

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR TEACHING YOUR DOG FOUNDATION SKILLS AND SHAPING

PLATFORMS: Using a Platform is important. This takes some training but so worth it to teach your dog places to be!

TEACHING/USING A PLATFORM: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Friwr4bWzZ0&t=1s>

MAKING A PLATFORM: This is how you measure your dog for the platform size your dog should use.

Making/Buying Platforms:

- **Purchasing Platforms already made.** They are great!! <http://www.k9playproducts.com/>
- **Making Platforms:**
 1. Place your dog in a comfortable and balanced stand, much like a conformation stance. *(Make sure they look balanced before measuring -- the back legs should not be splayed out).*
 2. For width, take two measurements, first from outside of left front paw to outside of right front paw, then do the same for back paws and use whichever measurement is wider. Add 1-2" to this for platform width.
 3. For length, measure the dog when in a Down position from the base of their tail to the front of their paws. Add 3-4" to this platform length.
 - If you prefer, you can get the rubber floor tiles at Home Depot and cut and duct tape around them to the size you want. That would be easiest and fastest way to do it. Make it at least 4 tiles thick. With larger dogs, possibly 5 or 6 tiles thick. Here's a video of how Michele recommends. *The link in this demo does not work for purchasing them.*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SlucDKua0hA>

HAND TOUCHES: Hand Touches is a good tool for keeping your dog with you. Or for just taking a break between exercises.

Here's a good video about teaching hand touches to your dog. You will begin with a piece of food between your fingers. <https://youtu.be/rjN9MXjuRvE>

PIVOT BOWL: Pivot bowl basically teaches your dog that they have back feet and can control them. Puppy learning about pivot bowl <https://youtu.be/j4graCloxgM>

Advanced training once they learn to put two feet on the pivot bowl for a treat.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHpikko8h0s&feature=youtu.be>