

INSERT LOGO

Organization Name

Behavior & Training Plan: Pet First Name, Last Name

Date

Adjust dog names, "Finn" and "Cash" in this template before use

Trainer Contact Information

Name

Certifications

Title

Phone (call or text):

Email:

Thank you for allowing me to work with you and your dogs!

Finn's Plan

Behavior & Training Goals

- Reduce barking
- House training
- Loose leash walking
- Calm behavior for greetings
- Dropping "stolen" household items (clothing, etc.)

Barking

- **Set Finn up for success** by continuing to provide regular exercise and by increasing the amount of interactive feeder toys he is given.
- **The more we are able to prevent instances of barking** by giving Finn something constructive to do, the more this behavior will reduce.

- **If barking is persistent, walk away** from Finn and when he has quieted, redirect him to a more desirable behavior, such as chewing on a toy or playing with a frozen stuffed KONG.
- **Collect more observations** of when Finn is barking for additional trainer feedback.
 - This can be kept on a note in your smartphone for easy access.
 - Track information such as
 - How often he barks
 - How long he barks
 - What happened before and after the barking
 - How you responded to the behavior
 - After tracking this information for about 1 week, please send the information to your trainer.
 - You may also submit a video if you are able to catch this behavior on film as it occurs naturally. *The behavior should not be encouraged for the sake of collecting video.*

Housetraining

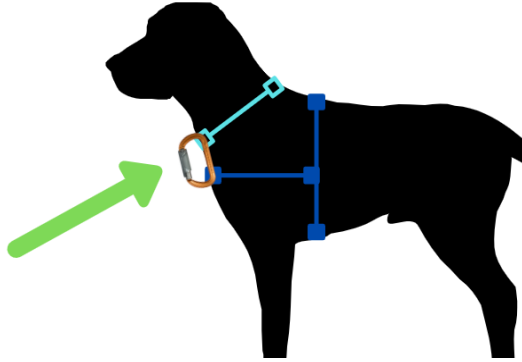
- **Finn would benefit from a grass patch**, like the [Fresh Patch](#), located on the balcony of your home to reduce the amount of time needed to take him outside and to reduce the chance of elimination on elevator rides to his normal elimination spot.
- **Finn should continue to be encouraged to touch the bell near the door** with his nose or paw. Spend time practicing this behavior during times when Finn does not need to urgently go outside.
- **Collect more observations of when Finn has accidents** inside to receive additional trainer feedback. *When potty breaks occur, when accidents occur, etc.*
- **Clean any accidents with an enzymatic cleaner**, like [Nature's Miracle](#). An enzyme-based cleaner is necessary to fully clean and break down the waste. Often household cleaners do not provide sufficient cleaning of waste.
- **Continue to reward Finn for eliminating outdoors.** Do not punish for accidents that occur indoors.
- **Set a timer throughout the day** as a reminder to take Finn out frequently, while we collect more information about how often he is eliminating.

Loose Leash Walking

Walking Equipment

- **Finn would benefit from a front-clip, no-pull harness.**
- **Here are some brands recommended for Finn:**
 - [Freedom Harness](#) (likely a Small or Medium)
 - [3-in-1 Harness](#) (likely a Small right now; these run large)
 - [Easy Walk Harness](#) (likely a Small/Medium or Medium at the smallest adjustment)

- **When walking in a no-pull harness, it may be helpful to clip a [carabiner clip](#)** from the D-ring of the harness to the ring on the collar. This is an added safety measure, while Finn is still growing and his harness may not fit as snugly as it should.



Training Exercise

- Reward Finn often during your walks to increase his engagement and focus.
- Reward Finn when the leash has comfortable slack and is not tight.
- If the leash becomes tight, excitedly call Finn back to your side or turn around in the opposite direction.
- When Finn is back by your side and the leash is slack again, reward heavily.
- Continue to give rewards often during these early stages of training to improve this behavior.

Calm Greetings

- **Practice the Look Game** with Finn to encourage calm behavior when he sees people and other dogs while on walk.
- **Social behavior is an awesome thing that we want to encourage!** But the Look Game can help Finn learn to check in with you more often instead of pulling out on leash to greet everyone he sees. *The no-pull harness will also help improve this behavior on leash.*

Look Game

- Say "Yes!" and reward each time Finn looks at a person that he is excited about.
- Eventually, Finn will learn to look at people/dogs and then look back at you calmly, in anticipation of reward.
- This is the goal! Continue to reward Finn for calm behavior and checking in with you.
- *You can then communicate to him if it is ok to approach for a greeting. You may then want to ask for a sit or use a treat to encourage him to stand instead of jump.*

