

Command List

Patriot Assistance Dogs

Fundamentals

- **The “Basic 5”**
 - **Come** – dog returns directly to handler and sits in front of them
 - **Down** – dog lays and remains there until further directed
 - **Heel** – dog maintains position/walking position at handler’s left leg
 - **Sit** – dog sits and remains there until further directed
 - **Stay** – additional signal to dog to maintain position while handler moves
- **Additional Basics**
 - **Leave it** – focuses dog’s attention away from object of interest (coaching tool)
 - **Off** – dog returns its paws to the floor
 - **Park** – grants dog permission to relieve itself (out of vest)
 - **Watch Me** – dog makes and holds eye contact with handler
 - **Give/Drop It** – dog releases anything that is in its mouth
 - **Let’s Go** – informal walk, no pulling
 - **Hush** – dog quiets; mark/reward immediately
 - **Gentle** – dog performs commands or skills calmly without animation or intensity
 - **Swing** – left turn into the dog
 - **Side** – dog maintains walking position at handler’s right leg (for going through doorways opposite of hinges, dog moves across in front of handler to right side) and maintains position until directed to move
 - **About Turn** – dog comes around on the outside in heel position as the handler turns (this is usually a right turn)
 - **Wait** – short term pauses of motion (pedestrian traffic, before Load Up into vehicle)
 - **Follow** – dog moves into position directly behind the handler and continues forward motion
 - **Forward** – dog moves into position directly in front of handler and continues forward
 - **Visit** – dog is given verbal permission to interact with a person while vested.
- **Marker Words**
 - **Yes and/or Good** – marker word to signal to the dog that the task was completed correctly
 - **No** – stops dog’s behavior; gets attention back on handler. Followed by another command
 - **Free Dog** – dog is released from the last command given

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Service Tasks

- **Touch** – dog initiates physical contact with handler
- **Nudge** – dog prods or pushes at handler with its snout
- **Check In** – initiates and maintains upper body contact with handler
- **Comfort/Ground** – dog lays with or on handler, rests head on lap or leans into handler while standing or sitting, stands or lays on foot or feet of handler (maintains weighted contact with handler)
- **Aft** – dog watches activity behind handler
- **Fore** – dog positions itself in front of handler and monitors activity
- **Find Outside** – dog leads handler to fresh air
- **I'm Okay** – signal that dog may discontinue comforting the handler for now

Public Access

- **Get Dressed** – dog cooperates in gearing up process
- **Undress** – dog cooperates in removal of gear
- **Load Up** – dog jumps onto designated surface
- **Unload** – dog jumps down or walks down a ramp
- **Around** – dog changes position as directed by crossing behind handler
- **Closer** – dog moves nearer to handler
- **Under** – dog goes beneath a table or obstacle as directed by handler
- **Back/Get Back** – dog backs up or backs up into an aisle or rows of seating

Bonus Skills (Not all PAD dogs come with these)

- **Fix It** – if leash is wrapped around dog's leg, dog assists untangling by moving foot
- **Fetch** – dog picks up item as directed by handler
- **Place** – dog is sent to a mat, bed or rug and remains there until released (think of a crate without walls; dog may sit, stand, or lie down if it remains on the location)
- **Stand** – dog gets to its feet

PAD service dogs are not trained for guarding, protecting, or enemy search.