

A SOUND & BEGINNING™

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How to Help Your Dog Learn to Wear a Head Collar

Should you want to use a head collar for walking or managing your dog on leash OR if you need to use a basket muzzle for safety at the vet's office, you don't want to begin by forcing it on the dog. You first must teach your dog to accept wearing the unit without the stress or fear that could be involved if you just put it directly on. By following this step-by-step process, you will be teaching your dog through positive associations that this is a good thing to look forward to.

TO BEGIN: Set the unit on the counter with a bowl of treats near it.
Keep treats on top of fridge if you have a counter-surfing pooch!

1. Every time you walk by the counter, pick up the unit, call the dog to you, praise and reward with a treat.

NOTE: *After each of the following steps –*

- *Set the unit back on the counter and go about your business.*
 - *Repeat several times until your dog is completely comfortable before going to the next step.*
2. Perform step 1 and then lure with a treat through the nose-piece. Let go of the unit but keep your treat held high so the unit remains on the dog's nose (not hooked up). When the dog finishes the treat he will lower his head and the unit will fall to the ground.
 3. Perform step 1 and step 2 and then clip up the collar piece, give a treat, remove the unit totally, then give another treat.
 4. Perform step 1, 2 and 3 but this time when you remove it you will repeat this step again.
 5. This time call the dog to you and give a treat. Lure with another treat through the nose-piece, then hook up the unit and give another treat. Walk with dog about 5 steps, give a treat, then take the unit off. Reward with another treat.
 6. Now you will just call the dog to you, give a treat, put the unit on, walk with the dog while giving multiple treats for paying attention and staying with you, etc. When you are done, remove the unit, treat and praise.

Practice every so often (1-2 x a week) until you're ready to use it in the real world.

CONGRATULATIONS – You did it!

You now can treat yourself to Starbucks or chocolate or BOTH!

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