

A Supplemental Guide to the Course

TrickMeister

TRICKMEISTER



Mastering fun and increasing your team knowledge and skills

This document is a supplemental guide to the TrickMeister program

Please visit the website to register for one of the courses in the TrickMeister Program

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Delivered by





TrickMeister Apprentice.

TrickMeister Apprentice is the Level One Foundation Course. This course will teach you all the basic skills you need to begin your journey on the road to becoming a Master in the art and craft of force-free training and tricks! You will learn about the science behind the training and how to effectively and skillfully teach new behaviors while having lots of fun! You will learn how to clearly communicate with your student in order to set them up for success. You will also learn how to eliminate errors from your training, thus enabling you to teach your dog or other companion animal in the most enjoyable way possible.

The knowledge and skills you learn in *TrickMeister Apprentice* will set you up for all your future training. As you practice the tricks that you learn, your learner will also acquire new skills and gain confidence. Your relationship will blossom and you will see that your training partner not only understands the process, they love it!

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Webinar Content

Apprentice	Skills & Learning Objectives	Tricks Taught	Competency Criteria
<p>Webinar One</p>	<p>Learn what equipment is appropriate</p> <p>Understand the antecedent package.</p> <p>Understand the meaning of positive reinforcement.</p> <p>Understand the difference between a command and a cue.</p> <p>Understand the “Hierarchy of Rewards”</p> <p>Learn how to choose an appropriate training area.</p> <p>Learn how to choose an appropriate reinforcer.</p> <p>Learn how to use start and release cues to communicate with your learner.</p> <p>Learn how to lure a behavior and fade the lure for maximum success and minimal stress!</p> <p>Learn when and how to add a visual cue – hand signal.</p>	<p>Shake hands/ Give a Paw</p> <p>Peekaboo</p> <p>On Your Side! (Dog lies on side from a down)</p>	<p>Master the mechanics of training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handle food rewards safely and efficiently. • Deliver food rewards from hand, treat bag, container or pocket; deliver food rewards in a stationary position to dog’s mouth. • Clearly demonstrate ability to communicate the cue, mark the behavior and reinforce the action. • Operate a clicker in hand with a non-visual movement. • Give a cue without excessive body language or unnecessary repetition. <p>Effectively use a verbal marker instead of a clicker.</p> <p>Understand how and when to attach a verbal cue to a behavior.</p> <p>Effectively use start and release cues.</p> <p>Understand how to effectively lure a behavior.</p> <p>Understand the antecedent package, including direct and distant</p>

	<p>Learn when and how to add a verbal cue.</p> <p>Learn how to “mark” a behavior with a secondary reinforcer/bridging stimulus that is a verbal marker.</p> <p>Understand how to correctly deliver reinforcement in position and why thoughtless delivery will undermine the reinforcement value.</p>		<p>antecedents and how they will impact on the behavior being taught.</p> <p>Know the difference between a reward and a reinforcer.</p> <p>Understand the hierarchy of rewards.</p> <p>Understand the “scientific” meaning of positive reinforcement.</p> <p>Understand what equipment is appropriate</p>
<p>Webinar Two</p>	<p>Learn how to train in sets.</p> <p>Understand when to raise or lower criteria.</p> <p>Learn how to effectively proof behaviors with variable body language.</p> <p>Develop an understanding of the use of different bridging stimuli including the clicker and a verbal marker</p> <p>Understand the advantages of using a clicker as a precision tool.</p> <p>Understand the different implications to the learner of a sit stay and a down stay.</p>	<p>Leave It</p> <p>Stay</p> <p>Watch Me</p>	<p>Can demonstrate withholding the click to gradually extend the duration of a behavior without placing undue stress on the learner.</p> <p>Understand the term “Push, Drop, Stick” and can demonstrate how to effectively use this concept to ensure minimal error learning</p> <p>Demonstrate how to proof behaviors with variable body language</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and set the dog up for success!</p> <p>Demonstrate effective use of start and release cues</p> <p>Understand the difference between a keep going signal and a terminal bridging stimulus</p>

