# PetSafe f

### **Start Training!**



# **GPS Fence Training Guide**

#### **Contents**

Before we begin

**Training overview** 

Day 1: Explore and learn the pet area

Days 2-4: Learn to avoid the boundary area

Days 5-8: Train to resist distractions and temptations

Days 9-30: Play off-leash with supervision

Taking your pet out of the pet area

#### Before we begin

Training is the key to success. The first 2 weeks are the most important.

### Consistency is key

Using the fence system successfully requires that you spend time consistently training your dog. For best results, train your dog on the portion of your boundary that has the clearest view of the sky. Approach the boundary in a wide zig-zag pattern (moving side to side, parallel, and gradually moving closer) to ensure you have control over whether your dog receives a warning tone or a static correction.

Please note that boundaries created using GPS technology are affected by a number of factors such as satellite positions and weather; your dog will be warned and corrected in a general area, not at an exact location every time.

### Comfort and safety

Make sure the collar fits properly on your dog's neck. Remove the collar if you need to take your dog out of the pet area at any time during training. While your dog is learning the boundary, keep him on a leash connected to a separate nonmetallic collar.

**Important:** Before beginning, please read this guide and the customer care guide thoroughly for important safety information about how to fit and use the collar

### Patience during training

You know your dog's personality better than anyone, so be sure to monitor his body language during training. If your dog appears to be stressed, slow down the training and add additional days as needed. Allowing him to learn at his own pace will increase his chances of success.

### Positive reinforcement

Finish each training session with lots of treats, praise and play. Remove the collar after each training session.

#### **Training overview**

There are four training stages for you and your dog to progress through for him to learn to play within the pet area. The training can take up to 30 days to reinforce good behavior, so let your dog progress at his own pace and don't rush the process. Patience will lead to success and confidence in your dog's ability to stay within his new space.



# Day 1: Explore and learn the pet area

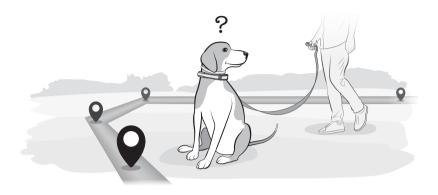


For the first day, set the collar to tone-only or tone with vibration correction.

With your dog on leash, and with his favorite treats on hand, allow him to explore the pet area. Let your dog cross the boundary and hear the tone from the collar, then invite him to come back into the pet area. As soon as he returns, give him lots of treats and praise.

The goal is for your dog to form a positive association with being inside the pet area, and to avoid crossing the boundary by learning the meaning of the warning tone. Dogs can be sensitive, so keep your mood upbeat while you are training. Train 2 or 3 times a day, 10-15 minutes each time, but do not try to do too much too quickly. Frequent short sessions are better than less frequent, longer sessions.

# Days 2-4: Learn to avoid the boundary area



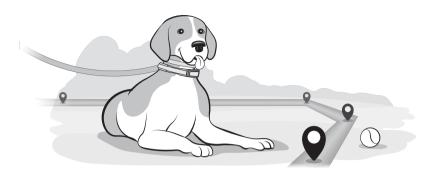
Set the collar to the mildest static correction level. With your dog on leash, repeat the process from the first day. Closely observe your dog's behavior when he crosses the boundary and note whether he responds to the correction.

Responses can include looking around in curiosity, flicking his ears, or scratching at the collar. If your dog does not respond, check the fit of the collar to make sure the contact points are touching the skin. If the collar fits correctly and your dog does not respond, set the correction one level higher and repeat the process.

If your dog keeps crossing the boundary at a certain location, stay at that location and continue training until your dog resists leaving the pet area.

Train 2 or 3 times a day, 10-15 minutes each time. The goal is for your dog to consistently choose to stay in the pet area. If necessary, add in more days of training before moving on to the next step.

# Days 5-8: Train to resist distractions and temptations

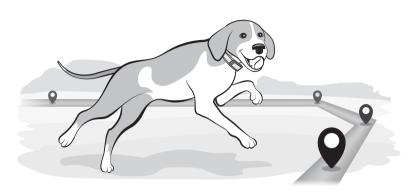


Retain the collar settings from the last training session. With your dog still on leash, stage some distractions to test your dog's reliability. The goal is to have him stay within the boundary even with new temptations.

Start with simple temptations like placing a toy outside the boundary, then work your way up to more difficult ones, like having a friend or neighbor walk another pet outside the boundary area.

Remember to keep your dog on leash while he is still learning the boundary. Also, never coax your pet to leave the pet area.

# Days 9-30: Play off-leash with supervision



Once your dog consistently respects the boundary regardless of distractions or temptations, he is ready for the next step: unleashed supervision.

Play with your dog for a while during the first few sessions. If he does not try to cross the boundary, occupy yourself with another task in the yard, and allow him to freely explore, but stay close by with a leash on hand.

Continue watching your dog. If he escapes, remove the collar and lead him back into the pet area. Start these sessions at about 15 minutes and gradually work up to an hour or more. When your dog proves trustworthy, he can go out on his own, but you should continue to check on him regularly.

### Taking your pet out of the pet area

If you need to take your dog out of the pet area, remove the collar and leave it at home. Once your dog learns the boundary, he will be reluctant to cross it for walks or car rides. There are several options for helping your dog be comfortable leaving the pet area.

### **Option 1** Replace the collar with a regular collar. Put your dog in a car that is within the pet area and drive out of the pet area.

#### **Option 2** Choose a specific verbal command (for example, "gate" or "shazam") to use when giving your dog permission to leave the pet area. (Avoid using a word like "okay" that may come up frequently in everyday conversation.) Replace the collar with a regular collar and leash. Walk your dog out of the pet area while giving your chosen verbal command at a specific place along the boundary (the end of your driveway, sidewalk, etc.). Always leave the pet area from the same spot in your yard with a leash and your dog will associate leaving the pet area only on a leash, only at this spot, and only with a person. You may initially need to convince your dog to leave the pet area with a few treats and praise.

### Option 3 Replace the collar with a regular collar and leash, then pick your dog up and carry him out of the pet area.

Congratulations! You have now completed the training program. You are both ready to enjoy more freedom. Just make sure to monitor the fit of the collar often and remove it when it is not in use.