

# Pet Tip of the Week

## Puppy Pre-School; "RECALL":

The most important exercise you will ever teach your puppy is to "COME" when it's called. This needs to start as soon as your new pup is home. Use every opportunity that you can to reinforce this very important command. When your pup is in the house, call him to you, using his name first, then "COME". With puppies, use a cheerful but assertive tone so they know you are relaxed but serious about your request. Open your arms wide and bend down to the pup's level so there is no threat. Reward him with a happy "Good Puppy" voice as the pup starts to move towards you. If he ignores you, go and retrieve the puppy, bringing him to the spot where you originally called him, then praise. Do Not command him twice. This will cause him to second guess you later on. When outside with your puppy on a 6 foot leash or a 20 to 40 foot long line, use the command "Let's Go" and start walking. Allow him as much of that lead to move away from you as the pup wants. Then, reinforce the recall command while he's sniffing or playing around the yard or in an open area. Pick a moment when the pup is distracted by something and command, (his name) and "COME". Praise the instant he turns to look at you. Turn quickly and move away from him. This encourages him to chase and follow you. When he catches up to you, turn and face him praising him with hands and voice. This makes recall a really fun and exciting game, rather than a chore and hassle. The long line is there for security, even in the early stages. Prevention is always an easier way to train than correction.



FREE PUPPY  
TRAINING MANUAL  
ON INTERNET SITE

**Darr Houssen**

[www.houssennet.nb.ca/dogworld.htm](http://www.houssennet.nb.ca/dogworld.htm)