

# IN-GROUND PET FENCING TRAINING AND TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

## TRAINING

To get the most out of your containment system, keep these tips in mind.

1. Begin training when your dog has reached at least six months of age.
2. Place the training flags where the warning tone is heard.
3. ALWAYS praise your dog for appropriate behavior.
4. Never call or put your dog into the containment field.
5. Keep training sessions brief (10 to 15 minutes) and stop the session before your dog has lost interest. End the session with play.
6. Complete all of the steps in the Training Plan before allowing your dog to run free.
7. Always make sure that the collar is functioning properly BEFORE putting it on your dog.

## THE TRAINING PLAN

Review the video that is packed with the system. It offers a visual step-by-step guide to training your dog.

The goal of containment training is:

- To teach your dog to identify and retreat from the boundaries.
- To make the training fair – so your dog will understand the consequences of leaving the yard
- To make the training fun – so your dog will enjoy staying and playing on your property.

### A. Training Equipment

You'll need a training collar. Choose either a flat or slip collar. Use a flat collar on a mild mannered dog. A slip collar works best on a hard to handle or easily distracted dogs.

You'll need a leash.

### B. Training Lessons

#### **Lesson 1: The Retreat Pattern**

Before you start to train – Make sure the collar receiver is fully charged or has a fresh battery. Remove the standard probes and install the training probes. The training probes insure that your dog does not receive a stimulation until he learns to retreat from the boundary.

Put the collar receiver on your dog. Make sure the wall transmitter is turned on.

#### **Lesson 1- Day 1**

The goal for Day 1 is to introduce your dog to the boundary and to help him understand he should retreat when he hears the warning sound.

Using the leash, casually walk your dog toward the boundary. Your dog may indicate he hears the warning sound by tilting his head or twitching his ears. The instant the dog hears the warning sound, give a tug on the leash and bring him back.

On days two and three repeat the lesson of day one.

As the training sessions progress through the three days of lesson one, you'll see that your dog will begin to anticipate the signal and retreat without prompts.

Day three is successful if your dog retreats with no prompt from you or he refuses to approach the boundary. Remember to praise, praise, praise proper behavior.

#### **Lesson 2: The Stimulation**

A dog may be tempted to break the rules. To prevent this, he must understand that there are consequences for inappropriate behavior. When your dog retreats from the boundaries on his own, or won't go into flagged areas, he is ready to receive stimulation.

Before you begin this lesson remove the training probes and install the standard probes. Make sure the wall transmitter is turned ON and functioning properly.

Use a leash. Have a family member run through the containment field. Let your dog follow. The distracter must not stop, look back, or call the dog. After your dog receives the stimulation, pull him back to you and lavish him with loud, happy praise. Try it again. If he responds correctly, praise him, then move to another boundary area.

#### **Lesson 3: Distractions**

If your dog is avoiding the boundary, he is ready for distractions. This is the most important but often short-changed part of the training. This lesson teaches your dog that he must resist temptations. When practicing distractions, never call or pull your dog into the containment field.

Most dogs have a hard time generalizing concepts so you can't assume that if your dog won't chase a ball he won't chase a bicycle. You have to go through a list of distractions that will tempt your dog the most. Dogs will learn specifics. If your dog likes to chase, distract with balls, bikes—anything that moves. If your dog is attracted by children, family members, other dogs—use them as temptations.

**Lesson 4: Off Leash Supervision**

After several sessions of distractions, your dog should be ready for off-leash play. You must stay in the yard for off-leash training.

In fact, it's wise to spend more quality time in the yard with your dog. The more your dog stays on the property for the first month, the less confused he will be.

If you wish to take your dog off the property, remove the collar receiver.

**Lesson 5: Off-Leash Unsupervised**

When your dog resists distraction of any kind, both on and off the lead, he can be left unattended in the yard

but observed from inside the home. This freedom should be brief at first. You must frequently go out and check on your dog. Over the next several weeks, unsupervised freedom can be gradually increased.

Before and after each unsupervised session, you must continue the play and praise routine so that your dog understands that the yard is a happy place to be.

**Lesson 6: Removing the Flags**

After 2 weeks of successful unsupervised containment, you can begin removing the flags. Start by removing every other flag every other day until all are gone.

The leash, flags, and the collar receiver tone are all training clues for your dog. During the last three weeks of training—one by one—all but the collar receiver will be removed.

