



Food Fiddling

1. When your dog is around you or cued to do a behavior, manipulate the food/toy in your hands or treat pouch/container, etc.
2. Note your dog's reaction.
3. Reward your dog for calm behaviors that you like by slowly delivering the treat to their mouth or boundary.
4. If using a toy, reward your dog when you have the focus and drive you desire, while in a stationary position. You want your dog at a working arousal level that is conducive to training and learning.
5. Sometimes food/toy fiddling can be used as a distraction for moving behaviors where you want your dog to think and act independently of your movement. This is an advanced level, only to be used when your dog is super confident in the behavior you are asking for in the presence of stationary distractions.