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What to Bring

Canine Musical Freestyle

- **Your HUNGRY dog!** That's right, unless your dog has a medical condition that requires food and meds, no meals the day of class. They will survive, trust me.
- **Leash and buckle collar.** I only allow positive reinforcement methods in my classes, so no prong, choke, pinch or electric/tone/shock collars are allowed. Martingale-style, limited slip and Gentle Leaders are welcome though. Bring a six foot lead, the lighter the better since your dog will drag it at times. We will start this class on lead, but over the weeks many of you will progress to off lead. Pull tabs are also good for later weeks as we progress.
- **Lots and lots of tasty food treats, more than you think you'll need.** Your rewards should be pre-cut into about pea sized portions; the dog should not have to chew them to consume them and you should not need to break off pieces to reward. No crumbly treats. Keep in mind this first class in particular will be extremely distracting to your dog, so consider bringing something extra tasty and not just the usual stuff. If your dog is also into toy rewards, that's GREAT, bring it. Know that much of your rewarding will be with food, but depending on the exercise and needs of dogs in class, we will include opportunities for toy rewards. If you have dog that loves toys, be sure to ask me about when and how to reward with them. *If you're dog isn't into food at all, talk to me right away.*
- **Clicker.** But, if you don't own one or have never used one, I'll have extras available – and again let's talk. We may need to set up a private lesson to get you up to speed.
- **Bait Bag.** I'm not particular about what you use, but pockets generally will not work these first few weeks unless they are large and easy to get into. You'll need to be able to reward quickly and without much fumbling and effort. I personally like the cheap canvas nail aprons you can get at the local hardware store.
- **Water.** There is dog water available in class. If you rather bring your own dog water, then please do so. Don't forget water for you, too. If you spill, please clean up. Did I mention this is an active class?
- **Crate.** May not need one every class, but have one ready just in case, please. We will have occasion to have "people only" time in class, so be prepared to crate always. Just ask me at the start of class if you'll need a crate or not. Put a crate in the car so you can grab it if needed. There are crates in the building, but they belong to others and not always available, so it's best to bring your own and your own bedding in the event you are stranded. If you use a crate in the building, take out the bedding and use your own. I also suggest a crate cover if this helps your dog relax.
- **Poop Bags.** Please pick up after your dog so I continue to be welcome to train at this facility. I'm a real fanatic about this, so please be a good Poop Citizen. Thank you!
- **What to wear.** Comfortable shoes, but do not wear sandals or flip flops or clogs or slip ons. Avoid billowing pants (dogs can't see to go through your legs), and dress appropriately for lots of indoor activity. This is a VERY active class and you will be moving and practicing some fancy footwork. Avoid falls and spills by wearing appropriate footwear and clothing. You will not be able to participate if you come in dangerous shoes. No exceptions!
- **Finally, don't forget to bring your sense of humor, an open mind, and bravery to step (or dance) outside your comfort zone!**