

# What to carry your treats in, and why!

There are several ways to manage your treats while training your dog. Some ideas are:

## A “bait bag” or “treat pouch”:



## A fanny pack:



A zip sweatshirt hoodie with loose pockets can also work well, as long as you can get to the treats quickly.

## Why is speed of delivery of the treat important?

One of the most important aspects of learning how to train your dog is to understand that the timing of the delivery of a reward when your dog is first learning a behavior is of utmost importance. If you take a long time to deliver the treat (a long time in dog training is defined as more than three seconds), then you are probably rewarding something other than what you intended.

- For example, if you ask your dog to sit, and then you take a few seconds to dig the treat out of your jeans pocket, your dog may have changed positions (stood, laid down) or changed focus from you to another dog, person, lint on the floor, etc. You are likely still going to give the dog the treat and have thus rewarded (reinforced) **that** behavior instead of the sit.

This will be covered in class, but it's good to have an understanding before you get there!