



Positive reinforcement

Positive reinforcement increases the probability that a desirable behavior will be repeated. Your dog must be rewarded when he stops barking in order to encourage this no-bark response. Use food, toys, or any other object or activity your dog loves and which you introduce at the exact moment he stops barking. It is up to you to find out your dog's favourite rewards.

Reinforcement consists of any reward the dog craves, anything he will be motivated to obtain (food, play, affection, attention, toys etc.). combined with your voice, giving a verbal praise like "GOOD DOG". This "Good dog" tells him at precisely what moment he completed a correct response. Praise your dog by saying "Good dog" followed by a reward. He will anticipate the reward after a praise and react happily. In order to intensify the motivated behavior you could reduce quantities of food at mealtime and use them for his training instead. After a couple of weeks, once the link is solidly established and the barking has diminished, it is recommended to replace these systematic reinforcements by sporadic rewards.