

INDEPENDENT PLAY & BUCKET RETURN

Most ball-crazy dogs learn within a few uses to interact with GoDogGo by returning the ball to the bucket for independent fetch play. However, some dogs take a few introductory training sessions to teach the function of GoDogGo and your desired response, not unlike any new behavior a dog learns. Once a dog that loves balls & fetch understands how GoDogGo works, they typically learn bucket return very quickly for continuous fetch play. There are dogs that prefer to play with GoDogGo with the bucket fully loaded and then return the balls to the front of the launcher or other designated area, either way your dog's reward will be a continuously launched ball to fetch which is a dream come true for any ball-crazy dog.

GoDogGo is not intended to launch the ball as far as a hand launcher or as can be thrown by hand, our Fetch Machine® is designed for repetition of play and independent fetch when desired. We often hear that dogs get tired faster when fetching with GoDogGo than when throwing the ball.

Although we typically hear that a dog takes to GoDogGo within the first use or day, we occasionally hear from customers whose dogs took a few training sessions. Below comments are from customers whose dogs took to GoDogGo very quickly or after some training, and within a few sessions or days they were returning to the bucket for independent fetch.

"Our Aussie loves to play ball. We purchased the GoDogGo so that he could wear himself out instead of us. It took him three times before he didn't have to be told to drop the ball in the bucket. This is the best investment ever. Thanks!" – Tina

"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. It didn't take long and he would run up and put the ball back in the bucket." - Ken

"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

1. The updated G4 model has a new 4 second time setting for an even faster game of automatic fetch, We recommend beginning training with the 15 second setting as you introduce your dog to this new form and function of fetch play.
2. Always begin training by teaching your dog to have a wait position of at least 2 feet from the front of the unit.
3. When independent play or bucket return is desired, we recommend 1 ball be used for initial training. 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. Due to the Auto Stop feature of the sensor switch, the motor & launch mechanism will not run unless a ball is in the ready position; as soon as your dog returns the ball to the bucket there will be a new ball to fetch.
 - If your dog responds well to treat rewards, feel free to use them as needed until the desired type of play is achieved.
 - Turn on the unit & select time setting of 7 seconds
 - Drop a single ball in the bucket & when the ball launches have your dog fetch it. Then call your dog back using your "come" command.
 - Once the ball has been retrieved, give a command, such as "bucket" while pointing to or tapping on the bucket & then use the "release" command if necessary.
 - If your dog will not come to the front of the unit on its own, gently lead him to GoDogGo while using the "bucket" command. Then help him "release" the ball if needed by gently taking it from his mouth & dropping it in the bucket while saying "bucket" and/or "release". Repeat this until your dog is returning the ball to the bucket independently.
 - Once your dog has returned the ball to the bucket, teach him 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, however we recommend a safe waiting position approximately 2 feet from GoDogGo. You can also teach your dog to wait to the side, back, etc. GoDogGo has been designed with dog's safety in mind with an up wards & out arc when a ball is launched.

Some dogs simply prefer to fetch with the bucket loaded with multiple balls & then return the balls to the front of the Fetch Machine. This type of play will also satisfy their needs while fetching several automatically launched balls. If this is the case, simply select the correct time setting of either 4, 7 or 15 seconds to meet your dog's rate of retrieval & return.

Remember GoDogGo is an all-new way of playing your dogs favorite game of fetch & that they are use to you throwing the ball for them. Most often within just a few sessions a dog learns to return to the ball to the bucket or front of the unit. The sounds often have a Pavlovian effect on dogs where they learn respond to the different sounds in anticipation of the launch & next ball to fetch. Dogs often put on a show of their own as they wait with a "dance", spins, running out, jumps, etc.

We hope these tips are of help to you in achieving the desired type of play for your dog with GoDogGo. Once learned, most dogs simply cannot get enough fetch time with GoDogGo.

Good luck & remember to show your dog how much fun GoDogGo is to fetch with and... Happy GoDogGoing!