	<p>Understand how to use a clicker or verbal marker as a keep going signal to optimally extend the duration of a behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to teach your dog to focus on you.</p> <p>Understand the importance of a default behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to teach a default behavior.</p> <p>Understand the term Positive Punishment</p>		<p>Demonstrate the use of a clicker as a terminal bridge.</p> <p>Understand and can demonstrate the use of a keep going signal/intermediate bridging stimulus</p> <p>Understand the mechanics of delivering the reinforcer in position.</p> <p>Understand the use of a default behavior</p> <p>Understand the term 'Positive Punishment'</p> <p>Understand the basics of canine communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize a relaxed dog. • Recognize an anxious dog. • Recognize a fearful dog. • Recognize signs of stress.
Webinar Three	<p>Understand the meaning and application of targeting.</p> <p>Learn the mechanics of using a target stick</p> <p>Learn how to teach a hand target.</p> <p>Learn how to add duration to a hand target.</p> <p>Understand D.R.A. and D.R.I. and why they aren't always an appropriate response to what we</p>	<p>Crawl</p> <p>Hand Touch</p> <p>Spin</p>	<p>Can use a target stick and hand target in a safe and effective way</p> <p>Can teach moving behaviors with a hand touch and a target stick.</p> <p>Can teach stationary behaviors with a hand touch and a target stick</p> <p>Can teach a dog to focus on the target and respond promptly to the target cue.</p> <p>Understand how to proof a cue</p> <p>Understand the terms Differential Reinforcement of Incompatible Behaviors and Differential Reinforcement of Alternative</p>

	<p>consider to be an inappropriate behavior.</p> <p>Know how, when and why to make use of a trick as an alternative or incompatible behavior</p> <p>Understand the positive application of a hand target in real life situations.</p> <p>Learn how to use a hand target to teach new behaviors.</p> <p>Learn how to proof your cue!</p>		<p>Behaviors and why/when such strategies could be usefully implemented.</p> <p>Understand the practical uses of a hand target.</p>
<p>Webinar Four</p>	<p>Learn how to step into the learning cycle and add a new cue.</p> <p>Learn the how and why of capturing behaviors.</p> <p>Learn how to teach a release cue</p> <p>Learn how we can develop stamina and increase muscle strength.</p> <p>Understand why and how to label behaviors to communicate intention.</p> <p>Learn how and why you should aim for errorless learning in order to achieve minimal error learning.</p>	<p>Sit</p> <p>Speak</p> <p>Ring The Bell</p> <p>Close The Door</p>	<p>Demonstrate clear communication with the use of start and release cues.</p> <p>Demonstrate the process of using a target to teach a dog to cross their paws.</p> <p>Understand the process of capturing a behavior</p> <p>Understand the process of teaching a release cue</p> <p>Understand how to step into the learning cycle</p> <p>Understand why it is useful to label behaviors.</p> <p>Understand the A, B, C contingency.</p>

	Learn how to use various objects as visual targets.		Understand how to achieve minimal error learning.
Webinar Five	<p>Learn how to free-shape behaviors.</p> <p>Learn how to ensure minimal error learning when free-shaping.</p> <p>Understand the importance of a high rate of reinforcement.</p> <p>Learn how to “reset for success.”</p> <p>Understand the pros and cons of the shaping game “101 Things to do with a Box”</p> <p>Learn how to teach your learner to go to a specific place – a great skill for at home or on the movie set!</p> <p>Learn how to choose a marker/bridging stimulus to enhance calm behaviors.</p> <p>Learn how to choose a marker/bridging stimulus to encourage speed and enthusiasm.</p> <p>Understand the term Negative Punishment</p>	<p>Paw Target (Free Shape)</p> <p>Nose Target (Free Shape)</p> <p>On Your Mat (Go to Bed)</p> <p>On Your Mark (Go to a target on the floor)</p>	<p>Understand the concept of “shaping”</p> <p>Demonstrate how to free-shape a paw target using successive approximations of the desired behavior.</p> <p>Demonstrate how to free-shape a nose target using successive approximations of the desired behavior</p> <p>Demonstrate working in sets.</p> <p>Demonstrate minimal error learning.</p> <p>Demonstrate the use of a high rate of reinforcement.</p> <p>Demonstrate correct placement of the reinforcer to successfully reset the learner.</p> <p>Understand why the area of reinforcement is critical to setting the dog up for success.</p> <p>Understand the pros & cons of free-shaping and games such as “101 Things to do with a Box”.</p>

Please note: The learning objectives in the above table will come from both the webinars and the additional pdfs that will be an essential part of the *TrickMeister* Course material.

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TrickMeister Journeyman.

TrickMeister Journeyman is the Level Two Intermediate Course. This course builds on all the skills and knowledge you gained in the *Apprentice* Course. The *Journeyman* Course sees you continue your journey on the road to becoming a Master in the art and craft of force-free training and tricks!

