

DOWN

LEVEL ONE

WHY AM I TRAINING THIS?

This behavior lays the groundwork for polite greetings, and many of the basic manners we will work on later. In order to learn how to have 4 on the floor when greeting new people, first we must learn what 4 on the floor means!

GET READY:

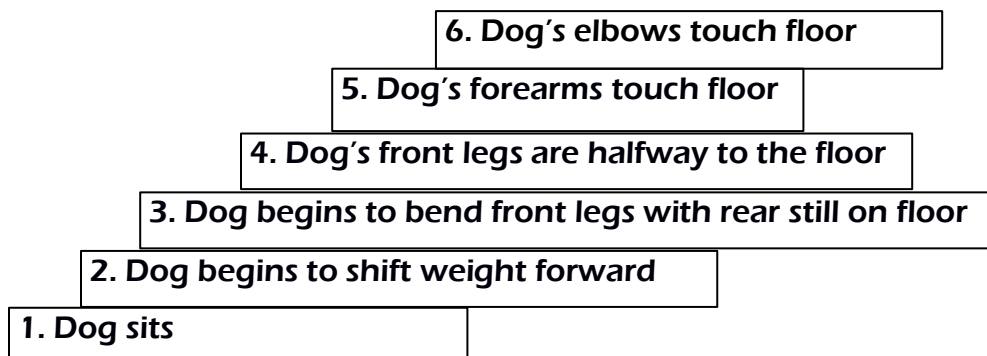
- ✓ Some yummy treats
- ✓ Find a space the dog is familiar and comfortable with, that is as free of distractions as possible (living room, kitchen, dining room, bedroom, garage, etc.).

GET SET:

- ✓ Have your tasty treats ready and easy to access (i.e. treat bag, pocket, etc.)
- ✓ Have your dog positioned in front of you.

GO:

- ✓ To begin:
 - Mark and reward your dog when they perform each level of the following staircase. The idea is to break the act of laying down into multiple small pieces that we can reward the dog for doing. This process, called shaping, allows us to guide the dog towards our goal behavior. (Mark sure that you reward your dog for completing each level of the staircase!)



- ✓ Once you have gotten 10-15 complete downs, you may move on to Level Two.

