

DOGTRA E-FENCE TRAINING BOOK



Fitting the receiver

E-FENCE TRAINING



Fitting the Receiver to Your Dog



Proper Fit

The receiver should be fitted so that the medical grade stainless steel contact points press firmly against the dog's skin. You should be able to fit a finger in between the contact point and your dog's skin. The best location is on either side of the dog's windpipe.

Improper Fit

A loose fit can allow the receiver to move around on the dog's neck. When this happens, the contact points may rub against the skin and cause irritation. If the receiver is too loose, the contact will not be consistent and cause the corrections to be inconsistent. Dogtra uses surgical stainless steel contact points and anti-microbial plastic to protect the dog's skin.

Attention!

Leaving the receiver in the same location on the dog's neck for an extended period of time can cause skin irritation due to the sensitivity from the metal contact points. If the dog is to wear the receiver for long periods, occasionally reposition the receiver every few hours so that the contact points are moved to a different location on the dog's neck and remove the receiver after eight hours of usage. Make sure you check for skin irritation each time you use the unit.

TRAINING GUIDE



Teaching Time Frames

The lessons presented offer suggested teaching time frames. Many of the steps can be taught in a day or over several days, depending on your dog.

Training Guide (20-30 minute)

Week 1		<p>Step 1. Creating a boundary and introduction to stimulation</p> <p>Step 2. On-leash training: introduction to distractions</p>
Week 2		<p>Step 3. On-leash training: distractions from dogs or humans</p>
Week 3		<p>Step 4. Reinforcement training</p>
Week 4		<p>Step 5. Off-leash training</p>

The training schedule is only a general guideline based on **20-30 minute sessions** held twice a day. Each dog has a unique temperament and will learn differently. Be sure your dog has mastered each step before moving on to the next and use plenty of praise along the way.

WEEK 1: STEP 1

Creating a boundary and introduction to stimulation



Turn the E-FENCE 3500 receiver on and put it on your leashed dog (6-20 feet leash or rope) in a safe area of the yard. The yard should be flagged in roughly 10-foot increments to aid your dog in identifying the boundary of the E-FENCE 3500.



Walk your dog toward the E-FENCE 3500 boundary. Just before you reach the signal field, fall behind and allow your dog to continue into the signal field where he will feel the High-Performance Pager (HPP) vibration followed by stimulation.



When the dog feels the stimulation, pull him quickly back to the safe area of the yard and reinforce his behavior with praise. Use the minimum stimulation level necessary to get a response from your dog.

Your dog will learn the negative effect of the stimulation when he gets near the boundary and can stop the stimulation by returning to the safe area of the yard. Through repetition, your dog will learn that the safe area of the yard is away from the flags that create the boundary. Avoid pulling or calling your dog into the signal field.

IMPORTANT

The dog must understand that the way to get away from the stimulation is to return to the center of the yard. Through repetition, the dog will learn that the HPP vibration is the warning before the stimulation and that the dog is too close to the E-FENCE 3500 boundary.



Repeat this exercise in other locations of the yard over the next few days. When your dog retreats from the boundary without prompting and refuses to approach it, he is ready for the next step. Remember to keep the dog on leash. If using the E-FENCE 3500 for more than one dog, train each dog separately. Finish each training session with plenty of playtime in the center of the yard.

WEEK 1: STEP 2

On-leash training: introduction to distractions



Put the E-FENCE 3500 receiver on your leashed dog with the unit on. Your yard should remain flagged as the dog is still learning the boundaries. Play in the safe area of the yard with the dog on a leash for a short period. After a few minutes, introduce a distraction by throwing a ball or play toy beyond the line of the flagged area.



If the dog attempts to run through the flags towards the distraction, wait for your dog to respond to the stimulation and quickly reel him back to you by pulling on the rope into the safe area of the yard.

IMPORTANT

Increase the stimulation one level at a time, until you find a level that will discourage the dog from running through the E-FENCE 3500 after the ball. Proceed to the next step when the dog refuses to run through the flags after the ball or toy after ten consecutive times in a variety of locations in the yard. The dog must understand that the way to get away from the stimulation is to return to the center of the yard. Through repetition, the dog will learn that the HPP vibration is the warning before the stimulation and that the dog is too close to the E-FENCE 3500 boundary.