You will continue to learn about the science behind the training and build on your teaching skills, while having lots of fun! You will refine your ability to communicate with your learner in order to set them up for success and as you continue to increase your knowledge and add to your skill-set, you will be amazed at the progression made by both you and your dog or other companion animal.

The knowledge and skills you learn in *TrickMeister Journeyman* will set you up for all your future training. As you practice the tricks that you learn, your student will also acquire new skills. Your learner will continue to thrive and gain confidence; your relationship will further blossom and your bond will strengthen.

WEBINAR CONTENT

Journeyman	Skills Covered	Tricks Taught	Competency Criteria
Webinar One	<p>Learn how and why to carry out a consent test.</p> <p>Learn how to choose appropriate tricks to teach your learner.</p> <p>Learn how to improve your technique when luring a behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to add an olfactory cue.</p> <p>Understand the use of “No Reward Markers” and why I believe they are unnecessary and unhelpful.</p> <p>Refine your luring, targeting and shaping skills.</p> <p>Learn how to use “Touch” to teach new tricks.</p> <p>Understand the term Negative Reinforcement</p> <p>Clarify your understanding of The Four Quadrants of Operant Conditioning</p> <p>Understand Respondent Conditioning and why it should not be ignored.</p>	<p>Figure 8 (Weave around legs in shape of figure 8)</p> <p>Take a Bow</p> <p>Go Round (Move away from handler, go round object/ person/ animal & return to handler)</p>	<p>Can teach a behavior using a hand target where the target has been faded.</p> <p>Can maintain a consistent standard of “Figure 8” with distractions, including different locations.</p> <p>Can demonstrate behaviors without unnecessary repetition of cues.</p> <p>Can demonstrate initiation of reinforcement protocols immediately after the behavior has been marked with the bridging stimulus.</p> <p>Understand why and how to carry out a consent test</p> <p>Understand the term Respondent Conditioning and how to use this learning process in your training.</p> <p>Understand the different applications of Operant and Respondent Conditioning.</p> <p>Understand how to introduce an olfactory cue.</p>

<p>Webinar Two</p>	<p>Learn more ways to proof behaviors before you leave your kitchen!</p> <p>Learn how to increase the flexibility of a behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to effectively place behaviors under stimulus control.</p> <p>Understand how to effectively add distance to behaviors without placing stress on the learner but actually increasing their confidence levels!</p> <p>Understand how to effectively add duration to behaviors without placing stress on the learner.</p> <p>Understand how to effectively add distractions to behaviors without placing stress on the learner or negatively impacting the quality of the behavior</p> <p>Understand the Premack Principle as a reinforcement strategy.</p>	<p>Bang/Play Dead (Drop onto side either from sit or stand)</p> <p>Roll Over</p> <p>Go Left</p> <p>Go Right</p> <p>Say Cheese (Focus on camera)</p>	<p>Understand how to add distance to a behavior without placing undue stress on the learner.</p> <p>Understand how to proof behaviors with distance.</p> <p>Understand how to proof behaviors with duration.</p> <p>Understand how to proof distractions.</p> <p>Understand the term “The 3 Ds” and their application to teaching and proofing new behaviors.</p> <p>Understand the relative theory of reinforcement and how the Premack Principle can be applied in training.</p> <p>Understand the optimal process for introducing a new cue.</p> <p>Understand the antecedent package and the terms ‘setting events’ and ‘motivating operations’</p>
<p>Webinar Three</p>	<p>Understand why your training should focus on the reinforcement.</p> <p>Understand how the trainer’s behavior and demeanor can dilute or strengthen the reinforcer.</p> <p>Master reinforcement strategies and understand the impact they have on the behavior being taught.</p>	<p>Close (Finish to left side)</p> <p>Come</p> <p>Go Hide</p>	<p>Understand the term primary reinforcer.</p> <p>Understand the term secondary reinforcer.</p> <p>Can effectively use a non-food reinforcer/secondary reinforcer.</p> <p>Understand the different reinforcement strategies and their appropriate use.</p>

