HUNTING GAMES – THE FOUNDATIONS

🎾 Game 22 - Hallway Games

You are reading this right; we are playing recall games in your hallway.

🎾 Why This Game Matters

It is time to take crate games further by adding some fun recalls. All in the security and low-distracting environment of your hallway. Ideally you will have a friend or family member playing along but you can also play this alone.
This game is all about putting more money into that recall account.

If you're hallway isn't very long – don't worry, this game is fun regardless of space.

🎾 What you'll need

- Your dog
- Your dog's crate or a friendly helper
- High-value treats or high-value toy
- Mobile phone on a tripod

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🎾 Step-by-Step-Guide

1. Set Up

Setup your dog's crate in your hallway with non-slippery floor – use yoga mats to cover tiles, floorboards etc. Close all doors along the hallway.

If your hallway isn't suitable, playing from a room into the hallway will work too.

There are two option to play – alone or with a friend/family member

2. Build the Behaviour

➡️ Play with a friend.
Both you and your friend have high-value rewards in your pockets

- A short distance apart, sit on the floor, facing each other.
- Gently hold your dog by their collar or around their chest, let them face your friend.
- Your friend is calling your dog, release then when they are taking off towards your friend.
- Collar grab when they reach your friend – reward with a high-value cookie or a short game of tug.
- Now your friend is holding your dog gently, facing you.
- Call your dog and celebrate for coming!
- Get 15 recalls in during this session.

Remember to only call once either their name or their new recall word.

➡️ Play alone
Hide your reward!

- Set up your dog's crate at one end of the hallway (or in a room leading into the hallway)
- Play a few repetitions of crate games, reminding your dog where to be positioned when you put your hand on the door.

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- With the crate door open, walk a few steps away
- Call your dog
- Play Collar Grab when they reach you
- Celebrate with cookies or game of tug
- Take your dog's collar and turn them towards the crate
- Like in Crate Games say: "Are you ready?", putting a bit of tension on their collar
- When you feel them straining to get to the crate, release
- Follow up with a cookie throw into the crate
- Get 15 recalls in

3. Raise Criteria

Increase the distance. Your goal is a dog, who will run up and down the entire hallway when they hear their name (or recall cue).

Play to get another 15 repetitions in.

🎾 Troubleshooting

My dog doesn't want to go to my helper.

Let your friend play a few rounds of Collar Grab Game and Say It Once until their responding to their name and are comfortable to engage.

My dog is not coming to me.

Quietly walk over, take them gently by their collar to lead them a bit away from your friend. Try again. Remember this was a "failure" (I love those, gives us so much information about our dog's choices), only praise them lavishly when they come to you.

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🎾 Daily Use

This game puts a lot of money into your recall account. The low distracting environment of your house and the straight line of your hallway help your dog to make good choices. This is such a fun game, and it is a great way to get lots of repetitions in!

It is also a perfect way to get family and friends involved, who doesn't like to play a game with lots of action and a dog running towards you?

Try to get 2 sessions of 15 repetitions in each day!

🎾 Checklist

1. Did you review your session?
2. Is your dog racing towards you?
3. How many repetitions did you play?
4. Look at your dog's T.E.M.P (Tails, Ears/Eyes, Mouth, Posture)
5. How is your dog responding to the Collar Grab with different people?

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