

K9 TRAINING COURSES

FOR MILITARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT





OPERATIONAL REMOTE DIRECTIONALS

Remote directionals are commands, given at distance, that instruct the dog to move in a particular direction (left-right-forward-back) and/or look in a given direction. It also involves commands to stop or recall the dog from at any particular point.

For the operational K9, this training specialty is expanded upon with additional commands/behaviors important for reconnaissance missions and counter-terrorism. Directionals are complimentary to any single or multiple K9 specialties, (such as explosive detection, tracking, and patrol/apprehension).

Full course teaches students the techniques for training dogs in the following disciplines:

- Directionals
 - > Move forward/backwards/left/right
 - > Go/Stop
 - Look around/scan and target on object/area
- Pick up, carry and place objects (e.g. jammers, drones, weapons)
- Execute commands out of sight using radio and the K9 Vision
 System
- Transitioning to K9's existing specialty (e.g. detection/patrol)

Duration: tailored to department needs - (typically 4-12 weeks dispersed over 4-12 months).



LASER GUIDANCE

Laser pointers can be used to direct dogs to search a specific area or object. Deploying a laser-guided K9 increases speed, discretion and distance to targets during missions. Training is compatible with other K9 specialties and does not conflict with other use of laser beams (e.g. weapon sights)

Topics covered:

- → Type & color variations
- Conditioning and reward schedules
- Building and maintaining speed
- Laser movement and guidance techniques
- Transitioning from guidance to search
 - > for specific objects
 - > covering areas/rooms
- Integration with response teams
- Operational scenarios and examples

Duration: 1 - 2 weeks



DETECTION

We offer training in detection for explosives, narcotics, various types of contraband (agricultural products, currency) and pest control.

Training is available for any level of K9 and handler - course content and duration vary with requirements.

SOKKS-MPTS Course

A revolutionary tool that uses minute quantities of pure odor for training any variety of detection dog. We offer custom courses that can include all/any of the following:

- Use, handling and applications
- Conditioning and maintenance of search behavior
- Shaping the passive indication
- Transitioning to other sample types
- Troubleshooting and behavior modification

Duration: tailored to department needs - (typically 1-5 days)



DECOY CLINIC

Decoys play a vital role in developing bite technique and preparing the operational dog for a wide range of scenarios.

Suitable for all levels, topics are adjusted based on experience and can include:

- Understanding canine drives and motivation
- Developing dog's grip and targeting
- Absorbing shock effectively
- Footwork and timing
- Falling technique & safety
- Forms of applying/increasing pressure
- Constructing training exercises and scenarios
- Tool uses and techniques (baton, clatter stick, blank rounds)
- Using concealed sleeves and kevlar suits
- Assessing new dogs

Duration: 1 week



REMOTE COLLARS

Misunderstood and misused, the remote or electronic collar is surrounded by controversy. This course is designed to teach proper technique and use of these collars as a stimulator rather than a corrective tool in training (also known as "push-pull training").

Suitable for dogs at any level and compatible with all specialities.

Topics covered:

- Behavior theory: cognition and associative learning
- Introduction and determining appropriate levels
- Preventing superstition
- Transitioning to use at distance
- Working in drive and maintaining motivation
- Reward timing and schedules
- Troubleshooting and behavior modification
- Applications for the operational K9

Duration: 1 week



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Courses are provided by a network of trainers/instructors, former operational dog handlers, and EOD specialists from European forces and special units. Courses are designed by Thomas Schuppe, a former operational handler and instructor for the GIGN, who has over 16 years experience in operational K9 training.