	<p>Learn more about the what, when, how and where of reinforcement!</p> <p>Develop a greater understanding of how both delivery and placement of the reinforcer will aid or hinder your training session.</p> <p>Understand why we do not always have to deliver the reinforcer within a couple of seconds of the bridging stimulus for it to have optimal impact.</p> <p>Understand schedules of reinforcement.</p> <p>Understand the difference between a primary and a secondary reinforcer.</p> <p>Take another look at bridging stimuli and why, although also known as secondary reinforcers, they should be categorized as “markers” and not “reinforcers”</p> <p>Master the use of different bridging stimuli as behavior markers that communicate the imminent delivery of the reinforcer.</p>	<p>(Go out of sight, behind an object)</p>	<p>Can demonstrate the use of five different reinforcement strategies and show their impact on the behavior.</p> <p>Can demonstrate appropriate placement and delivery of the reinforcer.</p> <p>Understand schedules of reinforcement.</p> <p>Understand the appropriate use of various bridging stimuli.</p> <p>Can demonstrate the use of a bridging stimulus that is neither a clicker nor a verbal marker</p>
<p>Webinar Four</p>	<p>Learn how to make effective use of environmental props/environmental molding to elicit behaviors.</p> <p>Learn how to effectively fade props.</p>	<p>Pee Like a Boy. (Lift one hind leg against an object or person)</p>	<p>Can demonstrate the teaching of a trick making good use of props to set the learner up for success.</p> <p>Understand the correct use of props to aid the learner.</p>

	<p>Understand the importance of “muscle memory”.</p> <p>Understand what is meant by “mental learning” stamina and how to improve it.</p> <p>Learn how to effectively avoid creating an aversive situation when using props.</p> <p>Molding by contact – how to use a light touch as information.</p> <p>Understand setting events and how they can positively or negatively impact on a behavior and increase or negate the value of the reinforcer.</p> <p>Improve your knowledge of canine communication and understand its relevance in training as well as in everyday life.</p> <p>Learn to recognize when you need to regress.</p>	<p>Sit Pretty/Beg</p> <p>Rewind. (dog circles handler backwards, in an anticlockwise direction)</p>	<p>Understand the contingency between setting events and reinforcers.</p> <p>Understand how props and prompts could have an aversive effect.</p> <p>Understand the strategies of molding by touch and molding by environment</p> <p>Understand the myth of the Alpha-wolf</p> <p>Can identify signs of stress.</p>
<p>Webinar Five</p>	<p>Learn how to plan your training session for maximum success and to ensure minimal errors.</p> <p>Learn how to shape with minimal errors.</p> <p>Learn how to teach by “micro-slicing” behaviors.</p> <p>Understand why free-shaping can be detrimental to learning and lead to frustration and stress.</p> <p>Learn how to teach compound behaviors.</p>	<p>Open a door</p> <p>Crate</p> <p>A short trick routine (Pop, Close, Rewind & Hug)</p>	<p>Understand the teaching strategy shaping.</p> <p>Can demonstrate the ability to shape a compound behavior that includes interaction with an object.</p> <p>Has a clear understanding of how to build a compound behavior chain?</p> <p>Understand what is meant by micro-slicing.</p> <p>Understand the drawbacks of free-shaping.</p>

	<p>Learn how to create linear chains.</p> <p>Understand the whys and why nots of using a crate.</p> <p>Learn how to back-chain for success and create a short trick routine.</p> <p>Learn how to choose the best method to teach your new trick.</p> <p>Learn to identify weak links in the chain.</p> <p>Gain a clearer understanding of the Four Quadrants of Operant Conditioning: Positive Reinforcement, Positive Punishment, Negative Reinforcement, Negative Punishment.</p>		<p>Understand the best way to create a compound linear chain.</p> <p>Understand the term “back chaining”.</p> <p>Have a clear understanding of the four quadrants of Operant Conditioning: Positive Reinforcement, Positive Punishment, Negative Reinforcement, Negative Punishment.</p>
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Please note: The learning objectives in the above table will come from both the webinars and the additional pdfs that will be an essential part of the *TrickMeister* Course material



TrickMeister Master.

Master is the Level Three Advanced Course. The *Master* course builds on the solid foundation of skills and knowledge you and your partner have acquired in the *Apprentice* and *Journeyman* courses. In this advanced level course, you will learn how to teach your dog to carry out complex tasks. You will refine your ability to communicate with your learner. You will build on your knowledge of behavioral psychology – both operant and classical conditioning – by taking a look into the world of canine cognition.

Your confident learner will amaze you with their ability to learn. The knowledge and skills you gain in *TrickMeister Master* will be indispensable in all your future training. As you practice the new methods and tricks that you learn, your student will acquire new skills, as well as demonstrating their innate ability to work alongside their human partner.

TrickMeister Master is the final stage on the road to becoming a Master in the art and craft of rewards based, science based force-free training and tricks.

