



TOY SWITCH

This game helps your dog develop flexibility of mind and the ability to switch from one item to another on cue.

Have 2 similar toys suitable for a game of tug.

- Start a game of tug with one toy by animating it. Keep the second toy behind you or out of sight.
- After several seconds, let the active toy go "dead" and animate the other one. Your dog should switch to the new toy. Try to hold onto the dead toy, but if your dog doesn't switch easily, let the dead toy go and continue to animate the new toy.
- Repeat

Level up:

Put letting the toy go on cue. Play Toy Switch as described above. At the second the dog lets go of the dead toy, say "Out" or "Drop" or whatever your cue will be. Play this way for a while. Then move the cue to just AS the toy goes dead. Eventually, you will be able to use the cue as you are still interacting with the live toy and the dog will release the toy. Don't rush this process. If the dog does not let go on cue, take a step back and continue using the cue AS they are letting go of the toy (instead of before).