

## ARRF© methodology

**A** = Active Involvement. Active involvement in the learning process is critical. When the student is actively participating, rather than passively observing, greater learning takes place. This applies to both the dog and its owner.

**R** = Repetition. Newly acquired skills need to be repeated frequently in a variety of contexts to ensure they are robust. This means the skills you and your dog learn will be effective in and around your home and out and about around town. Frequent repetition in various scenarios ensures the skill is truly owned so the student can not only generalize its behaviors in new situations but can also discriminate when appropriate.

**R** = Reward. Positive reinforcements, in the form of rewards for accomplishing skills successfully, are far more effective to ensure learning takes place. Rewards such as food and toys are quickly replaced by life rewards, such as attention and petting, when behaviors are under cue control.

**F** = Finite Objectives. Clearly defined and attainable objectives make it clear to student and instructor what is to be learned and taught. With clear objectives the student and instructor can easily recognize when a particular skill has been mastered and during the process we train - test - train to ensure our objectives are met.

The  
DogSmith

## MTR© methodology

### Management Tools

DogSmith Management of the setting events  
Management of motivating operations  
Managing problematic SD's and CS's  
Management & control of the reinforcement during and post training  
Management of action prompting behaviors - be the thought police  
Manage for "do this" rather than "do not do that"  
Lifelong management protocols for dangerous behaviors  
Safety management protocols  
Managing owner compliance and commitment  
Building, shaping and managing owner

### Training Skills

Teaching and coaching pet owners  
Training incompatible or alternative behaviors where appropriate  
Training new behaviors where appropriate  
Training to reduce the frequency, intensity or duration of a problematic behavior  
Training new behavior chains for pets  
Implementing desensitization and counter conditioning protocols

### Relationship Exercises

Developing appropriate play behaviors  
Fair and consistent rules for the pet  
The dog is respected as a pet and family member  
Developing a reinforcement history between owner and pet  
Reframing the owner-dog relationship for the betterment of both

