

**Training Goal:** teach your dog to happily take pills

**What you need:** Treats your dog loves

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| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Small treats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <a href="#">Zukes Mini Naturals</a></li><li>○ cut-up chicken</li><li>○ steak</li><li>○ pork</li><li>○ fish</li></ul> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Carriers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ cream cheese</li><li>○ canned cat or dog food</li><li>○ chicken hearts</li><li>○ liverwurst</li><li>○ hot dogs</li></ul> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Larger, hard treats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <a href="#">Charlee Bears</a></li><li>○ small dog biscuits</li></ul>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>NOT</b> peanut butter (too sticky and many contain xylitol)  |

### Hints

1. Train before your dog gets sick or needs pills. Start in puppyhood, if possible.
2. Train before meals when your dog is hungry.
3. Train several times a week, if not every day.
4. Use your voice, enthusiasm and speed of treat delivery to increase the speed with which your dog takes the treats. Faster is better.
5. When using actual medication, always give at least 4 or 5 treat-carrier combos for every pill your dog must take. Be generous!

### Steps

1. Say your dog's name, give them a treat.
2. Try to get them to take the treat quickly by saying their name again immediately and offering another treat.
3. Once that works, put the treat in a carrier.
4. Give the treat-carrier combination to your dog.
5. Try to get them to take the treat-carrier combination quickly by saying their name again immediately and offering another treat.
6. Once your dog is reliably taking treat-carrier combinations, you can give pills as if they are treats in a carrier.

**Note:** when giving pills, confirm with your vet that they can be given with food. If so, you can use this method. If not, have your vet teach you to 'pill' your dog.