## **Calm Treat Delivery**

## **Teaching Your Dog to Use a Soft Mouth**

If you want your dog to take treats calmly and gently, you need to practice treat delivery. Use a variety of yummy foods cut into pea-sized pieces for medium and large dogs, and grain-sized tidbits for small and toy breeds. Soft, smelly food is best–real meat, fish, and poultry–unless it gets your dog overexcited, in which case use dry dog food. Let your dog decide what is tasty!

To deliver the treat, slowly and calmly move your hand holding a treat towards your dog. Open your hand to reveal the treat and feed off the palm of your hand. Holding food between your fingers can cause your dog to forcefully bite the food.

You can also slowly put the treat on the ground and calmly release it. Throwing treats on the ground can cause some dogs to become overly excited.

Cut up a variety of foods and store them separately as not to comingle scents. Keep your dog guessing what treat you'll deliver next!



**Smelly Treats** 



Pea-sized



Grain-sized for little



Use variety of food



Slowly move hand



Feed off palm



Practice when calm



Only feed when calm



Dogs pick food options



Keep it fun