WEEK 2: STEP 3

On-leash training: distractions from dogs or humans



Put the E-FENCE 3500 receiver on your leashed dog with the unit on. Your yard should remain flagged as the dog is still learning the boundaries. Play in the safe area of the yard with the dog on a leash for a short period. After a few minutes, introduce a distraction such as another dog on a leash and/or a human outside the E-FENCE 3500 boundary.



If your dog attempts to run through the flags after the other dog/human, pull firmly on the leash/rope until the dog is back in the safe area of the yard. The dog must learn the boundary, regardless of the distraction on the other side.

Repeat this situation again using a variety of distractions until your dog stops prior to activating the E-FENCE 3500 system. If the dog continues to run through the flagged area after the distraction, you may want to consider increasing the signal field area and/or increasing the stimulation level.

IMPORTANT

Increase the stimulation one level at a time, until you find a level that will discourage the dog from running through the E-FENCE 3500 after the dog or human distraction. When the dog refuses to run through the flags after the ball or toy after ten consecutive times, in a variety of locations in the yard, proceed to the next step.

WEEK 3: STEP 4

Reinforcement training

Follow the procedures in steps 2 and 3, but during the final step do not hold the end of the leash/rope. Drop the leash/rope on the ground and let it drag behind the dog. You can use the leash to retrieve your dog if he ignores the E-FENCE 3500 stimulation and gets outside the boundary.



WEEK 4-5: STEP 5

Off-leash training



When your dog ignores the distractions and does not attempt to run through the E-FENCE 3500 after ten consecutive times, he can now be left to run in the boundary without a leash/rope attached as a safety net.

IMPORTANT

If your dog runs through the E-FENCE 3500, take the dog back into the safe area immediately.

REMEMBER TO FIRST REMOVE THE RECEIVER BEFORE CROSSING BACK OVER THE E-FENCE 3500 OR SWITCH THE UNIT TO THE OFF POSITION ON THE TRANSMITTER!

Progressively increase the stimulation level one level at a time until your dog consistently ignores the temptation to run outside the E-FENCE 3500 during the off-leash distraction training.

Plastic Training Probes

Once your dog has completed the training process and consistently avoids the signal boundary, you can replace the stainless steel training probes with the plastic ones. Your dog will continue to receive the HPP vibration as a warning, but will not get stimulation. The plastic contact points will allow you to keep the receiver on your dog for longer periods of time without the worry of skin irritation. In the event your dog runs through the signal field, replace the plastic probes with the steel contact points and repeat training steps 2 through 5.

E-FENCE 3500 Training Tips

To get the most effective results with your Dogtra E-FENCE 3500, keep these tips in mind:

The receiver must be on relatively tight. The contact points should maintain consistent contact with the dog's skin without restricting breathing. You should be able to slide one finger under the collar strap at the back of your dog's neck.

The proper level of stimulation to use is when your dog responds with a mild twitch of the neck, shoulder, head or ears. If your dog vocalizes after receiving stimulation, the level needs to be reduced slightly.

DO NOT leave the receiver on the dog for more than 8 hours a day.

Leaving the receiver on the dog for extended periods of time can cause skin irritation around the neck or at the site where the contact points make contact with the skin.

DO NOT use the system on a dog that is under 6 months of age.

DO NOT use when the battery is low. A low battery will not activate the stimulation.

DO NOT have the receiver on your dog while installing the fence.

Make sure the receiver is working properly before putting it on your dog. The E-FENCE 3500 should only be used under the close supervision of the dog's owner.

Remove other metal collars from your dog when he is wearing the Dogtra E-FENCE 3500 receiver. Other metal collars may interfere with the stimulation. Place the training flags around the perimeter about ten feet apart to teach your dog the boundaries. Keep training sessions short and positive. Twenty to thirty minutes of training twice a day is recommended. If training more than one dog, train each dog separately.

▲ KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN

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