

Improve Your
Handling Skills
at Home

Backyard Dogs

By Karen Holick



This month we focus on advanced weave exercises with some very tough entries. I have also included some difficult lead-outs to the poles. These exercises will really test whether you can control your dog's speed at the beginning as well as within the course. Can you hold back and trust your dog will make the entry without you?

Most of these exercises are compiled from parts of courses that I have seen at shows. Remember, the more confident you are that your dog will make his weave pole entry, the more you will be able to concentrate on the rest of the course. Difficult weave pole exits are also included in these drills.

Have fun and remember to reward your dog for his great entries to and exits from the poles! 🐾

Karen Holick has been involved in agility for over 10 years as a competitor and also a USDAA and AKC judge. She has competed in the finals of the USDAA Grand Prix World Championships with all four of her dogs on six different occasions. Her youngest dog, MACH Triune's Feelin Hot Hot Hot (a.k.a. Sizzle) won the USDAA Steeplechase Finals in 2003. Karen and Sizzle were members of the AKC/USA World Team in 2003 and were chosen again to be part of the team in 2005. Karen offers private lessons and seminars and can be reached at oncourseagility@comcast.net.



