

# EASY PLATFORM TRAINING TECHNIQUES TO GET STARTED

## 1. INTRODUCE THE PLATFORM SLOWLY

Let your dog sniff, explore, and investigate.  
Reward any interest—nose touches, paw taps, or stepping on.

## 2. REINFORCE ALL FOUR PAWS ON

Once your dog steps fully onto the platform reward the behavior verbally (“Yes!”) and treat reward generously.

## 3. ADD A SIMPLE CUE

Choose a cue like “Place,” “up,” or “Board.”  
Say it once, then guide your dog onto the platform.

## 4. BUILD DURATION IN SMALL STEPS

Start with one or two seconds.  
Gradually increase the time your dog stays on the platform before rewarding.

## 5. ADD DISTANCE AND MOVEMENT

Take a step back, then two.  
Walk around the platform.  
Reward your dog for staying put.

## 6. INTRODUCE A RELEASE WORD

Use a consistent release cue—“Okay,” “Free,” or “Break”—to let your dog know when they can step off.  
Verbal reward “yes” and provide treats.

## 7. KEEP SESSIONS SHORT AND POSITIVE

Two-minute sessions sprinkled throughout the day work better than long, tiring drills.

