

IMPORTANT

Allow your pet to become accustomed to his new SmartReceiver® Collar gradually. It should be removed every night for the first month, and 3-4 nights per week thereafter. This will help avoid skin irritation which can occur in some pets, and help you keep a check on the proper fit of the collar.

DO NOT become overly confident that your dog has become properly conditioned sooner than you expect. It is critical to completely perform the training requirements before allowing your pet to roam free. If you have any difficulty training your pet, please call us right away for assistance.

Remember that the receiver is ineffective if the probes do not touch your dog's skin. The SmartReceiver® Collar must be worn snugly at the top of your pet's neck, where their hair is thinnest. It should be just tight enough to slide a finger between the probe and your dog's neck. Periodically, you may need to adjust the fit to accommodate weight fluctuations.

Your dog should be of sufficient maturity to understand basic training commands and be comfortable walking on a leash before you begin training. Low-stress GentleSteps™ Training can be used with dogs as young as 10 weeks, depending on your dog's personality.

Keep in mind that most reported problems with the Pet Fence System are due to insufficient follow-up training and/or mismanagement of the pet. Your pet's training may also need to be reinforced from time to time.



PET STOP® Pet Fence Systems of Alabama

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GentleSteps™

EASIER TRAINING FOR HAPPIER PETS

Supported Exclusively by
Pet Stop® Brand
Pet Fence Equipment

GOAL: The purpose of the GentleSteps™ Training Plan is to help teach your dog to identify and avoid his boundaries, remaining within the safety of his own yard. The aim of this low-stress method is to reduce the fear normally associated with electronic correction training. Pet Stop® equipment was designed around this stress reduction training technology. Our goal is to help provide your pet with a comfortable, happy environment, secure from dangers outside your property. If you follow this plan to its conclusion, you will give your dog his best opportunity for success with your Pet Fence.

OVERVIEW: GentleSteps Training is the perfect marriage of product technology and the latest soft-touch training methods to quickly and easily familiarize pets with their new fencing system. GentleSteps is an incremental conditioning program that reduces problems more commonly associated with traditional containment training by using barely perceptible levels of collar stimulation during the critical training phase. This unique soft-touch system allows our clients to focus on more positive experiences, like freedom to run and play in the yard. Avoiding negative associations is far easier with the low GentleSteps stimulation levels, leaving your pet happy and secure within the safety of your yard.

YOU'LL NEED:

- A 4 to 6 foot training leash (non-retractable)
- A properly fitting collar, equipped with a D-ring
- Your dog's favorite Treats for Training Sessions
- A Training or "Pinch" Collar (if necessary)
- A way to safely contain your dog during training

MULTIPLE PETS: If you are training more than one pet to your Pet Fence System, please remember that each pet deserves your full attention and must be brought through GentleSteps Training to its completion. Also, please adjust your equipment needs as your pets require.

FINALLY, have confidence in the GentleSteps Pet Fence Training Plan. This low-stress technique has quickly become the preferred method for Pet Fence training with less fear. Any dog can be trained using these methods, but some will still exhibit anxiety. If yours does, **patience is your best tool.** Allow your dog to get comfortable on their own timeline. Outdoor play and treats usually help. GentleSteps is a proven way to ensure your success and protect the investment you have made by purchasing the finest Pet Fence System available in the world today.

SYSTEM TRAINING IS NOT OPTIONAL. If you feel you cannot adequately complete the Training Plan, please notify us so that we may propose alternative methods to properly finish System Training. Your Containment Guarantee is contingent upon sufficient pet fence training as prescribed.

**IF AT ANY POINT YOU ARE UNSURE OF HOW TO PROCEED,
PLEASE CALL US IMMEDIATELY FOR TRAINING ASSISTANCE**

BOUNDARY RECOGNITION & TRAINING PERIOD: DAYS ONE THROUGH SEVEN

- ✎ **For the first seven days**, your pet must not be allowed to go outside unless he is on a leash or otherwise safely secured at all times. Your pet must also be kept from his boundaries during this period, except during Training Sessions. On Training Day One a Pet Fence System Training Specialist will demonstrate proper training to get you started and leave you with specific instructions.
- ✎ **Each Training Session** should last between ten and fifteen minutes and must be repeated two to three times per day. Every day, the SmartReceiver® collar's stimulus should be advanced one Training Level. Your Training Specialist will choose the beginning Training Level, then demonstrate the method for you and leave Training Level Instructions. The SmartReceiver should be used only as prescribed by your System Training Specialist. Be sure to reward proper behavior with treats and praise during all training sessions.
- ✎ **On or Around Training Day Seven**, your Training Specialist will return for a second appointment to evaluate your dog's training progress and determine how to proceed.

THE GENTLESTEPS™ TRAINING SESSION

If your dog is not wearing his SmartReceiver, put it on him at least an hour before training is to begin. This will help to prevent his becoming "collar-wise". Guide your dog toward the Boundary Zone with your training leash. Do not pull your pet into the Boundary Zone, but mildly tempt him to go past the flags with treats or by crossing the boundary with him. Once your dog has entered the Boundary Zone, the collar will beep, followed quickly by a mild Training Level stimulus. After your dog has received 1-3 seconds of this stimulus, call and/or tug him gently back into the safe zone if he does not retreat on his own. As he retreats from the Boundary Zone back into the Reward Zone, reward him enthusiastically with praise and a treat. Like people, each dog's personality and temperament are different. Your Training Specialist may alter the training session to suit your pet.

PROOFING & SUPERVISION PERIOD: DAYS EIGHT THROUGH FOURTEEN

- ✎ **On Days Eight through Ten**, your dog may be allowed to go outside off-leash, but only under close supervision by a person who is qualified to handle him adequately, and only if there are no unresolved training issues. Repeat the method used in the Boundary Recognition & Training Period, except that your dog is off-leash or drags his leash. Your dog should choose to stay inside the boundary at this stage.
- ✎ **On or about Day Eleven**, you should start the Proofing Stages. Without calling your pet's name or giving him a command to "Come", try to entice your pet across its boundaries using increasingly attractive temptations. Give generous PRAISE and TREATS when your pet gives the proper response by either returning to the safe zone quickly or stopping before he reaches the stimulus zone.
- ✎ **After Day Eleven**, you should loosely supervise your pet while he is outside exploring his boundaries off-leash. You should vary the duration of these play periods from 30 minutes to 2 hours, depending upon your pet's progress and your judgement. If you are unsure, call us for assistance. Be sure your pet wears his SmartReceiver® collar any time he is outdoors.

ACCLIMATION PERIOD: DAYS FOURTEEN THROUGH THIRTY

- ✎ **Your pet should** become accustomed to the Pet Fence System during this period, during outdoor, off-leash play periods of varying lengths which you will determine. The more play periods your dog gets, the faster he will become totally acclimated and comfortable with the system. It remains important during Acclimation to "keep an eye" on your pet as he settles into his new routines.
- ✎ **Keep in mind** that your pet is learning a new way to interact with you and respond to the many interesting stimuli he sees and hears each day. Some dogs will establish new routines quickly, and others may take more time to adjust. It is important to give your dog adequate time to adapt to the new circumstances he is faced with and the new boundaries we have set for him. Treats and outdoor play are the best tools to help him.

FLAG REMOVAL Beginning on Day Thirty, you may start removing your boundary marking flags. You should remove every other flag, every other day until they are gone (3 rounds). This marks the end of your System Training, and your pet should now be ready for unsupervised play in your yard.

Remember, if you are unsure of how to proceed or have any training problem,
CALL US IMMEDIATELY FOR ASSISTANCE! This is not a request, but a requirement.