



Purrsuasion
Cat Behaviour Consulting and Training

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The Fulfilled Feline

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BEGINNER TRAINING BASICS

Supplies

- Clicker & Target Stick
 - [Clicker](#)
 - [Target Stick](#) (pencil or chopstick works too)
 - [Cat School Kit](#) (includes everything)
- [High-Value Treats](#)

Tips

- Is my cat trainable? ([Watch this!](#))
- Click **DURING** the desired behavior. Timing is key.
- Click when the cat does something you like. **For anything!** (i.e., scratching on scratching post, using litter box, disengaging from aggression, etc.)
- Keep sessions short under 5 minutes.
- Separate cats for training sessions.
- If slow to respond, don't wait for perfection; click small movements toward the goal.
- Keep raising your goal when the cat has achieved the initial goal.

Teaching What "Click" Means

- Grab about 10 to 15 tiny treats or one soft food tube.
- Click your clicker and then let them eat a treat. Make sure to keep your hand still while you click, then move it to give them a treat.
- Do this for all of the treats or half of the soft food tube.

[Video](#)

Target Training

- Put some soft food on the end of your target stick.
- Hold the end of the stick at nose height and about 3 inches from your cat.
- As soon as they touch the stick with their tongue or nose, click your clicker and let them eat the food. (Don't move the stick towards them, they have to make the touch all by themselves!)
- Do this a few times in a row until your cat consistently touches the end of the target stick with their nose.
- This time, don't put any food on the end of the stick, hold it in front of them and let them touch it with their nose, then click and treat from your hand.
- Slowly start to move the stick further and further away from your cats, so they have to take a step to touch it, then a few steps, then a full stroll!
- When your kitties reliably touch the stick after taking a few steps, you can start to say "Target" or "Touch" before presenting your target stick. That will be your verbal cue!

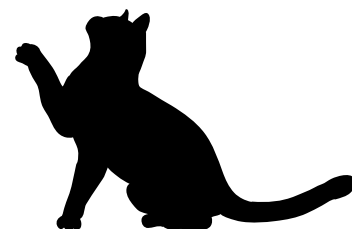
[Video](#)

Teaching "Come"

- When your cat is slightly distracted and a few feet away from you, shake your treat bag or crinkle a toy.
- When he comes up to you, click and treat.
- Take a few steps away and if he follows, click and treat.
- If he doesn't follow, shake your treats or crinkle your toy again, and click and treat when he approaches.
- Once your cat is consistently following you, take a step away while saying, "come."
- When he reaches you, click and treat.
- Start to call him to come without a shake of a treat bag or crinkle.
- Click and treat when he comes to you.
- Once he starts to come, when you call without a bribe, start to call him from different rooms in your home.
- Click and treat every time he comes running.

Other Skills

- [Mat Training](#)
- ["Sit"](#)
- ["Stay"](#)
- ["High Five"](#)
- ["Back Up"](#)
- [Teeth Brushing](#)



***All videos linked were made by Julia Posluns ACAAB of [Cat School](#)