

HOW TO SELECT THE RIGHT TOY

7 STEPS TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT TOY FOR YOUR MANTRAILING DOG

1) FIND THE RIGHT TEXTURE

Dogs are sensitive and finding the right texture is important. Some like the rubber feeling, while others prefer a soft fabric feel.



2) TO BUNGEE OR NOT TO BUNGEE

Adding a bungee element to the toy can be beneficial for strong tuggers on the toy and allow you to play for longer, but some dogs find the bounce of the bungee uncomfortable and can cause injury.

3) LET THE FUR FLY

Because in mantrailing we tap into the natural prey sequence for the dogs, some dogs will choose crittering over the trail layer. Providing them with an animal fur based reward can help them focus on the trail layer better and feel more fulfilled without getting to the rabbits.

4) SIZE MATTERS

Thinking about the size of the toy is important, there is no point using a heavy toy with a small dog. Also thinking about the size of toy which you can fit in the trail layer's pocket or coat.



5) YUM YUM YUM

Having a toy that the dog can eat out of can be excellent for some dogs as it prolongs the food reward and experience of working out a problem, but it can cause guarding issues in some dogs so monitor it.

6) THROW IT

You need to decide if you want the toy to be thrown at the end or not, as this preference varies from dog to dog. Some dogs love the chase while others get frustrated the reward has just gone flying into a bush. You also have to take into consideration where it may get thrown too and use it wisely in some environments.



7) SQUEAK SQUEAK

We all know dogs LOVE squeaky toys and they can be excellent rewards for many dogs. But watch out for them squeaking prematurely as the dog may stop trailing and start hunting or some dogs find them over stimulating.