Dropping “Stolen” Household Items

- **It may be beneficial to place treat bags around the house**, so that you can readily reinforce desirable behaviors during these early stages of training.
- **While we will not always have treats available to us**, reinforcing frequently at Finn’s age can help to set him up for success in the future.
- **As much as possible, prevent Finn’s access to things like laundry, shoes, etc.**
- **Make a game out of giving the stolen item back!** Instead of playing the game of chase in an effort to retrieve the item from Finn, practice offering him a tasty treat in exchange for items in his mouth.
 - Encourage Finn to play with a dog-safe toy (not a household item)
 - While the toy is in his mouth, show him a tasty treat
 - When he drops the toy, say “Yes!”
 - Give the treat
 - Repeat many times
 - When Finn is reliably dropping the toy item, begin adding the cue “drop it” to this exercise
 - This cue and “trade out for a treat” method will be used in real-life circumstances when Finn takes a household item as well.
- **We want Finn to know that giving you something is a good thing for him** and means that he gets to play a different game!

Enrichment & Exercise

- **Finn will benefit from continued physical exercise**, such as his regular visits to the park for walks.
- **Finn will benefit from continued enrichment and brain games**, like the muffin tin game and KONGs frozen with tasty food inside.
- **This will be especially helpful in redirecting and preventing his barking behavior.**
- **Please see the separate handout, *Boredom Busters & Brain Games***, for more information about puzzle toys and ways to provide creative mental stimulation for Finn.

Cash’s Plan

Behavior & Training Goals

- Loose leash walking
- Confidence building during greetings
- Calm behavior at home
- Nail trims

Loose Leash Walking

Walking Equipment

- **Cash would benefit from a front-clip, no-pull harness.**
- **Here are some brands recommended for Cash:**
 - [Freedom Harness](#) (likely an XL, but measurements needed)
 - [3-in-1 Harness](#) (likely a Large, but these harnesses may slip to the side on deep-chested dogs. This is fixed by attaching a clip to the harness and collar, as described below.)
 - [Easy Walk Harness](#) (likely a Large or X-Large, but measurements needed)
- **When walking in a no-pull harness, it may be helpful to clip a [carabiner clip](#) from the D-ring of the harness to the ring on the collar.** This is an added safety measure, due to Cash's deep chest.

Training Exercise

- Reward Cash often during your walks to increase his engagement and focus.
- Reward Cash when the leash has comfortable slack and is not tight.
- If the leash becomes tight, excitedly call Cash back to your side or turn around in the opposite direction.
- When Cash is back by your side and the leash is slack again, reward heavily.
- Continue to give rewards often during these early stages of training to improve this behavior.

Confidence Building During Greetings

- **Have strangers toss treats to Cash,** instead of hand-feeding.
- **Always let Cash choose** if he would like to approach people for petting or handling.
- **Do not be afraid to explain that Cash is in training** and that people should not pet him if he does not want to be petted.
- **Practice the Look Game with Cash.**

Look Game

- Say "Yes!" and reward each time Cash looks at a person or dog while out in public and on walks.
- Eventually, Cash will learn to look at people/dogs and then look back at you calmly, in anticipation of reward.
- This is the goal! Continue to reward Cash for calm behavior and checking in with you.
- Scary things = tasty treats! This will help Cash to feel better about seeing new things on his outings.

Calm Behavior At Home

- **It may be beneficial to place treat bags around the house**, so that you can readily reinforce desirable behaviors during these early stages of training.
- **While we will not always have treats available to us**, reinforcing frequently at Cash's age can help to set him up for success in the future.
- **If Cash is dashing around the house**, consider taking him for a walk, giving him a puzzle toy, or asking him to sit or lie down for rewards.
- **Continue providing Cash with regular physical exercise and enrichment.** See more below.

Nail Trims

- **Practice visiting the grooming salon** near your home regularly.
- **Bring plenty of tasty treats**, like cheese, hot dogs, or peanut butter with you.
- **Give Cash plenty of treats while around and in the salon**, creating a positive association. Play games, practice obedience, etc.
- **Have the groomers toss treats to Cash.** Remember to allow him to choose to approach for petting (or not).
- **Ask if you can be present for his nail trim appointment.**
- **It may also be ideal to do the nail trim in small phases** (one paw or a few nails at a time), since you are so close to the groomer's location.
- **Request that Cash be given something tasty** like peanut butter during his nail trim. Even better if you can be there to give it to him!
- **Practice picking up his paws** and spreading apart his toes while giving him treats. Watch his body language for any discomfort. If he avoids this kind of handling or retreats, reduce the handling and consult with your trainer for next steps.

Enrichment

- **Cash will benefit from continued physical exercise**, such as his regular visits to the park for walks.
- **Cash will benefit from continued enrichment and brain games**, like the muffin tin game and KONGs frozen with tasty food inside.
- **Please see the separate handout, *Boredom Busters & Brain Games***, for more information about puzzle toys and ways to provide creative mental stimulation for Cash.

Thank you for choosing ORG NAME!

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