WEBINAR CONTENT

Master	Skills Covered	Tricks Taught	Competency Criteria
<p>Webinar One</p>	<p>Learn how to maintain a consistent high standard of tricks.</p> <p>Learn how to use several teaching strategies to generalize and strengthen a behavior while creating a versatile learner.</p> <p>Learn how to break a trick/behavior down by micro-slicing.</p> <p>Understand and master behavior chains.</p> <p>Learn how to improve a behavior chain by practicing “fast cueing”.</p> <p>Learn why and when you should introduce a buffer behavior into a linear chain.</p> <p>Learn how and when to fade individual cues from a behavior chain.</p> <p>Learn how to teach a solid retrieve.</p>	<p>Fetch Me a Drink</p> <p>Pull *</p> <p>Open a Door *</p> <p>Hold *</p> <p>Fetch *</p> <p>Drop</p>	<p>Understand the complexities of behavior chains</p> <p>Can teach a behavior chain that demonstrates a solid retrieve to hand</p> <p>Can maintain a consistent standard of behaviors when creating a behavior chain</p> <p>Can demonstrate the ability to teach tricks of the highest quality.</p> <p>Have a clear understanding of both operant and respondent conditioning</p>
<p>Webinar Two</p>	<p>Learn how to plan a training session for optimal success.</p> <p>Learn how to collect data to keep track of progress.</p>	<p>A Trick Routine (5 tricks, a prop & a</p>	<p>Can demonstrate the use of a trick as a secondary reinforcer in a trick routine that includes at least five individual tricks.</p>

	<p>Learn why video can be your best friend.</p> <p>Learn how to “add value” to a trick in order to use said trick as a secondary reinforcer.</p> <p>Learn how to introduce and creatively use a prop in a trick routine.</p> <p>Learn how to choose the optimal behaviors to include in your trick routines.</p>	<p>trick as a secondary reinforcer)</p>	<p>Can demonstrate both creative talent and the ability to plan a routine that sets the learner up for success.</p> <p>Have a clear understanding of unconditioned and conditioned reinforcers</p> <p>Understand the criteria and components that should be included in an effective trick/behavior training plan</p>
Webinar Three	<p>Understand the difference between a behavior chain and a merged behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to teach a merged behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to use micro-slicing to build a compound, merged behavior.</p> <p>Learn how to test the quality of the behavior components.</p> <p>Learn how to be unpredictable and avoid “cue jumping”.</p> <p>Learn about cue discrimination.</p>	<p>A Merged Behavior</p> <p>“Are You Sleepy?” (Fetch, Down, Guilty – chin to floor)</p>	<p>Understand the meaning of a merged behavior.</p> <p>Can demonstrate two repetitions of a merged trick comprised of three different behaviors.</p> <p>Can creatively demonstrate that the learner understands what is expected of them.</p> <p>Understand the concept of micro-slicing behaviors</p> <p>Understand cue discrimination</p> <p>Understand the origin and evolution of the domestic dog</p>
Webinar Four	<p>Learn how to combine free-shaping, cues and targets to micro-shape complex tasks.</p> <p>Learn how to be systematic in the training process.</p> <p>Understand the term concept training.</p>	<p>Visual Match to Sample</p>	<p>Understand the difference between free-shaping and micro-shaping</p> <p>How to micro-shape a behavior</p> <p>Understand the term concept training.</p> <p>Understand the meaning of: comparatives, modifiers and quantifiers</p>

	<p>Develop an understanding of comparatives, modifiers and quantifiers.</p> <p>Understand the difference between free-shaping and micro-shaping for success!</p> <p>Learn how to teach a conceptual behavior.</p>		<p>Can micro-shape a new complex conceptual task and demonstrate the learner clearly understands the task</p> <p>Understand the term self-domestication and its relevance to dogs.</p>
Webinar Five	<p>Understand the cognitive approach to learning.</p> <p>Understand the different measures of intelligence</p> <p>Learn how understanding canine cognition can help you design new training strategies.</p> <p>Understand why canine cognition, operant and respondent conditioning are all relevant to learning.</p> <p>Understand the necessity of a solid foundation of skills needed to teach complex and conceptual tasks.</p> <p>Learn how to effectively use mimicry/social learning to teach complex tasks.</p>	Copycat. (Mimicry/ Modeling - Learner imitates the handler)	<p>Understand the cognitive approach to learning.</p> <p>Understand the different measures of intelligence</p> <p>Understand the components of social learning.</p> <p>Understand the relationship between behaviorism and cognition.</p> <p>Can demonstrate two repetitions of a behavior that has been taught using social learning.</p>

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