As the training clues are removed it is essential that you continue to use distractions to make sure your dog retreats from the unmarked boundary.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

### SD-2000/SD-2050/SD-2100/SD-2200/SD-3000/SD-3100

**Containment Problem**

**Possible Solution**

1. Dog is getting out

- A. Field width set too narrow
- B. Check Battery/charge in collar
- C. Check operating mode of collar (SD-3000/3100 only)
- D. Check collar fit and verify both probes are making skin contact
- E. Perform test loop
- F. Reinforce Training Efforts

2. No light on Wall Transmitter

- A. Follow test loop instructions
- B. Perform wire break test
- C. Test adapter

3. Range is Low

- A. Do test loop and monitor ranges at different field widths
- B. Check for other metal on the dog
- C. Mixed wire gauges; not using waterproof splices

4. Range is High

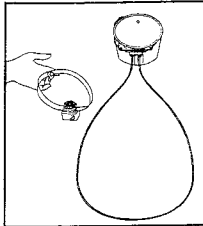
- A. Check position of wire and move it no closer than 10' of metal objects or buried wires

5. No Stimulation

- A. Check operating mode (SD-3000/3100 only)
- B. Follow test loop instructions
- C. No stimulation on test loop, call 800-826-5527

6. No Warning Tone

- A. Perform test loop with transmitter set at minimum level
- B. Check transmitter stimulation level settings
- C. No tone on test loop, call 800-826-5527



**TEST LOOP INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Cut a piece of wire at least 10 feet long.
2. Remove the yard wires from the wall transmitter.
3. Insert both ends of the test loop wire in the wall transmitter.
4. Turn the field width knob to 9 o'clock or a low setting.
5. With the collar in hand, put test light on collar, back up to be outside the field and approach the test loop.
6. Make a mental note of the distance between you and the wire when the collar activates.
7. Turn the field width knob to 12 o'clock or a medium setting and repeat steps 5 and 6. Distance should increase.

If there is a light on the transmitter and the collar is responsive to different ranges:  
 Boundary wire problem. Perform wire break test.  
 If transmitter indicates it is ok (see manual for status indication) and the collar is not working.

Collar problem. Call 800-826-5527.

If there is no light on the transmitter:

Check adapter

If adapter is good:

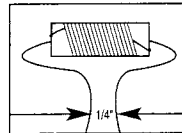
Wall transmitter problem- Call 800-826-5527.

6. Plug in power adapter
7. Set the portable AM radio to AM-60 or AM-600 (whichever has no station)
8. Adjust the transmitter FIELD WIDTH to the minimum needed to obtain a signal on the portable radio when holding the radio over the containment boundary wire. The signal that you receive is short static pulses.
9. The signal should be absent over the twisted wire portions.
10. Hold the radio 1 to 2 feet off the ground and swing the radio (side to side, left to right) over the wire as you walk along the boundary.
11. If the pulsating static stops, weakens, or changes pitch, mark the spot with a flag or a stick. No sound indicates a break in the wire. If the signal fades or changes in pitch, look for a nick in the wire insulation.
12. Continue around the remaining boundary and mark any additional signal change with a flag or stick.
13. After completing the entire boundary, return to the marked spots. Examine the wire for 3 to 4 feet in each direction.
14. Replace the wire using the same gauge wire used in the original installation and use waterproof splices to make the connections. Available by calling 800-826-5527

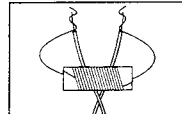
**WIRE BREAK/LOCATION TEST  
 (ALL MODELS)**

1. Unplug power adapter from transmitter
2. Disconnect the boundary wires from the LOOP terminals on the wall transmitter or optional Lightning Protector.

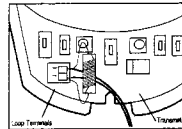
3. Bend the leads of the RF Choke into the shape shown in the figure.  
*(Choke available at Radio Shack - Part # 273-102)*



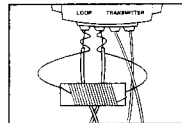
4. Carefully wrap the RF Choke leads around the boundary wire leads as shown.



5. Plug the RF Choke and boundary wire leads into the loop terminals on the transmitter (SD-2100/2200 shown)



If Lightning Protector is being used.



**Handheld Transmitter Troubleshooting**

1. Replace battery
2. Reprogram transmitter
3. Match receiver to handheld transmitter.

If you are still having problems, call 800-826-5527.

**WE CARE. CALL US FIRST. 1-800-826-5527**

**LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY**

Invisible Technologies, Inc., warrants to the original retail purchaser, that Innotek brand products will be free from defects in material and workmanship, under normal use, for a period of one year from the date of the original retail purchase. This Limited Warranty excludes: accidental damage due to dog chews; lightning damage where an INNOTEK lightning protection component is not in use (in-ground pet fencing systems); or neglect, alteration and misuse.

Invisible Technologies offers several product exchange options during the warranty period. If service is required, call 1-800-826-5527 to discuss the service plan that best serves your needs. Costs are dependent on the processing time and the desired shipping options. Please do not return this product to your retailer.

After one year from date of original retail purchase, we will repair, replace or upgrade your product at a fixed rate based on the component.

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