

**Standard Obedience Cues**

The use of standard cue words is a basic tool used to get desired behavior from a dog. It is important to begin the cue with the pet’s name, otherwise how will the know you are speaking to. Following are the standard cue words used at our pet care center:

1. “dog name” **Come** - dog stops what they are doing and comes to you
2. “dog name” **Off** – dog needs 4 feet on ground
3. “dog name” **Leave it** – dog needs get away from item or dog (litter, poop, urine, etc)
4. “dog name” **Wait** – dog is to stop moving forward
5. “dog name” **Okay** – release word for dog to proceed from a wait cue

Ensure the dog is focused on you and give them time to respond before you give a cue a second time. Praise the dog when they respond to your cue. Remain patient and be consistent.

**Keeping Cues Strong**

* In order to avoid teaching the dog to ignore us it is most successful to use each cue word only one time.
* Use verbal praise and brief pats to reward dogs for proper responses to cues.
* Reward proper responses
	+ Praise, Praise, Praise!
	+ Verbal or physical pats
	+ Use treats (confirm no allergies) if working with a single dog