

Food Catch

&

Magic Hand



Food Catch is a prerequisite for Magic Hand. To play Food Catch, stand, or sit with your dog in front of you. Hold a piece of food about 6" above his nose. Wait until he's looking at the food, and then drop it. At first, he will probably let it bounce off his nose. That's OK. Let him get it. He will probably come back for more. Repeat the drop. Eventually, he will start to open his mouth when the food is dropped...probably too late, but that's progress. When the dog is catching food most of the time, you can proceed to Magic Hand.

Hint: Use large pieces of food that will contrast with the environment. Popcorn, Pirate's Booty, or slices of String Cheese are good choices.

Magic Hand teaches Focus, Disengagement, Engagement with you, Optimism, Proximity, Thinking in Arousal, and is a useful tool for Loose Leash Walking.

Step One: With your dog at your side, teach them to catch food dropped from above their nose. Once the dog can catch food at your side fairly consistently, go to Step Two.

·Step Two: Begin to take a step or two while you drop the food

·Step Three: Use Magic Hand while you are walking where there are few distractions

·Step Four: Use Magic Hand to get your dog's attention away from distractions and back on you while you are walking where there are greater distractions