

Congratulations on choosing the StarMark Clicker™ Training System! Developed by Triple Crown, the World Leader in Pet Education, StarMark Clicker™ is a fun, easy way to speed up the learning and training process with your dog.

The StarMark Clicker™ is not just another clicker: it is a full training support system. Your StarMark Clicker™ Training System includes this guide, with **Quick Start**— which shows you how to condition your dog to the StarMark Clicker™—and the **Come Back When Called** and **Sit** exercises. Your support continues at our website, [www.aboutdogtraining.com](http://www.aboutdogtraining.com), with: the **Free** complete StarMark Clicker™ System PDF; Instructional Streaming-Video; **Free** Training and Behavior Solutions; and much more.

**Why Train with StarMark Clicker™?** The StarMark Clicker™ Training System is based on the scientific principals of **Classical Conditioning** (where Pavlov’s dogs salivated at the sound of a bell because they had learned to associate that sound with food) and **Operant Conditioning** (where Skinner’s pigeons performed a series of movements in order to receive food). StarMark Clicker™ Conditioning utilizes these two proven and well-respected methods of behavior modification to quickly and easily enhance your dog’s training experience. The StarMark Clicker™ Training System helps you teach your dog to repeat behaviors that lead to rewards. Please visit our website, [www.aboutdogtraining.com](http://www.aboutdogtraining.com) for the PDF of the **Free** full StarMark Clicker™ Training System, which includes a detailed explanation of how dogs learn.

How does the sound from the StarMark Clicker™ train your dog? Initially it doesn’t. The “clicking” sound must be paired with something your dog naturally finds enjoyable, such as tasty food in the form of bite-sized treats. (Treats the size of a navy bean will work well.) Clicking the instant your dog does something right, and then giving him a bite-sized treat will allow your dog to associate the action with a reward. With practice, this association makes good behaviors more likely to occur. The StarMark Clicker™ Training System shows you step-by-step how to develop good behaviors in your dog throughout the training process.

#### Quick Start:

Start off right by giving your dog every chance to be successful during your training sessions. Use the following guidelines for equipment and training sessions when practicing the three exercises in this guide:

#### Equipment:

- . • StarMark Clicker™
- . • Soft, bite-sized treats
- . • Treat pouch
- . • Six-foot leash
- . • Collar

#### Training Sessions:

- . • Train in a quiet location that is free from distractions, yet familiar to your dog.
- . • Keep the duration of your training sessions to less than fifteen minutes. You should perform at least one (1) session per day, and up to three sessions per day is encouraged. (Never “double-up” sessions. It doesn’t help your dog learn any faster and too long of a session may decrease your dog’s enthusiasm.)
- . • Ensure that your dog will be motivated by the treats by training at times when he has not recently eaten.

#### Introducing Clicker Conditioning, Step-by-Step:

Clicker Conditioning allows your dog to associate the click with a positive experience. The positive experience in this two-part exercise is the bite-sized treat you give him immediately after the click. Your dog must be conditioned to the sound of the StarMark Clicker™ before you use it for other exercises. Condition your dog to the StarMark Clicker™ by following the steps below.

#### CLICKER CONDITIONING

1. Hold both the leash and StarMark Clicker™ in your left hand. (Your treat pouch should be on your right side.) These detailed instructions were written for right-handed people. If you are left handed, you may find it more comfortable to reverse the indicated right-left order.
2. With your left hand, quickly press and release the button to create the “click.” Immediately give your dog a treat with your right hand.
3. Repeat the above sequence for 25 repetitions.

#### Practice Clicker Conditioning for two (2) training sessions



1. Hold the StarMark Clicker™ and leash as shown.



2. Quickly press and release the button.



3. Immediately give your dog a treat following the clicking sound.

After your second session, your dog probably understands that a treat follows the click. Dogs think about what they are looking at, so the second half of Clicker Conditioning involves getting your dog to look up at you. Follow these steps below to develop your dog’s



attention while Clicker Conditioning.

#### CLICKER CONDITIONING WITH ATTENTION

1. Hold both the leash and StarMark Clicker™ in your left hand. (Your treat pouch should be on your right side.)
2. With your right hand, hold a treat up to your face. When your dog looks into your eyes, immediately click the StarMark Clicker™ with your left hand. Bring your right hand down to your dog and reward him with the treat.
3. If your dog becomes distracted, hold the treat slightly in front of his nose before bringing it up to your face.
4. Repeat the above sequence for 25 repetitions.

Practice Clicker Conditioning with Attention for two (2) training sessions.



1. Starting position- Note loose leash.



2. If your dog becomes distracted, hold the treat in front of his nose.



3. Bring the treat up to your face. Click and reward your dog when he makes eye contact.

#### Introducing the Sit Command, Step-by-Step:

The Sit command is the most commonly used exercise by dog owners. Most dogs have some understanding of what sit means.

