.

The long sit for one minute and the long down for three
minutes is done by lining up the braces side by side on one
side of the ring. Upon the judge’s command, “Leave your
dog”, the handlers will move to a position about 30 feet in
front of their dogs.

The brace that works in unison and with the most
precision receives the highest score.

When commanding two dogs simultaneously to heel or
come, you may wish to use a single term such as “boys” or
“girls” instead of two separate names. When heeling your
dogs on leash, you may correct a dog that is lagging or
forging by jerking the individual dog attached with the
tandem chain. When correcting your dogs, carry the leash in
your right hand and make the correction with your left.
You may at first wish to attach a lead to each dog, holding
a lead in each hand so that positive individual corrections
can be made.
Figure 50—The recall should be performed smartly; the dogs approaching at a trot. Upon command, they should go to heel as one.

The Team

The ideal team would consist of four well-trained dogs of the same breed, size and coloring. This will likely be difficult to attain through the 4-H program, so selection should be made according to the training ability of the dogs. This class is judged according to the Graduate Beginner’s score card. Dogs should have completed the Graduate Beginner’s course and more advanced training will be useful. The success of a team depends equally upon the handlers as they must work together in harmony, each knowing equally well the entire routine. Nothing new is required of the dogs, except that they must follow commands while working close to other dogs in a group.

The first practice session should be without the dogs. The handlers should line up side by side facing the same direction. The person on the extreme left is Number one, next is Number two and so forth. Each person to the right of Number one should raise his left arm so that the fingertips just touch the shoulder of the person on his left. The three members should look to their left forming a straight line with Number one. Upon the command, “Forward”, from the 4-H leader (or judge in competition), step off with your left foot. Upon the command, “Halt”, stop on your right foot and bring the left alongside it as illustrated on page 6. Make sharp left and right turns and about turns as shown on pages 7–8. You will probably soon discover that it will take some training to march straight, make sharp turns and keep in line. Don’t give up; with a little practice you will soon be marching with precision. Several alternates should be trained to fill in for regular members in emergencies.

After the team has learned to march and make turns with some precision, include the dogs. They will likely at this point make fewer errors than the handlers. After you are heeling your dogs well as a team, try the slow and fast gaits. In competition, the team will perform the heel on leash and figure 8 the same as would be required of a single competitor.

Next comes the figure 8 which involves eight stewards. In practice, you may wish to use stakes. Upon the judge’s command, “Prepare for the figure 8; take your places”, the team should line up, each handler facing a pair of stewards. After a brief pause, the judge will command, “Forward”, and simultaneously each handler will step off on the left foot turning to the left as he begins the figure 8. The judge will command you to halt twice while performing the figure 8. After the second command to halt, the judge will say, “Exercise finished”. The team will then re-group side by side with their dogs in the sitting position.

On command from the judge, “Prepare for the recall”, the handlers will remove the leashes and prepare to leave their dogs in a sitting position and on the command, “Leave your dogs”, each handler will march forward about 30 feet and turn and face his dog. The judge will then command, “Call your dog”, and the handlers will simultaneously obey.
The judge will then command, "Finish your dog", and all dogs are to simultaneously go smartly to heel.

The stand for examination exercise begins with the team lined up and the dogs in the sitting position off lead. The judge will command, "Stand your dog", and team members will simultaneously obey. With practice, all members will be able to give the hand signal and command, "Stay!", step off on their right foot and take a position about 15 feet away facing their dogs. The judge will then examine each dog by touching the head, back and rump. The judge will next command, "Return to your dog". After the handlers have returned, the judge will say, "Exercise finished", and each member will take two steps forward and put his dog in the sitting position.

The long sit, one minute, and long down, three minutes, should be done with no more than four teams (16 dogs) in the ring at the same time. The dogs will be off lead and the handlers in sight. The judge will give the same commands as for the stand for examination.

![Figure 51—The heel on leash is done in unison.](image)