

<p><b>Empowerment</b> – dog <b>actively seeking interaction with items with confidence</b> and even demanding to interact with them, not just tolerating them. You want a positive CER toward training!  <b>ALL props should have excitement, confidence and demand before you add difficulty. Keep it easy!</b></p>
<p>See how small of a space/box the pup can lie down in “tuck”- start big and work to a small box/container. Can cut one side away to start for easy access. Great for SD work too!</p>
<p>Working through all the “may I touch you” body contact things in a way that the dog offers participation vs. just tolerance while always having the option of walking away is empowering.</p>
<p>Dog shoves his head into a looped leash, then collar, then harness, then cone, then muzzle</p>
<p><b>Push</b> ball(s) out of the way to eat treats in a dog dish- leave plenty of space for the ball(s) to move around in the dish. Keep all puzzles easy and build difficulty slowly. Success makes confidence, not frustration. Start with plastic dish, TP tubes if metal or balls are too scary, box of crumpled paper.</p>
<p>Add a “you don’t want that” push while the dog is getting treats from the bowl. Start with just a touch of the chest and gradually build pressure as they learn to push into your hand.</p>
<p>Repeat above with dog dish on a cookie sheet on carpet</p>
<p>Add noisy bits (PVC pieces) into a metal dish instead of balls</p>
<p>Add more noisy elements (pots/pans, baking pans/sheets, spoons, cans, keys, anything metal or hard but too big to swallow). Add: I make the noise then he makes the noise</p>
<p><b>Substrates-</b> (with treats tossed on/in) Walk on/through/over a PILE of soft, quiet items to get treats dropped in the pile (dog beds, clothes/blankets, exercise mats, foam pads, bathmats, yoga mat, pillows, plastic bags in bags, crumpled tissue paper, Low box with TP tubes &amp; treats in it, bubble wrap, packing paper, cardboard box lids, crumpled shower curtain, tarp, Styrofoam peanuts) Start with 1 item and gradually add more to make the pile higher/wider. Encourage play and keep pup easily successful.</p>
<p>When pup is confident about the above pile, start adding stuff that’s a bit more noisy: Plastic lids/trash can lids/containers, Aluminum foil sheets, Waxed/parchment paper, cellophane wrapping paper, bubble wrap, boxes, contractor trash bags/layers of slippery plastic</p>
<p>Make a line of objects sprinkled with treats for pup to explore. Some soft stuff but also harder/noisy items on hard floor: baby gate, metal pots/pans, silverware/PVC fittings in metal containers, cookie sheets, sheet metal, jar lids, rocks, metal nuts and washers, crate tray, wood, lattice, Styrofoam insulation, flexible pipe/ hose/electric cord, pile of thick rope, x-pen panels</p>
<p>Slightly moving quiet surfaces: (folding chair, long suspended plank, partially inflated exercise ball, air mattress, pool float, garbage can lid, snow shovel</p>
<p>Stuff that moves more- tipping board: objects with PVC taped to the bottom, stuff set on pillows, exercise pods, inflatables, wobble board, plank on cinder block</p>
<p>Tippy plank plus noise and motion- Put cookie sheet under the ends of the plank- have dog slam the ends. Do restrained walk the plank. Ride &amp; control the fulcrum- slam both ends from middle.</p>
<p>Stabilized barrel, peanut, or egg- dog learns to get on, turn, change positions, etc.</p>
<p><b>Incline work</b> to work rear end– start with butt scratches if it gets pup to bounce rear end or to lift rear feet one at a time. You want to activate the rear muscles. +R <b>choice</b> to interact with plank.</p>
<p>Plank on the floor, then on a low item (book)- work on up, down and turn around- add chest push</p>
<p>Very gradually increase the angle of the plank when the dog is demanding to get on the plank</p>
<p>Increase angle of the plank- provide platform at the top (chair/couch/van floor)</p>
<p><b>Level plank work-</b> Gradually add height Start with the plank low enough that the pup can hop onto it. Get pup demanding to cross it/”you don’t want to do that” chest push</p>
<p>Add things as steps to each end and increase the plank height. Can also increase length.</p>
<p>Combine plank with ramps at each end and add height till plank is full dog walk length and height</p>

Work on found items (picnic table benches, landscape walls, playground equip., etc.)
<b>Visual surprises-</b> introduce a mild surprise from behind your back and immediately follow with a reward (wave a fly swatter, flag, pinwheel, or bag, present a balloon, toss a paper airplane, set an unusual object and treats on the floor when pup isn't looking, then say "what is that?" and encourage investigation.
<b>Noise surprise</b> (foot pump, balloon squeak, noise through wrapping paper roll, cone in front of my face while making odd voice/sounds, whipped cream, fly swatter, spray from water bottle)
<b>Noise and motion</b> (open plastic bag by swinging it, shake plastic bag full of noisy stuff, umbrella opening, spray bottle, blow up balloon, inflated balloon (not tied) released, roll container with noisy stuff on floor)
<b>Go between</b> - pick any two objects and have dog go between them. Vary distance between objects, size/shape/length of objects, etc. (boxes, crates, furniture, other objects, ec.)
<b>Cavaletti:</b> stepping over uniform objects- PVC, dowels on squished cans, cavaletti wood, branches
Walking on the ladder on the CC course
<b>Going for a ride-</b> Pup is comfortable riding on my lap in wheelchair
Pup can be dragged around on his favorite mat, bed, rug or sheet
Pup is fully comfortable walking all over a big sheet of cardboard
Dog will stick his head under a big flap of the cardboard to get treats
Dog can be dragged around while he rides the cardboard (use sticky treats like cheese that can be tossed on the cardboard as it's moving or smear soft treat like PB on the cardboard)
Dog can slide down a "cardboard slide" set on steps (or playground slide)
Use crate dolly with platform on it or wagon. Dog rides as it moves
Dog makes the dolly move on his own (2 feet on or pulling the rope)
Dog moves skateboard, toy wagon, or other rolling object- push with nose or feet half on/off
<b>Noises-</b> Have dog in the area, play a sound on your phone (noise app) through blue tooth speaker, Looking for non-response (praise) unless it is an alert sound = treats. Start low volume, background sounds.
<b>Find me!</b> Wait till pup is distracted, go to another room and call
While out and about with pup on long line, hide from pup, reward him finding me
Have a person hold the dog, go behind a visual barrier and call the dog, let dog find me to get cookies. Gradually increase difficulty of the hiding.
<b>World is falling-</b> to desensitize to falling objects <a href="https://youtu.be/txtY0rf-pSw">https://youtu.be/txtY0rf-pSw</a> Start with hand over dog's head- dog chooses to put his head under hand or nose boop hand
Able to hold lightweight objects over head- no flinching, ears up (paper, Styrofoam, washcloth) +R pup choosing to go under item or nose boop it. Pup pushes under big cardboard flap for treat. And goes through puppy chute
Hold piece of cardboard out, slowly lower it- gradually increase size of the cardboard Switch to lowering it over the dog's head a bit after dog voluntarily gets under it.
Gradually increase speed of cardboard 'falling' after dog goes under willingly
Repeat with a tarp, wrapping paper tube, umbrella, chute and other similar objects
Tower of cones or cups or cans with treats in/on them- treat scatter when dog knocks items over. Start with only 1 item and build up the number/height as dog enjoys knocking them over
Drop a noisy item from low height and reward non-response
Gradually increase the height noisy items are dropped and how much noise is created.