

# ON YOUR BED

## LEVEL FIVE

### GET READY:

- ✓ Some yummy treats
- ✓ Mat, bed or rug/towel (Note: It is easier to teach a stay on a raised bed)
- ✓ Find a new space that might be more novel or distracting for the dog (front yard, kitchen, friend's house, bathroom, etc.)

### GET SET:

- ✓ Have your tasty treats ready and easy to access (i.e. treat bag, pocket, etc.)
- ✓ Have the mat, bed or rug/towel on the floor

### GO:

- ✓ Now that you have strengthened your behavior, we need to make sure that your dog will be able to respond in any location.
- ✓ To do this, find several new locations to practice this behavior, which are slightly more distracting or novel. In these new locations, practice the procedure from Level 3 until your dog can respond in all the situations.
  - Start by cueing your dog to get on the bed. Do this 5 times to warm up your dog.
  - Now that your dog is ready, begin testing your cue. Cue them:
    - When you are facing away from them
    - When you are facing away from the bed
    - When you are standing at a different corner of the bed (test all sides and/or corners)
    - When you are 1 step away, 2 steps away, 3 steps away, etc.
    - When you are on the other side of the room.
  - While you are testing your cue, test your release cue (Level 4) as well
    - Vary the time before you release them between cue tests
      - Ex: cue facing away from them – dog gets on bed – mark and reward on bed – 10 sec – release; cue facing away from bed – dog gets on bed – mark and reward on bed – 5 sec – release; cue at different



corner – dog gets on bed – mark and reward on bed  
– 30sec – release; etc.

- If your dog does not respond in any of these situations, then something you have changed has confused them.
  - To fix this, break that situation down into smaller elements to help them understand what you want. When introducing distractions or harder elements, you may need to require less of your dog initially (instead of looking for the whole behavior break it down into the staircase from Level 1).
    - Ex: If facing away from them isn't working, turn a 1/3 or a 1/4 of the way away from them instead. If that still doesn't work only turn your head away.
- ✓ Once your dog can respond to the cue in all of these situations, in every new location, you can take this process to another level by recreating real life situations for your dog.
  - Have a helper ring the doorbell/knock on the door. When it goes off, cue your dog to go to their bed.
  - While cooking dinner, cue your dog to go to their bed
  - While eating dinner, cue your dog to go to their bed
  - While sitting on the couch, cue your dog to go to their bed
- ✓ You can apply this behavior to any situation you want. However, remember that certain situations may be more stimulating than others. That is why we practice before hand, so that we can break the behavior into smaller pieces and work the dog through the new situation before it actually happens.