Follow these steps to incorporate the StarMark Clicker™ with the Sit command:

1. With your dog on your left side, hold the leash in your right hand 2 feet from the snap. Hold a treat in your right hand between your thumb and forefinger.
2. Hold the treat slightly in front of your dog's nose, and raise it in a slight upward arc to lure him into the sit position. Do not use the command "Sit" at this stage.
3. The moment your dog sits, click and reward your dog with the treat.
4. Repeat the above sequence for 15 repetitions.
5. Practice the Sit without the command for two (2) training sessions.
6. On the third (3rd) training session, begin using the Sit command the moment your dog sits. Immediately click and reward him.

*Note: There is no need to pair a command with the Sit for the first two (2) training sessions. Adding the command after your dog has an idea of what to do, makes it easier for him to learn the Sit command. You will find that the same principals apply to Come Back When Called in the conditioning phase.*



1. Hold the leash and treat in the same hand.



2. Raise your treat hand in an upward arc.



3. Click and reward your dog the moment he sits.



Make training fun! Praise your dog at the end of each exercise.

#### Introducing Come Back When Called, Step-by-Step:

Come Back When Called is the most important command you can teach to your dog. Introducing this command with the StarMark Clicker™ System is fast and fun. Follow these steps to teach Come **Back When Called**:

1. Hold the end of a six-foot leash and StarMark Clicker™ in one hand, and a treat in the other.
2. Wait for your dog to become distracted, and then hold the treat slightly in front of his nose.
3. When your dog shows interest in the treat, back away from your dog with your treat hand extended in front of your body.
4. As you back up, bring your treat hand close to your body, when your dog reaches the treat hand, click first and then reward him.
5. Repeat this exercise until it is apparent that your dog understands he is rewarded with a treat when he comes to you. (15-20 repetitions should suffice.)
6. Now, pair the command "Come" with step 4, when you back up. Click first and then reward your dog when he comes to you.
7. Once your dog begins to understand the exercise, gradually increase the distance between you with the use of a long-line.





**1. Starting position- StarMark Clicker™ and leash are in the same hand.**



**2. When your dog becomes distracted, hold the treat in front of his nose.**



**3. Back away from your dog, keeping your treat hand extended.**



**4. Bring your treat hand close to your body before you click and reward your dog.**

### **The Complete StarMark Clicker™ System**

Please visit our website, [www.aboutdogtraining.com](http://www.aboutdogtraining.com) for the Free complete StarMark Clicker™ System, which features additional steps to the commands taught in this Quick-Start Guide. Several additional commands— Sit for Greetings, Sit at Doorways, Down, Go to a “Place,” and more, are available Online as well. Check out the instructional streaming video segments for the StarMark Clicker™ System and other behavior and training solutions from Triple Crown Dog Academy, World Leader in Pet Education.

### **Trainer Developed: Academy Tested**

The Certified Training and Behavior Specialists at Triple Crown Dog Academy created the StarMark Clicker™ with you and your dog’s needs in mind. All products, guides, and videos are tested and approved by the Training Directors of Triple Crown Academy, our accredited school for professional dog trainers. It is the hands-on experience of our training division, combined with the vast technical knowledge and experience of the Triple Crown Academy staff that allows us to bring you useful and unique dog training and behavior solutions. Learn more at our websites: [www.triplecrowndogs.com](http://www.triplecrowndogs.com); [www.schoolfordogtrainers.com](http://www.schoolfordogtrainers.com); [www.aboutdogtraining.com](http://www.aboutdogtraining.com). Thank you for choosing Triple Crown Dog Academy, World Leader in Pet Education.

### **Triple Crown**

Triple Crown Dog Academy, Inc. is the World Leader in Pet Education. Thousands of dogs and their owners have trained the Triple Crown way. Triple Crown’s training and behavior programs use a broad range of scientifically proven techniques, which provide dog owners with practical, motivational, and results oriented ways to better communicate with their dogs. Training is communication. Trained dogs enjoy stronger bonds and enhanced relationships with their owners. Triple Crown’s Certified Training and Behavior Specialists create custom programs covering virtually all areas of dog training and behavior, including: practical obedience; behavior modification; agility training; competitive dog sports; retriever training; police service dog training; search and rescue; and more.

Triple Crown’s Pet Products Division creates and develops unique pet products that reflect the way dogs learn. Utilizing the expertise gained through working with thousands of dogs and their owners, Triple Crown has created: interactive behavior products; training gear; step-by-step guides; videos; and other educational materials.

Triple Crown Academy, School for Professional Dog Trainers, Inc. is the most comprehensive school of its kind in the United States. Our Academy offers a variety of accredited training and behavior certification programs, continuing education seminars, and workshops. Triple Crown Academy is the Smart Choice in Canine Careers. Learn more at [www.schoolfordogtrainers.com](http://www.schoolfordogtrainers.com).

Triple Crown Dog Academy, Inc. is the largest, most comprehensive training, behavior, and event center in the world. Located in greater Austin, Texas, Triple Crown features an 100,000 square-foot facility and 360-acre complex.

Thank you for choosing Triple Crown Dog Academy, World Leader in Pet Education.

