

## SENSITIVE DOG & BUCKET RETURN Training Tips

Although most ball-crazy dogs take to GoDogGo® very quickly, on occasion a dog may be tentative about the launch sound or action & take a few training sessions to become desensitized fetching with the Fetch Machine®. However, most dogs that love balls & fetch learn quickly once they understand the reward of a continuously launched ball to fetch.

For independent play & training purposes, we suggest 1 ball be used during training. By doing so, this will help teach your dog that the ball must be returned to the bucket in order to activate a new launch & have a new ball to fetch. As stated previously, the motor & launch mechanism will not run unless a ball is in the ready position. Once your dog has returned the ball to the bucket, teach her to move to the desired waiting position at least 2 feet away from the front of the unit. Many dogs instinctively move away from GoDogGo® as they anticipate the next launch but we always recommend a safe waiting position approximately 2 feet from GoDogGo. GoDogGo has been designed with dog's safety in mind with an up wards & out arc when a ball is launched.

Remember GoDogGo is an all-new way of playing your dogs favorite game of fetch and that they are use to you throwing the ball for them. Most often within just a few sessions, the sound is actually what a dog listens for as they anticipate the launch. It often has a Pavlovian effect on dogs who quickly learn to use the different sounds in anticipation of the ball launch. & then respond to them in anticipation of the next ball to fetch.

Once learned, they will not get enough of GoDogGo. However, if your dog does not warm up to GoDogGo®, it is certainly not a problem to return the unit per the 30-day money back guarantee.

We received the below emails from customers whose dogs had initial sensitivity to GoDogGo.

"For anyone on the fence about getting this for your dog, and your dog loves fetching, just go ahead and GET IT! Just have patience as your dog learns to love his new toy. When I first took this out of the box, Scout ran and hid when he heard it launch the ball. We just gradually worked at desensitizing him to the sound and getting him to drop the ball closer and closer to the bucket. It didn't take long and he would run up and put the ball back in the bucket. When I shot this video, I am actually working on getting him back to doing it on his own. He got a little freaked out one time when he was dropping the ball and the tags on his collar got caught in the handle of the bucket. As he pulled back, the machine came with him. As you can see in the video, he is already back to dropping it in the bucket (with a little encouragement)." - Ken  
See Scout fetching with GoDogGo Fetch Machine @ <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=4705866161585>

"It's great! This is Tyson and the first day he was timid but he took to it next day and by day 3 is able to put the balls in the bucket himself." - Kathy

"It only took 3 days, well 3 sessions with the go dog go launcher, and my dog is dropping the balls in the launcher bucket himself. Thank for the encouraging training tips. My dog loves it and has turned out to be entertaining for the whole family." -Jennifer

Below are a few tips that will help accustom a sensitive or tentative dog to fetch with GoDogGo®. Remember to show your dog how much fun YOU are having and play along with him while running out to retrieve the ball and returning it to the bucket with him. Be sure to give praise when the ball is fetched and returned to the bucket if bucket return is desired for independent play.

1. If your dog appears hesitant upon initial use start off slowly by using GoDogGo for just a few fetches 1 or 2 times a day. Hesitant dogs typically need just a few sessions in 2-3 days to understand that GoDogGo is nothing to be afraid of. Do not force your dog as this will likely cause more nervousness, a few calm sessions will help your dog understand this new method of fetch with an automatic ball launcher & what it will do for them.
2. You may want to start training with GoDogGo turned OFF. However, we recommend turning GoDogGo as quickly as possible so your dog understands that the noise is indeed part of the game; you do not want them to get use to no sound.
  - If your dog responds well to treat rewards, feel free to use them as needed until the desired type of play is achieved
  - Drop a ball in the bucket, let it roll down the channel, then pick the ball out by hand & toss it for your dog to fetch. Once the ball has been retrieved, give commands such as "bucket" while pointing to or tapping on the bucket & then say "bucket" and/or "release" if necessary. Repeat these commands during your short training sessions. This will also encourage bucket return for independent play when your dog becomes accustom to fetching with GoDogGo.
  - If your dog will not come to the unit on its own, gently lead him/her to GoDogGo. Repeat again & toss the ball out for retrieval & return. Do this a few times & then take a break for a few hours or until the next day to give them a break from this new activity.
  - With next use, repeat again until your dog comfortable with the process and & returning the ball on its own. Turn ON GoDogGo for ball launch when you feel your dog is ready & give commands for fetch, retrieve, return, release as needed.
  - Train your dog to return the ball to the desired area in order to achieve the style of play that suits your dog, as well as your intended style of play. Some dogs prefer to return the ball to the front of the unit & play with the bucket fully loaded for continuous fetch of 17-25 balls (depending on ball size).
3. With 1 ball, you may want to keep your dog more in the "outfield" where the ball lands, or at least away from the front of the unit. After your dog retrieves the ball, have him return the ball to the bucket. There will not be any sound, due to the Auto Stop feature of the sensor switch, as your dog approaches the unit because the motor will not run until a ball is returned to the bucket & in the ready position. Once your dog has returned the ball to the bucket by training him with the tips above, have him immediately run to the outfield again. Just doing this may get your dog use to GoDogGo & see there is nothing to fear.
4. Role model how to play with the machine by "fetching" the ball with your dog. Then return the ball to the bucket with your dog running along with you.

We hope these tips are of help to you in achieving the desired type of play for your dog with GoDogGo. Good luck & remember to show your dog how much fun GoDogGo is to fetch with and... Happy GoDogGo!