YOUR MASTER RECALL

DISTRACTION LIST

SQUIRREL!

BALL! BALL! BALL!

LET'S GO SWIMMING!

FOOOOOOD!

PEOPLE!
I hope you find this eBook to be a great resource to your dog training. But I do need to remind you that this document is intended just for you.

It is strictly for your personal use. No part of this ebook can be legally or ethically shared in whole or in part either through digital or printed copy. Thank you for respecting the hard work we put into these books for you our students.

Here’s to your future success;

Susan

Susan Garrett
Say Yes Dog Training Inc.
A brilliant recall requires two basic things from you:

1. The willingness to really get focused with what you want and what you are currently doing, and...

2. The willingness to having at least one 5 minute session of daily fun with your dog — two or three would be ideal, but one is necessary.

Clearly, since you all have joined us for this course, you qualify for part one: You have the willingness and since you are having fun, you are going to make time for part two!

What we need now is to help you build a kick butt list of everything and anything that your dog may find distracting in his life, around the house, away from home... anywhere! The best source of this master distraction list is a list you have already created.
So, over the next few days, we would like you all to create your dog’s (or if you are doing this course with more than one dog, each dog’s) master list of distractions. Remember to include abstract things like distance. For example, a dog may do a perfect sit at the start line in agility if you lead out no more than two or three meters, but if you were to lead out the entire distance across the agility field your dog may lose confidence and not hold her or his control position.

Same is true of your recall. Many dogs will come if they are within an arm’s reach of you, but at what distance does that start to fail? Also think about daylight. Many dogs will come brilliantly during the day, but not so much if you can’t see them at night.

Work on your own list first and then check out the list below we have provided. Also, if you go through past blog posts (www.susangarrettdogagility.com) you will find even more ideas on what we know are distractions in most dog’s environments.

It’s a big world out there! Recallers will help you and your dog have the opportunity to explore it with confidence!
My Dog’s Distraction List

Create your list first! When you feel your list is pretty complete, start to categorize your distractions. Rank these distractions on a scale of 0-10. Yes zero. We want you to have some zero distractions. Toys for a dog that hates toys would be a zero distraction. The more comprehensive this list is, the more tools you will have available in your training. *Okay, now get to work on that list!*  

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We are going to use this list throughout the rest of the course. Hopefully by the end of the course you will have very few “10’s” because your dog will have such a brilliant recall. Turn your numbered list of distractions into a spreadsheet with 11 columns. Across the top, have the columns numbers from 0-10. Under each column, fill in those distractions that ranked a 0 or a 1 or a 2, etc. all the way up to your level 10 distractions. Ten would be those that your dog cannot even think straight around if she or he was around them.

For example, a pond in eyesight of a dog that loves to swim but is 100 feet away may only be a 6 or 7 ranking distraction, but a pond that is 10 feet away may become a 10, something that is impossible for the dog to choose correctly if she or he was around that distraction and left to make her or his own
Distractions For Your Recall

Sometimes it is difficult to come up with ways to “test” your dog’s understanding of your cue to “come to you.” Following is a list to give you some suggestions when your imagination falls short.

- Park with kids on climbers, playing soccer or just running
- Sheep, birds, rats, horses
- Doorbell ringing
- Balls being thrown/rolled
- Dogs in crates near by
- Good smells on the ground
- Dogs on leash near by
- Eating things from the ground (like horse poop)
- Dogs running loose near by
- Bunnies in the woods
- Dogs doing flyball near by
- Bicyclists
- Toys all over the floor
- Rollerbladers
- Food in containers on a chair
- Toboggans
- Food in containers on the floor
- Nail clipping time
- Food scattered all over the floor
- Another family pet out playing

- Squirrels running in a park
- Another family member walking away
- Squirrels running in your yard
- Another family member feeding another family pet
- A thrown toy like a flying disc in mid-air
- Obstacles in the way between handler and dog
- Squealing children (no need to hurt the children in order to set this one up)
- New environment—different training building, friend’s back yard
- A cat running by
- You standing still, not moving at all, when you are calling and waiting
- The opportunity to swim (near open water)
- Empty dinner bowl on the floor
- A delivery man (or mail man) walking by
- Full dinner bowl on the floor
- A remote-control driven car, driving by
- Opening of the front door
- Stuffed things, I love stuffed things
- Hose, sprinkler, running water
We want you to embrace this exercise as a way to learn more about how to strengthen your RECALL!

This exercise is to help you to develop a list of distractions that potentially can interfere with your training.

Today you will create your list and rank the distractions but then throughout your Recallers experience you will review your list and utilize the distractions within the game. We will help direct you by suggesting you choose a distraction ranked 4-6 with certain games.

The awesome thing about dog training is we are always learning from our dogs! If offering a distraction in your game days creates success – EXCELLENT!

If that same distraction creates a failure – EXCELLENT!

We love failures here... they create amazing learning opportunities.

I think it’s obvious who wants in the water!