

# Chin Target



*Targets are useful for Proximity, Disengagement, for your dog to give you a ready signal, and for husbandry and grooming.*

Present a flat hand under your dog's chin. Feed to your dog's mouth slightly lower than your target hand to encourage your dog to press their chin into your hand. Feed several times in position. Take both hands away.

*If your dog moves away from your hand, work smaller steps to help them become more comfortable with your hands close to their head: Present target hand low, and feed the dog with your other hand for moving over your hand. Take your hands away and repeat, gradually getting closer to touching your dog with each repetition.*

Repeat.

After several repetitions, present your hand and wait for your dog to offer putting their chin into your hand before feeding in position several times. Give your release cue and take your hand away.

Repeat.

*If your dog does not offer a chin target, go back to the previous step to build up the value.*

**Level Up:** Once the value is there and your dog does not want to move away from your hand, you can add movement to your hand. Your dog should follow your hand to keep their chin in contact with it. Reward with the dog's chin in position. Release. Build up the layers slowly.

**Level Up Again:** Once hand movement is solid, advance onto moving with you as you move your body, the chin keeping in contact with your hand. Reward in position. Release.

This game is useful as a transport out of or past a complex situation.

It is also useful as a focus and calming game.

You could use it for husbandry and grooming, a way for your dog to tell you when they are ready to proceed and when they are uncomfortable and you should stop.